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Editorial

MANY of the books which are reviewed in this issue owe their origin to the general upheaval created by the War. There is on all sides a desire for Reality and it is good to know that so many Christian leaders are facing up to the Challenge of the times.

These are days in which we need in full measure "the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord." If the Christian Church is to be the effective force which it ought to be and which we hope it may become, there will be need for courageous decisions. The essential content of the Gospel must be retained. There can be no compromise or readjustment there, but incidentals of Church Government, sectarian prejudices, anomalies of one kind and another must be examined and adjustment made where prejudice and not principle is at stake. Only thus will the Church deserve, and, it is hoped, secure, the goodwill of the people.

The question of Reunion cannot be shelved indefinitely, while the vast majority of people both inside and outside organized Christianity regard it as vital. The Vicar of St. John's, Boscombe, has an interesting and challenging article in this issue showing the way to Unity.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to welcome another article in *THE CHURCHMAN* from the pen of Principal Curr of the All Nations Bible College, London, and in these days when statesmen figure more prominently than ever in the public eye, it is helpful and refreshing to look back to a mighty statesman of former days to whom we owe the phrase "The Impregnable Rock of Holy Scripture."

From the statesman-theologian we pass to the theologian-statesman, and many will read with pleasure unfeigned the article by Dr. Lavelle on "The Importance of Calvin for

Contemporary Evangelical Theology," but whether all will agree with the writer that "it is a revival of interest in Calvin's theology that is the clamant need of modern theology," is questionable.

Articles on Baptism are ever welcome, and the Rev. G. W. Bromiley's paper on the views of Baptism held by Cranmer and Rogers will no doubt be helpful to many.

Mr. Arthur Prior (now back in New Zealand) contributes an article on *The Rule of Faith* which has its message for to-day, and a further devotional study on *The Gospel of Truth* by the Rev. E. Hirst, together with many interesting reviews of recent publications complete what we trust will be an interesting, thought-provoking and spiritually helpful issue.
