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## BOOKS

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### CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP.

**Social Solutions in the Light of Christian Ethics.** By Thomas C. Hall, Professor of Christian Ethics in Union Theological Seminary, New York. Eaton & Mains, New York; Jennings and Graham, Cincinnati. Price \$1.50.

A revision for more general use, of technical and academic lectures to successive classes in a divinity school, this book, by one of the sons of the Rev. Dr. John Hall, himself a clergyman hardly less distinguished now than his eminent father two generations ago, inquires into the obligations of Christian citizenship for the benefit of Christian citizens. It rightly assumes, therefore, without any attempt at proof but simply as the major premise of all discussions of Christianity among Christians, that the life and purpose of Jesus is not only authoritative, but is the highest authority. The one question, therefore, which it puts to all reformers is, "What do you promise us as members in the future kingdom of God?"

In answering that interrogation, however, it introduces what is somewhat of a novelty in books of this kind when dealing with social reforms of a radical type. The author has gone to the actual sources, examining, for example, "not what men say Henry George taught or Karl Marx believed, but what they themselves actually wrote."

The subject is considered in three divisions: reforms emphasizing the individual, those emphasizing the group, and those that are only ameliorative. It is deliberately that the author considers the difference between individual and group as one of emphasis merely, for he distinctly states that "the group and the individual are really not separable." This distinction is eminently sound. If it were more generally recognized there would be a better understanding between democratic disputants who stand for socialism and those who stand for individualism. Their differences are largely of emphasis.

Beginning with the emphasis upon the individual, because "it generally happens today that the emphasis lies there," Mr. Hall takes up in succession the Manchester school of political economy, individualism in the United States, Josiah Warren's individualism—"atomistic anarchy," for want of a better name,—the individualism of the single tax, and individualism and democracy. He describes Warren's individualism, as formulated by Benjamin R. Tucker, as "clear cut and far more respectable than the somewhat muddled thinking of Herbert Spencer," but utterly unsound as a philosophy because it is not man merely, "but the man-woman-child group," that constitutes the unit of society. In this connection the "save-your-own-

soul" individualism so popular in some Christian churches is hit hard with the verdict that getting "a man to save himself first and then go to work to save others, is the wrong way to go about the Father's business," for "the man that starts in to save the group and redeem others will get all the salvation he really needs, as a by-product—that is, if he starts in about it as Jesus did."

Turning next to a consideration of the group emphasis, Mr. Hall describes the rise and purpose of socialism, making a special study of the Marxian type and of the Bismarckian (state socialism) type, and briefly surveys other continental types of socialism, including that of Bernstein and that of the "syndicalists."

It may be doubted if Mr. Hall has very clearly seen those automatic effects of the single tax for the realization of which socialism looks to an elaborate reorganization of society. His scholarship having somewhat over-fastened his attention upon the details of artificial social adjustment, his imagination seems not to serve him well in considering the far reaching effects of fundamental adjustments. But his book is absolutely fair. Its appeal is simply for an open mind to social problems by the churches. "The churches must learn," he writes, in his summary chapter, "not to be afraid of hearing from all earnest men;" for they "need to know all the forces that make up our complex life," and no partisan spirit should stop them "from becoming intelligent by hearing what others think."

A concluding chapter on selected bibliography greatly facilitates minute study of the subjects which the volume itself spreads intelligently, broadly, and in truly religious temper before the reader.

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### THE LINCOLN CENTENARY.

**Abraham Lincoln. The Tribute of a Century. 1809-1909.** Commemorative of the Lincoln Centenary and Containing the Principal Speeches made in Connection therewith. Edited by Nathan William MacChesney. Published by A. C. McClurg & Co. 1910. Price, \$2.75 net.

Mr. MacChesney was secretary of the Lincoln Centennial Memorial Committee of One Hundred, appointed by the Mayor of Chicago. The story of this committee is told by him and he contributes also a thoughtful appreciation of Lincoln. The oration at Chicago, by J. A. Macdonald, editor of the Toronto Globe, is given in full. Besides the Chicago commemoration those at Springfield, Bloomington, Peoria, Hodgenville (Ky.), New York, Boston, Cincinnati, Rochester, Madison, Denver, Washington, Philadelphia, Cornell University, Pittsburg, Janesville, Manchester (England), Berlin (Germany), Paris (France) and Rome (Italy) are reported in this well-edited and attractively printed volume, which is abun-