OUTSTANDING RELIGIOUS BOOKS

A Selection from Books Submitted by the Publishers
and chosen by the Religious Books Committee of the American Library Association
Covering the period May 1, 1945 - May 1, 1946

Baillie, John. What is Christian civilization? Scribner, 1945. $1.00
The historic and contemporary relations of Christianity and civilization are examined to provide a guide for Christian thought and action concerning the future of civilization in the West.

A masterly survey of religious liberty in terms of contemporary government, education and ecclesiastical organization on all five continents.

Bell, B.I. God is not dead. Harper, 1945. $1.50
Vigorous, outspoken discussion of the spiritual problems of individuals based on statements made to the author by some two score well known Americans in many walks of life.

Bourke, V.J. Augustine's quest of wisdom. Bruce, 1945. $3.00
Traces the development of Augustine's philosophical thought through the four periods of his life and shows his significance as scholar and churchman.

Brunner, Emil. Justice and the social order; tr. by Mary Hottinger. Harper, 1945. $3.00
A cogent analysis of the principles of justice and of their practical application in political, economic and domestic life.

Burkhart, R.A. The church and the returning soldier. Harper, 1945. $2.00
This book meets a contemporary situation and need with practical helpfulness. It appraises the veteran in his experience, thinking, and common attitudes toward church and religion and deals with personal counseling, marriage, and parish and community programs.

Buttrick, G.A. Christ and man's dilemma. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1946. $2.00
A tract for these atomic times in which a Christian faith declares itself with respect to morals, business, education and death.
Cammaerts, Emile. The flower of grass. Harper, 1945. $2.00
The spiritual pilgrimage of a Belgian intellectual, now a naturalized British citizen, from an aesthetic, non-religious worship of nature to a positive Christian faith.

Casey, R.P. Religion in Russia. Harper, 1946. $2.00
Outlines the history of the church in Russia, including the various sects and the basic ideas behind the anti-religious policies of the Soviet government. Also discusses the wartime revivals of orthodoxy and prospects for the future.

A rabbi gives a clear exposition of the beliefs of the various Jewish groups, answers the charges often brought against his people, and pleads for a fair treatment of them.

Donohue, J.J. Exile in the stars; a book of hours for the first Sunday in Advent. Macmillan, 1946. $1.50
Religious poetry of genuine originality, modern feeling and true spirituality. The author follows the theme and mood of the liturgy for the first Sunday in Advent to produce a work full of meaning and beauty in which the old and the new are ideally united and expressed.

A collection of biographical sketches of pioneers in the spread of Christianity throughout the world. Animated and interesting narrative.

Finegan, Jack. Light from the ancient past. Princeton University Press, 1946. $5.00
A compact, copiously illustrated account of the background of the Hebrew-Christian religion as known through the discoveries of archaeology. Covers the period from 5000 B.C. to A.D. 500.

Fleming, D.J. Bringing our world together. Scribner, 1945. $2.00
Argues that man's future depends on his ability to bridge the differences separating groups from one another.

Gable, Mariella, Sister, ed. Our Father's house. Sheed, 1945. $3.00
A well chosen anthology of short stories, spiritual or ethical in theme, by outstanding modern writers among whom are Bjornson, Benet, O. Henry, Chesterton, Tolstoy, Brendan Gill, Selma Lagerlof and J.F. Powers.

This interesting and practically helpful volume fills a long-standing need for an authoritative readable portrayal of the Christian year, its beginnings and development.

Giordani, Igino. St. Paul, apostle and martyr; tr. from the Italian by Mother Clelia Marazana and Mother M.P. Williamson. Macmillan, 1946. $2.50
A thorough study of the life, character, thought and achievement of St. Paul, by a distinguished Italian scholar associated with the Vatican Library. Dramatically and vividly written.
Glueck, Nelson. The River Jordan, being an illustrated account of earth's most storied river. Westminster Press, 1946. $3.50
An authoritative, yet popularly written work on the development of history along one of the most famous rivers of the world. Superbly illustrated with photographs.

Grant, F.C. The Practice of Religion. Macmillan, 1946. $2.50
Religion treated not primarily as doctrine or ritual, but as awareness of God which affects the conduct of life and human relations. Covers many aspects of religion including prayer, sin, worship and action for social welfare.

Harrold, C.F. John Henry Newman; an expository and critical study of his mind, thought and art. Longmans, 1945. $3.50
Scholarly study of a great figure in nineteenth century religious literature, with liberal quotations from Cardinal Newman's own writings.

Simple without being superficial, denominational without being sectarian, this volume is intended as a guidebook to the Christian faith for older young people and adult laymen.

Hough, L.H. The Meaning of Human Experience. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1945. $3.00
The ideals of humanism and Christianity are merged in what the author labels "evangelical synthesis."

Hutchinson, Paul. The New Leviathan. Willett, 1946. $2.00
A clearly reasoned analysis of the dangers inherent in the growth of the powers of the modern state and its implication for religion.

Johnson, P.E. Psychology of Religion. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1945. $2.00
Discusses the whole range of religious experience - growth, worship, sin, forgiveness and personality, with clarity and insight.

Latourette, K.S. The United States Moves Across the Pacific. Harper, 1946. $2.00
American missions in the Far East have helped to make Asia, rather than Europe, America's logical and permanent field of overseas interest. This book deals with the A.B.C.'s of the resulting American problem in the Pacific.

