

## AMONG THE RELIGIOUS BOOKS

**"THE Minister's Everyday Life"** (Scribner) by Lloyd C. Douglas gives practical suggestions to younger ministers on the problems that confront them. In a clear journalistic style, not without humor, it treats of the ministry as a profession, the pastoral relationship, methods by which the minister may honorably add to his income, the care of church property, church finances, sermon preparation, visitation of the sick, weddings, funerals, the minister's reading, his correspondence and other matters that confront him daily, including a survey of the personal problems confided to him by those who seek his counsel. It is an unusual book and one that even the veteran in the profession will find refreshing.

There has been such a remarkable impetus given to the reading of the Bible as literature of late, that **"The Everyday Bible"** (Crowell) edited by Charles M. Sheldon falls easily in line with the popular demand. It is a literal following of the American standard revision, but with some omissions and rearrangement. The idea is to give the gist of the Bible without comment and without verse or chapter numbers. Its mission is to place in the reader's hands a connected story which will vie in interest with the books designed for popular perusal. The experiment is both wholesome and worthwhile.

**"The Human Side of Hawaii"** (Pilgrim Press) by Rev. Albert W. Palmer tells of present day conditions in Hawaii, one of the most extraordinary social experiment stations in the world. Social conditions there, amid a mingled population of native Hawaiians, Orientals, and whites, are more colorful and interesting than almost anywhere else in the world, and Mr. Palmer tells a correspondingly interesting story, interpreting it with loving sympathy, shrewd intelligence, and kindling imagination.

What is religion? Has it any real bearing

on morality and the unescapable facts of human relationship? Everett Dean Martin, whose lectures at the Cooper Union of New York have created so profound an impression, in **"The Mystery of Religion"** (Harper) analyzes scientifically, in the light of social psychology, the taboos and ceremonials of religion, and the fundamental meaning and cause of group religion itself. He believes that man has had to invent fictions in order to live, in order to find the meaning of our world. Man must find escape and compensation where other living things are content with reality.

The Rev. Dr. George W. McDaniel contributes to the present day discussion a masterly study of the divine character of the Master, **"The Supernatural Jesus"** (Doran). This book adduces facts and deduces conclusions from those facts regarding the supernatural nature of the person and work of Jesus. Dr. McDaniel skilfully and succinctly discloses the heart of the evidence according to Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Paul, and prepares the way for a thorough and illuminating treatment of such leading subjects as the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection of Christ, the mistakes of the Modernists, the truth about the Bible and science.

Is there a higher love than love of democracy? A greater commandment than that of the State? A nobler obedience and purer service than any political rule can rightly demand? Multitudes of Protestants, who believe so, find themselves today disturbed and shaken by the question: ought not these convictions to make a bigger practical difference in their lives as citizens, parents, and disciples? Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, in **"Christianity and the State"** (Macmillan), gives a fair, just, all around discussion of this major problem of Christian manhood in our time.

E. E. F.