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CHURCH BOOK ROOM NOTES.

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Prayer Book Revision.—Many of the questions raised by the publication of the Bishops' proposals are as old at least as the Reformation, and it is important that Churchmen should familiarize themselves with the principles underlying the proposals and the opposition offered to them. An interesting and instructive article on this subject recently appeared in *The Record* newspaper, and we commend here some of the books specially mentioned there, both for reading, lending and distribution. One of the best books on the whole subject is *Scriptural and Catholic Truth and Worship, or The Faith and Worship of the Primitive, Mediæval and Reformed Anglican Church* (1s. 6d.), by the late Canon Meyrick, who was well fitted by scholarship and the gift of lucid writing to give a popular sketch of the development of faith and worship and to display a close relation between the doctrine and practice of the early Christians and those who follow the teaching of the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. We are led from century to century, and, by quotation from contemporary writers, are enabled to see for ourselves what the Fathers and their successors taught. Other general books are *The Catholic Faith* (1s. 6d. paper; 2s. 6d. cloth), by the Rev. W. H. Griffith Thomas, D.D. This book was written as a manual of instruction for members of the Church of England and covers a very wide ground. In it the author indicates the fundamental principles of the Church of England. He shows how these principles are expressed in its formularies of doctrine and worship. It also shows that the Prayer Book and Articles need consideration in the light of their origin and combination. Answers are given to many questions, and there are very useful chapters on Prayers for the Dead, Fasting, Confession and other questions raised in the Composite Book; *English Church Teaching on Faith, Life and Order* (1s. 6d.), by the late Bishops H. C. G. Moule and Drury and Canon R. B. Girdlestone. In this book the teaching of the Church of England as settled at the Reformation will be found clearly given in a plain, constructive manner. Valuable features are the Conspectus of Church History and notes on disputed texts, and the chapters on Holy Communion, Non-communicating Attendance and Fasting Communion; *The Story of the English Prayer Book, Its Origin and Development* (5s.), by Canon Dyson Hague, was published last year and has merited much commendation for the pointedness of its appeal and the clarity of its style. It is attractively written and shows the minds of those responsible for the book we use, and is especially valuable as it gives an account of recent revisions in other branches of the Anglican Communion.

The Holy Communion.—The following books should be especially noted: *Primitive Church Teaching on the Holy Communion* (1s.), by the late Dean Goulburn, whose great learning makes this book particularly valuable, written, as he states in his preface, because since the original publication of his book, *The English Office of Holy Communion*, "two or three practices which seem to me wrong in principle and to have a tendency to undermine the true doctrine of the Holy Eucharist have shot up with amazing rapidity." The subjects particularly dealt with are Fasting Communion, Non-communicating

Attendance and previous Private Confession ; *The Holy Communion ; A Study in History and Doctrine* (1s.), by Mr. Albert Mitchell, is a valuable publication and useful for the notes it contains on the doctrinal emphasis of the Reformation, Vestments, the Prayer of Humble Access, Consecration and Reservation. We may also mention *The Holy Communion of the Church of England* (1s. 6d. paper ; 2s. cloth), by Canon Dyson Hague, with a preface by Bishop Knox, which was published a little over a year ago. In this book the author explains the doctrine of our service of Holy Communion as contrasted with the Roman Catholic Mass ; *A Sacrament of our Redemption*, by the Rev. W. H. Griffith Thomas, D.D. (1s. paper cover ; 2s. cloth). In this Dr. Griffith Thomas draws the reader's attention to the connection of the Last Supper with the Jewish Passover Feast, and gives an excellent summary of the New Testament teaching. He also traces the various changes which took place in the Book of Common Prayer ; *What Mean Ye by this Service ?* (1s. paper cover ; 2s. cloth), by the Rev. T. W. Gilbert, D.D. In this book Dr. Gilbert draws very clearly the meaning and significance of Holy Communion. Two valuable chapters are entitled *The Feeding upon Christ and Our Lord's Work in Heaven* ; and a useful pamphlet by the Rev. N. Dimock, entitled *The Black Rubric ; Its History and Evidential Value* (2d.).

History.—As history sheds light upon the developments that have taken place and are now incorporated in the worship and teaching of many of our churches, we mention the following volumes : *The English Church and the Reformation* (5s.), by the Rev. C. Sydney Carter, Litt.D., a new and enlarged illustrated edition of which was published last year. Dr. Carter is an accurate scholar and has gone back to the original documents and quoted them with due regard to their context ; *A Manual of English Church History* (3s. 6d.), by the Rev. Chas. Hole, with a preface by Dean Wace. This is a scholarly history of the Church, written from the point of view of one in full sympathy with the Reformation, who may be relied upon for an accurate statement of the leading events in our history and their influence upon the life and doctrine of the Church ; and a new edition of *Thomas Cranmer and the English Reformation* (7s. 6d.), by Professor A. F. Pollard, also re-published in the last few months. The writer is an unquestionable authority and his biography is eminently readable. We may also mention a small handbook, *What Happened at the Reformation* (6d.), which is an admirable lecture by Professor W. Alison Phillips.

Reservation.—The Bishop of Norwich published a book in 1917 under the title of *The Holy Communion and Reservation* (1s. 6d.), four articles which are of great value at the present time. It contains a useful appendix dealing with the rubrics, and particularly the Black Rubric. *Reservation*, by Mr. Albert Mitchell, has been mentioned before in this column, and has now been published in a 2d. edition, completing its tenth thousand. It is useful for distribution.

Parochial Church Councils.—A new four-page leaflet by Mr. Gilbert Mitchell for circulation amongst members of Parochial Church Councils has now been issued, price 3s. per 100. The leaflet gives particulars as to the election and formation of the Council, its powers, procedure, scope, interest and responsibility. It will supply a felt want.