

THE BOOK PAGE

"Hallowing the Home" is the title selected for our church's manual of family worship to be published early next year. It is expected to do much for the preservation of religion in the family—and no greater duty rests upon the church; for, let the home be evacuated of religious atmosphere and observances, and soon the church and the state will be equally empty. And no publication could be more timely, for the chiefmost presently urgent problem of Religious Education is to secure that the home is taking its full share, and discharging its full responsibility, in the development in the preservation and propagation of religion. Dr. Henry F. Cope's new book, **Religious Education in the Family** (The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 298 pages, \$1.25), just issued, is, therefore, sure of a warm welcome. It is written by an expert; Dr. Cope is the widely known General Secretary of the Religious Education Association. He has become a master of all the varied problems of religious education as they relate to this continent. The very practical purpose of the book is "to enable parents to study systematically and scientifically the problems of religious education in the family." To this end, the religious place of the family, and the meaning of religious education in the family, are carefully defined, and the whole round of the relationships and obligations of parents to their children discussed. The discussion is of a thoroughly practical character, including such matters as studies of child nature, the moral crises through which the growing child passes, the use of the Bible in the home, family worship, stories and reading, the ministry of the table, and so on. Topics for discussion and references for study and further reading are added to each chapter with an appendix of Suggestions for Class Work (Parents' Classes), and a Book List. Dr. Cope's book is the latest and fullest setting forth in its various aspects of this fundamentally important subject.

"This Gospel is the consummation of the Gospels, as the Gospels are of all the Scriptures," said the ancient Origen. And Dr. Robert E. Speer is evidently of the same mind in his **John's Gospel: The Greatest Book in the World** (Fleming H. Revell, Toronto, 208 pages, 50c. net). "This little book," he says, "springs from the unreserved and joyful acceptance of John's belief 'that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God,' and its humble hope is the same as John's, that others also may believe. (John 20:31.)" Dr. Speer's book is one for quiet devotional study, either by individuals or in classes. After a careful analysis of the Gospel, it proceeds to give the text in full, paragraph by paragraph, accompanied by suggestive comment—and one may easily imagine the depth, the warmth, and the close spiritual application which Dr. Speer furnishes in the comment; this, again, followed by questions for personal reflection and for discussion in the class. This is Dr. Speer's twenty-first volume, and it may be safely said, none of these is more characteristic of that great, devout soul. Talk of summer holiday books! Where could one be found better than this to chime in with the restful summer mood, or to yield a richer harvest of spiritual recuperation.

The terrible craving that whiskey produces and the havoc it works, not only on its victim but on his family,

is vividly portrayed in **The Enemy**, by George Randolph Chester and Lillian Chester (McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, Toronto, 362 pages, \$1.35). Billy Lane, a promising young architect-engineer, is surprised to hear his engineering problem solved in a dingy Bowery saloon by a drunken tramp. Lane takes the tramp home and carefully nurses him until he comes to himself, when he is surprised to find that the sodden wreck was, fifteen years before, the biggest man in the engineering world,—Harrison Stuart, whose books were regarded by the profession as the highest authorities. How he fights to re-instate himself and how Billy struggles against the "enemy,"—whiskey—is vividly portrayed. The love story of "Billy" and "Tavy," the daughter of Stuart, adds charm to the tale, while the wit, coupled with good hard sense, of Tommy Tinkler, a clever artist, brings a welcome relief to the reader, and the infinite tragedy of drink appears in the dashing to the ground of Mrs. Stuart's hope that her husband, long lost to her, will be restored, just when it seems on the point of being realized. The story is a strong argument for total abstinence, in interesting and convincing form.

Delightfully whimsical and tender is **The Rose-Garden Husband**, by Margaret Widdemer (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, 208 pages, illustrated by Walter Biggs, \$1.00 net). A young American girl, by the death of her parents thrust out of a home of education and refinement into the soulless routine of a library assistant's daily task, and the drab monotony of a cheap boarding house in one of the large American cities, is suddenly asked by a dear old couple who have learned to value and love her, to undertake to marry a young man who has been invalidated by an accident, indeed who is a confirmed hypochondriac, and for whose care his mother, the victim of a fatal disease, is thus seeking to provide before her departure. "An almost impossible situation," the reader declares; but try the book, and you will be delighted, especially at the wonderful "cure" which is wrought upon the "rose-garden husband." The writer is so vivacious and unexpected, that there is no danger of any one's nodding over her story.

"It's more interesting to clean a dirty place. Then what you do shows up and you feel you have earned your money." Thus speaks Amarilly in the new book by Belle K. Maniates, **Amarilly of Clothes-Line Alley** (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, 279 pages, illustrated, price \$1.00). Amarilly and her family live in a city slum and have hard times, but Amarilly is always looking towards the sun and sees the rainbow through the rain. She invests every one she meets—and she makes a host of interesting friends—with her spirit of cheerful optimism. There is more than a little fun in the book, and particularly amusing are the surprising adventures of a clergyman's surplice. Given to Amarilly it proceeds forthwith to have an astonishing career, appearing in all sorts of amazing circumstances, even landing in a police court. The love stories of Rev. John Meredith and Colette and the "Boarder" and Lily Rose are interwoven with the annals of Amarilly. If you like a sweet, wholesome, humorous story, and, particularly, if you liked Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch, you will enjoy reading this book.