Lewis, C.S. Beyond Personality. Macmillan, 1945. $1.00
The great themes of Christian theology - the Trinity, the Incarnation, the two natures of Christ, in a delightfully lucid prose.

Lewis, C.S. The Great Divorce. Macmillan, 1946. $1.50
A fantasy told with great charm and humor by one of the most readable writers now dealing with religious themes. It is the story of pilgrims who made a bus trip from Hell to Heaven and did not like it. Characterized by sharp insight into the whole range of religious faith and life.
Liebman, J.L. Peace of mind. Simon & Schuster, 1946. $2.50
A skillfully written book dealing with the resources of both Freudian psychology and religion, Christian and Jewish, for overcoming the obstacles to peace of mind and happiness. Readable and especially helpful in its concrete illustrations.

Longacre, L.B. The Old Testament, its form and purpose. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1945. $2.00
Packs into brief compass a clear, concise summary of the books of the Old Testament and provides a good handbook of critical interpretation of the Scriptures. Gives the distinctive ideas, purposes and contributions of the various groups of material - prophecy, narrative and poetry.

McHahon, F.E. A Catholic looks at the world. Vanguard, 1945. $2.75
Arresting and forceful discussion by a liberal Catholic scholar, of his views on international and domestic problems, social as well as religious.

Magner, J.A. Personality and successful living. Bruce, 1945. $2.75
A Catholic educator writes with suggestiveness and clarity about the factors which enter into the making of personality. Practical and interesting.

Maritain, Raissa. Adventures in grace; sequel to We have been friends together. Longmans, 1945. $2.75
Memorable pictures of some of the most important men and women in modern French intellectual and religious life - Peguy, Bergson, Bloy and others - by the wife of Jacques Maritain.

The story of the founder of the Congregation of the Oratory. A vividly written biography.

Mims, Edwin. Great writers as interpreters of religion. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1945. $1.50
Examination of the light thrown on religion by some of the outstanding figures in English literature, chiefly in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Rich in arresting quotations.

Monro, M.T. Enjoying the New Testament. Longmans, 1945. $2.50
An informal guide for the average Catholic who wishes to read the New Testament with understanding and spiritual profit. Planned for a period of twenty-one weeks, with background material, interpretation and stimulating comment for each week's reading.

A popular narrative of Cardinal Newman and his times, giving equal attention to his Anglican and Catholic careers.

Morgenstern, Soma. The son of the lost son; tr. by Joseph Leftwich and Peter Gross. Jewish Publication Society, 1946. $2.50
A moving presentation in fictional form of the compulsions of religion and a noble portrait of the thought and life of European Jews. Its central character is a Polish Jew whose brother had become an apostate and who, after his brother's death, started out to find the nephew and reclaim him to Judaism.
Nelson, L.E. Our roving Bible. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1945. $2.75
The story of the Bible as it has influenced and been reflected in English and American life and literature from A.D. 500 to date. Unique in its field, it is full of little known facts and rich in striking quotations.

Niebuhr, Reinhold. Discerning the signs of the times. Scribner, 1946. $2.50
Essays concerned with the bearing of religion and ethics on issues of individual personality and society by a major figure in the world of religion today. Profound and original.

Palmer, A.W. The light of faith. Macmillan, 1945. $1.75
An outline of Christian faith for laymen who are wondering what they can believe in these troubled days. The viewpoint is liberal.

Santayana, George. The idea of Christ in the Gospels. Scribner, 1946. $2.75
A noted writer looks at the Gospels through the lens of his own philosophy and finds his views of life illumined by the Gospel.

Scotford, J.R. The church beautiful. Pilgrim Press, 1945. $3.50
A practical manual for those who are looking forward to building a new church or improving an old one. Illustrated with seventy-five photographs.

Shoemaker, S.M. How you can help other people. Dutton, 1946. $1.75
A helpful guide for personal service to those in sorrow and pain, and to those who lack faith or bear heavy burdens.

Smith, R.C. The church in our town. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1945. $1.50
Detailed, suggestive treatment of the problems and opportunities of the church in rural communities. Draws on both sociology and religion in its picture of the forces at work and methods of dealing with them.

Steinberg, Milton. A partisan guide to the Jewish problem. Bobbs, 1945. $3.00
A valuable discussion of the problems confronting Judaism today with proposals for action, by one of America's most distinguished rabbis. His work is confessedly controversial, but its importance is admitted by all groups within Judaism.


Incisive and fresh treatment of the Ten Commandments as foundation principles for the rebuilding of civilization. Remarkable in its compactness, originality and relevancy to present world conditions.

Van Dusen, H.P. The Christian answer. Scribner, 1945. $2.50
Five religious thinkers examine the tragedies and confusion of the war and post-war years and set forth their interpretations of the Christian answer to the plight and need of society. Directed to thoughtful people outside the Christian tradition.
Van Kirk, W.W. A Christian global strategy. Willett, 1945. $2.00
Faces the issues of our world, its shaken political structure, its devastations and changes, and asks how Christianity shall mobilize its forces to meet the opportunity and need. A stimulating world view.

Ward, L.R., ed. United for freedom: co-operatives and Christian democracy. Bruce, 1945. $2.50
A co-operative volume on the co-operative movement. To it such authorities as Luigi Sturzo, Congressman Jerry Voorhis, the late Virgil Michel, Eva Ross and A.J. Kress contribute. The spiritual and religious basis of the co-operatives is emphasized.