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CHURCH BOOK ROOM NOTES.

DEAN WACE HOUSE, WINE OFFICE COURT,
FLEET STREET, E.C.4.

Cranmer.—A second edition of *A Defence of the True and Catholic Doctrine and Use of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*, by Archbishop Cranmer, with a preface by the Very Rev. Henry Wace, D.D., has been published by Messrs. Thynne & Jarvis (4s. net). This book has been out of print for some years and the new issue brings Cranmer's famous work again within the reach of many who have not access to the other editions of his writings. This volume has the great advantage of a preface by Dr. Wace, and we specially call attention to the emphasis which the Dean lays upon Cranmer's argument that Transubstantiation is but a particular form of the error which is at the root of the mischief. The dividing line between ourselves and the Church of Rome is any doctrine of a local presence of Christ's Body and Blood resident in the Consecrated Elements. This popular reprint should be of the greatest service to students, and we strongly recommend our readers to procure and study it.

The Black Death.—Dr. G. G. Coulton has recently published in Benn's Sixpenny Library an extraordinarily interesting and illuminating pamphlet entitled *The Black Death*. In it he gives a short account of the origin and spread of the Plague; its influence and effect on clergy and people and particularly its influence upon the Reformation. Quoting the monastic chronicler Knighton, he says that the ravages of the plague created a difficulty in getting suitable priests, and that the Lollards "multiplied exceedingly like budding plants and filled the whole realm everywhere."

The Inquisition.—A second essay by Dr. Coulton is also issued in the same series entitled *The Inquisition*. Dr. Coulton writes with unique authority, and his words may be accepted without any feeling that he is making out a case for Protestantism. He lets facts speak for themselves, and traces the historical causes of the mediæval Inquisition. He points out that the Inquisition was an elaborate institution for the punishment and suppression of unpopular opinions, and shows that under this system intolerance progressed in a marked degree. He describes the cruelties inflicted by a ruthless persecution "in obedience to the decrees of the Holy Roman Church, which have prescribed that heretics should be excluded from the Society of God and of Holy Church and of all Catholics and should be everywhere condemned and prosecuted." The great advantage derived from the study of this little book is the clarifying of the idea so widely current that the Church was as merciful as the State was cruel. The Church would not shed one drop of blood, and it therefore handed its victims over to the Civil Power to be put to death. The chapter on Death and Torture gives some striking instances that the Church did have some share in the death sentence. The Civil powers were not really the judges. The right to consider questions of heresy was formally denied them.

The Prayer Book Crisis.—Special mention was made at the Annual Meetings of the National Church League of the usefulness and large circula-

tion of *The Prayer Book Crisis* (2s. 6d. net), by Sir William Joynson-Hicks, three editions, numbering 15,000 copies in all, having been sold. This timely work comprises a concise history of our present Prayer Book, a sketch of the events which led up to its threatened supersession, and an examination of its proposed successor. It is by no means out of date, and those who have not yet procured a copy are urged to do so while there are still some obtainable.

Amy Le Feuvre.—The children of to-day have lost a friend in the lamented death of Amy Le Feuvre, whose books for children have been the stand-by of many a Sunday School Superintendent in selecting prizes. We are glad to note that the R.T.S., who have published so many of the works of this author, are gradually reducing them in price so as to make them more universally used. Particularly we welcome the new 2s. 6d. series, which contains such books as *The Chateau by the Lake*.

Sunday School Lessons.—In the early autumn a new series of Lessons by Deaconesses Oakley and Ethel Luke, entitled *More Stories for the Little People*, will be published (1s. 6d.). Coloured Text-Cards (4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ") to illustrate the Lessons, together with album, can be supplied at 1s. 2d. per child, for a year. Those who have not obtained a copy of the first series, *Stories for the Little People* (1s. 6d. net), are urged to do so at once. Reprints of the Rev. G. R. Balleine's books, *The Young Churchman* and *Heroes and Holy Days* (2s. each), will also be published.

Reunion.—In view of the Cheltenham Conference recently held at Oxford on "Lambeth and Reunion" the following pamphlets may be of interest: *Steps towards Reunion*, by Bishops W. G. Peel and J. J. Willis (1s.); *Intercommunion*, by the Rev. J. P. S. R. Gibson (2d.); *The Confirmation Rubric: Whom Does It Bind?* by the Rev. H. M. Gwatkin, D.D. (2d.); *The Malines Conference*, by the Rev. T. J. Pulvertaft (3d.); and the following Kikuyu Tracts: "That They All may be One," by Dr. Moule, late Bishop of Durham; *The Ministry and Unity*, by the Bishop of Manchester; *Episcopacy in Scripture and Episcopacy in the Church of England*, by the Rev. H. M. Gwatkin, D.D.; *What is the Church?* by Archbishop D'Arcy, and *Co-operation at the Home Base*, by the Rev. H. U. Weitbrecht Stanton, D.D. These tracts are published at 1d. each.

A valuable book on the subject is *Documents on Christian Unity* (7s. 6d.), by Dr. G. K. A. Bell, Bishop of Chichester.

P.C. Councils.—A Parochial Electors Roll Book, containing 100 pages and with an alphabetical index cut through, has just been published by the Church Book Room at 3s. 6d. (postage 6d.).

Pamphlets.—Enquiries often reach us for booklets for distribution in hospitals and nursing homes. *Time to Think* (1d.) was specially issued by the Book Room for this purpose, and the R.T.S. also have a very helpful booklet entitled *Thy Rod and Thy Staff* (2d.). *My Weekly Message* (2d.), by Deaconess Oakley and Deaconess Luke, recently issued by the Book Room, can be recommended for giving to children. We have just received a copy of a splendid Manual of Preparation for Holy Communion entitled *The Heart Uplifted* (3d.). It is written by the Rev. E. A. Dunn, Vicar of St. Luke's, Nottingham, and will be welcomed by clergy in town and country for distribution to Confirmation Candidates.