

BOOK BRIEFS

Christian Education in Local Methodist Churches, by John Q. Schisler. Nashville: Abingdon, 1969. 266 pages. \$6.00

This book is devoted to the study of the history of Christian education in local Methodist churches. Since there is no other book of its kind, it meets a real need.

Starting with the influence of John Wesley, the history of religious education is traced from its beginnings in America through dissension and separation within the church. Against a background of national wars and social unrest, the author details the progress of the former Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church (South), and the Methodist Protestant Church. Finally, he highlights modern trends toward unification and developments in the educational work of The Methodist Church through 1955. Thus, historians, students, and ministers are given a comprehensive view of Christian education and its place in Methodist history.

This book is well-researched and well-written, the product of one who has been long involved in the work he writes about. It should find wide usage among those interested in professional Christian education.

Daniel: A Detailed Explanation of the Book, by Geoffrey R. King. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1966. 248 pages. \$3.75.

A neglected and often misunderstood prophet comes to life in these expository studies. Too long we have surrendered this vital Old Testament man and his valuable book to itinerant preachers with their dogmatic interpretations, assured answers and apocalyptic accents.

Instead of striving to set definite dates for the Day of Doom, focus falls on the man, his message, and his mission in history, along with some moral, spiritual and prophetic values. Contemporary comparisons and applications add relevance to the study.

There is “. . . a new and almost light-hearted approach” with some hints of humor, such as: “I feel sorry for those lions. . . he was half grit and the other half backbone!. . . And those lions were hungry!”