

tailed an account of just how an aviator becomes an aviator, and then a fighting aviator, as in this brilliant young American's book. The story of his adventures on the battle front, when he had become a fighting aviator, and those of his brave comrades, together with the magnificent half-tone illustrations, complete what, even in the flood of War books which is on us just now, is an arresting and very well worth while volume.

Bishop Luther B. Wilson of the Methodist Episcopal Church North, was in France, Italy and England last year on the invitation of the Y.M.C.A. He is once more across the seas on an important mission for his country in connection with the War. His little book, **America—Here and Over There** (The Abingdon Press, New York and Cincinnati, 107 pages, with full page portrait of the writer, 75c. net) contains public addresses delivered in the interval between his two errands across the seas. The addresses are to Americans, about the Americans, but contain a good deal that is of interest to us as Allies in the great quest to secure the world's freedom. The Bishop takes no uncertain ground as to how this is to be done. "I shall never forget," he says, "how General Pershing, when I asked him, 'What shall I say to America when I return?'" "When you return to America," he replied, "say to America that it is a great heresy to believe that Germany cannot be beaten. Say to America, Germany can be beaten, Germany must be beaten, and Germany will be beaten." That is what we here in Canada have believed ever since the 4th of August, 1914, and have tried to live up to, and we are of the same mind still.

In **Philosophy and the War**, by Ralph Tyler Flewelling (The Abingdon Press, New York and Cincinnati, 74 pages, 60c. net), we have a brief but vigorous and convincing arraignment of the German philosophy which had so much to do with plunging the world into the present terrific conflict. The same publishers send us **The Abingdon War-Food Book** (58 pages, 25c. net). It was a happy thought to incorporate in this little volume John Wesley's *Thoughts on the Present Scarcity of Provisions*, first printed in 1773. In a Foreword by Mr. Herbert Hoover and an Introduction by Mr. Vernon Kellogg, it is pointed out that the present food situation is even more serious than in Wesley's time and can be met only by increasing production to the greatest possible extent and exercising the utmost economy in the use of food. These various exhortations, so timely and so urgent, are followed by about twenty-five pages of *War Time Recipes and Menus*, by Charlotte Hepburn Ormond. Altogether, this is an interesting and useful little book.

No one who is familiar with G. K. Chesterton's writings, will expect, notwithstanding its title, **A Short History of England**, to find in this latest book of his, a connected and detailed narrative. Gilbert Chesterton is not that sort of man. He is an essay writer, rather than historian, and indeed styles his book "a popular essay in English history." The book is not the less, but rather the more interesting, on this account. It is written frankly from the people's standpoint, and has plain things to say of the wrongheadedness of professedly "popular" histories of the English people, which the author declares are "nearly without exception written against the people; and in them the populace is either ignored or elaborately proved to be in the wrong." Chapter titles, such as: *The Meaning of Merry England, The War of the Usurpers, The Rebellion of the Rich, Autocracy and the Discontents*, give a clue to what the reader may expect. Chesterton is a Radical and a Roman Catholic, and something of a literary washbuckler. From all of which the prospective reader may estimate that he will find much that is novel and entertaining, and also much which, on account of the unusual equipment and point of view of the writer, is of value to those who want more fully to know England as she really has been and is. (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, 284 pages, \$1.50 net.)

If Edwin L. Earp's new book, **The Rural Church Serving the Community** (Abingdon Press, New York and Cincinnati, 144 pages, 75c. net), is more a tabulation of plans and methods than an extended discussion of the rural problem, it is because its predecessor, *The Rural Church Movement*, by the same well informed writer, covered this portion of the ground. The present volume shows chiefly how what ought to be done is to be done. The point of emphasis is that the rural church should stand for "service for the community and the spiritualizing of all the necessary and life-giving activities of the people of the country side; the country churches must be . . . a social centre for the life of the community as a whole . . . through its programme of work as well as of worship." The conservation of boy life in the open country forms the subject of an important chapter. Other chapters are *Economic Prosperity, The Basis of a Vigorous Community Church Life, The Overhead Organization of the Country Church, The Training of Rural Ministers*. Country life is very rapidly changing, and has, indeed, very greatly changed, and it is a question, not alone for ministers or church authorities, but for all who live in the country, how in these changed and changing conditions, the spiritual life of the community is to be kept on a high level, and its spiritual forces