

BR
1
.C559
v.4
no. 2

CHURCH HISTORY



Vol. IV

JUNE, 1935

No. 2

POST-WAR PROTESTANTISM

Herbert W. Schneider

POST-WAR EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCHES

Matthew Spinka

THE DONATIST CIRCUMCELLIONS

R. Pierce Beaver

THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN TRANS-MISSOURI

Don W. Holter

IN MEMORIAM

BOOK REVIEWS

Published by

The American Society of Church History

Gift
DeVanderVolde
4-23-52
v.4#2-4

BR
1
Q659
v.4
no.2

CHURCH HISTORY

EDITORIAL BOARD

MATTHEW SPINKA, *Managing Editor*
ROBERT HASTINGS NICHOLS
JOHN THOMAS McNEILL, *ex officio*

Vol. IV	JUNE, 1935	No. 2
---------	------------	-------

CONTENTS

POST-WAR PROTESTANTISM	
<i>Herbert W. Schneider</i>	87
POST-WAR EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCHES	
<i>Matthew Spinka</i>	103
THE DONATIST CIRCUMCELLIONS	
<i>R. Pierce Beaver</i>	123
THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN TRANS-MISSOURI	
<i>Don W. Holter</i>	134
IN MEMORIAM:	147
EPHRAIM EMERTON, PH. D.	
BOOK REVIEWS:	148
BARNES, G. H. AND DUMOND, D. L., eds.: <i>Letters of Theodore Dwight Weld, etc.</i>	W. W. Sweet
CELL, GEORGE CROFT: <i>The Rediscovery of John Wesley</i>	A. W. Nagler
HOLLIS, CHRISTOPHER: <i>Thomas More</i>	M. M. Knappen
WADE-EVANS, A. W.: <i>Welsh Christian Origins</i>	J. T. McNeill

CONTENTS

HAYDON, A. E., ed.: <i>Modern Trends in World-Religions</i>	Laurens H. Seelye
BINDER, L. R.: <i>Modern Religious Cults and Society</i>	Gaius Glenn Atkins
CONSTANT, G.: <i>The Reformation in England, I</i>	J. A. Muller
ROMIG, E. F., ed.: <i>William the Silent</i>	F. W. Loetscher
TURNBULL, G. A., comp.: <i>The Essence of Plotinus</i>	Matthew Spinka

CHURCH HISTORY

Vol. IV

JUNE, 1935

No. 2

POST-WAR PROTESTANTISM

HERBERT W. SCHNEIDER

Columbia University

The theme I propose to develop in this paper is that in the victorious and neutral nations the dominant ideals of post-War Protestantism have been carried over from before the War, that these led in the direction of Catholicism, but that in spite of its catholic ideals, Protestantism since the war has actually become more Protestant than before, not only in Germany where Protestantism has become aggressive, but also in the other nations where it is less self-conscious. In other words, Protestantism has been revived by force of circumstance in ways not of its own choosing; or, to use Protestant language, it has been saved by grace, not justified by faith.

Before I discuss the changes that have come over the Protestant churches since the war, let me comment on their prevailing resistance to change. The stability of the churches on the whole, intellectually, morally and economically must be amazing to those who expected them to be blown about by the winds of doctrine and the thunders of war. Nothing seems to prevail against them and though they ride the waves, they enjoy much the same security and complacency that characterizes the immovable church of Rome, founded on its rock. On the whole they have gained little and yielded little.¹ Few aspects of social life today are as stable as religion. Even in Germany where the

¹ For an analysis of the American churches the reader is referred to the admirable work of the Institute of Social and Religious Research, summarized in H. Paul Douglas and E. de S. Brunner, *The Protestant Church as a Social Institution*, N. Y., 1935. This volume emphasizes the measurable changes in recent decades, but on the whole bears out the above generalization. See especially pp. 43, 53, 99, 294-302. Certain special changes will be noted below. The decline in the rural churches is partly compensated by the slight growth in the urban churches—a shift which seems to be due less to the agricultural depression, than to the automobile. See p. 66.

WILLIAM THE SILENT

A Record of the Celebration by the Church of the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of the Great Prince of Orange, Champion of Civil and Religious Liberty. Prepared by EDGAR FRANKLIN ROMIG. Published by the Collegiate Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York, 1934. xii, 84 pages, 8 vo.

This beautiful specimen of the printer's art consists of three main parts: an admirable sketch, in two chapters, of the life and work of the Prince by the editor—an expansion of his Phi Beta Kappa oration delivered in the chapel of Franklin and Marshall College, June 6, 1933; a detailed description of the unique "Solemn Service of Thanksgiving" held in the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, New York City, Sunday afternoon, April 23, 1933, including the address of His Excellency, Dr. J. Herman Van Roijen, Netherlands Minister at Washington, and the Commemorative Sermon by the Rev. S. Parkes Cadman, D. D.; and lastly an account of other observances of the Quadricentennial held in various places in the United States, together with an impressive series of tributes to the Prince published at the time in religious magazines and in the secular press.

The little volume cannot be said to add much to the average reader's knowledge of the heroic Dutch leader; but the many authorities cited, and especially the editor's own interpretation of William's character and achievements, give an inspiring picture of one of the noblest figures of the sixteenth century and a fair idea of the value of his contribution to the cause of civil freedom and religious toleration in the modern world.

The work is adorned with twenty-five illustrations; among the most interesting being four portraits of the Prince, a number of venerable Dutch churches and other buildings, and the memorable relief of Leyden in 1574.

Princeton Theological Seminary

Frederick W. Loetscher.

THE ESSENCE OF PLOTINUS

Compiled by GRACE A. TURNBULL. New York: Oxford University Press, 1934. xx, 303 pages. \$2.50.

Miss Turnbull has conscientiously performed a useful task in compiling and editing extracts from the *Six Enneads* of Plotinus, and Porphyry's *Life of Plotinus*. Although she has based her work on the translation of Stephen Mackenna, whose monumental edition was published in five volumes, she has compared the latter with the original Greek and introduced her own renderings and modifications. Besides, she has added an appendix, in which she has carefully traced the influence of Plotinus upon such great minds as those of St. Augustine, Dante, Schiller, Coleridge, Emerson, and Tennyson. Christian theology and particularly mysticism owe such a profound debt to Neoplatonism as a whole and above all to Plotinus, that it is a cause for rejoicing that in this abbreviated compass the work of the greatest of Neoplatonists is made accessible to the wider public.

Matthew Spinka.