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CHURCH BOOK ROOM NOTES.

82 VICTORIA STREET, S.W.1.

A CHAPLAIN at one of our large public schools recently sent us a letter from which the following is an extract: "I am most grateful to you for the inestimable help you gave me during November towards the Confirmation, preparation of my Confirmation Candidates. I found Barnes-Lawrence's book very useful. I was particularly thrilled with the way my fifty-one candidates gripped my words about the inner significance of the Holy Communion. I feel that I won all hesitancy over when I said, 'Dear boys, can you really believe that when I give you the bread and wine next Sunday I am actually holding God in my hands? *I do not.* My whole soul revolts against such a thought.' They crowded round me afterwards, even those who acknowledged they liked a 'High' Service, and asked eager questions. Next Sunday I had well over seventy communicants—isn't that splendid? I do hope and pray that I may be used to help and strengthen these fellows. They actually sent me at Christmas two silver candlesticks suitably engraved, with a letter from a Sixth Form boy who wrote thanking me 'most heartily for the great help and comfort' I had given the confirmees last term. . . . I tell you all this because I feel that much of the gratitude of the boys is due to yourself and the N. C. L. who so large-heartedly helped me. . . . I shall never forget your kindness."

In these Notes last month we gave a list of the pamphlets which we issue in connection with Confirmation, and a complete set of which we will gladly send on receipt of a postal order for 1s. 3d. for cost and postage.

The Chaplain referred to above mentions Canon Barnes-Lawrence's book, *The Holy Communion*. Unfortunately at the moment this is out of print.

The Holy Communion. It has already run through two large editions. Arrangements are being made for the issue of a new edition, which has been thoroughly revised by the author, and it is hoped that copies will be on sale early in March. The book deals, by the method of positive teaching rather than controversial treatment, with the fact that the Holy Communion is central to those foundation truths which underlie the whole Christian life, and its thoughtfulness, its spirit of quiet devotion, its clear and definite teaching, all combine to render it a really beautiful book. We know of no volume on the subject better fitted to be given to the young people of the more thoughtful and educated classes, and it is, moreover, a valuable addition to the devotional library of men and women.

A number of little manuals suitable for distribution to Confirmation candidates are stocked in the Church Book Room. Of these we would name

Other Manuals. *My First Communion*, by the Rev. A. R. Runnels-Moss, with a preface by the Bishop of Manchester, 1s. 3d. and 1s. 6d. net; *The King's Table of Blessing*, by the Rev. A. L. Hunt, 1s.; *The Holy Communion*, by the Rev. H. M. Lang, paper cover, 6d., stiff boards, 1s.; *Thoughts for Communicants*, by the Right Rev. Bishop Stratton, 9d. net; *The Holy Communion*, a manual, historical, doctrinal and devotional, by the Bishop of Sodor and Man, 1s. 3d.; *At the King's Table*, by Principal A. J. Tait, D.D., 1s. 3d. net.

The following Sermons by the Rev. Canon Pryor, D.D., Vicar of Holy

Trinity, Margate, have been published in book form, and can be obtained from the Book Room:—*God's Message to Men*, 1s.; *The Brotherhood of Man*, 1s.; *The Gospel of a Second Chance*, 6d.; *The Sacredness of Motherhood*, 6d.; *The Sweet Will of God*, 6d.; *The Problem of Pain*, 6d.; *The Secret of Happiness*, 6d.; *Home and Happiness*, 6d.; *The Sacredness of Married Life*, 6d. It is well known that Canon Pryor draws large congregations at Margate, particularly to his Men's Services, which testifies to the acceptability and usefulness of his message, and we feel sure that the sermons will be most helpful to those who read them.

The third large edition of the little manual *About the Feet of God; or Brief Daily Prayers for use in the Home*, by the Rev. E. R. Price Devereux, is now nearly exhausted. The manual contains morning and evening prayers for a week, and is admirably adapted for use in family worship. It can also be used for private devotions. All the collects which it contains are short and simple, and most of them are from the Book of Common Prayer. We trust that this little book will continue to be of help to clergy and others in their endeavours to introduce family prayers into the households of their parishioners and friends.

Another little penny Prayer manual is called *Family Prayers*, and is one of the English Church Manual Series. Its price brings it within the reach of all, and enables each member of the household to have a copy so that they may follow the prayers and join in the responses. The services appointed for each day are brief, and broken up into separate parts of worship, such as confession, praise, thanksgiving, prayer or intercession. The familiar words of the Prayer Book have been very freely used, and the order and arrangement of the services are purposely somewhat varied to avoid monotony. Bishop Oxenden's *Family Prayers* are well known. They are published in two series at 2s., each containing prayers for a month with litanies and occasional prayers at the end. The two series are also published together in one volume at 5s. net. The aim of these prayers is simplicity of language and directness of supplication. In *Home Prayers*, Mr. G. F. Chambers has got together a very excellent selection of Family Prayers for each morning and evening in the week. The type is large, and the volume neatly bound.

Of *A Manual of English Church History*, by the Rev. Charles Hole, price 3s. 6d. net, the Dean of Canterbury writes: "It was the aim of the author that this History of the Church of England, from the introduction of Christianity to Britain to the present day, should be written with a thoroughness and impartiality which has too often been absent from similar books. It is the work of one who was in full sympathy with the Reformation, but who, both by learning and temperament, was averse from controversy, and whose retiring and scholarly life enabled him to exercise the quiet judgment of an historian on the life and the struggles of the past." In *The English Church and the Reformation*, 2s. net, you have a book to place in the hands of those who wish to have a scholarly and concise account of the Reformation—what it meant, what led to it, and what its results were, written in a clear and interesting style. *The Layman's History of the Church of England*, by the Rev. G. R. Balleine, 1s. 6d. net, is a popular and most interesting history. The story of a parish is carried down through the various periods, and the whole linked together by this means in a most interesting way.