

live", most of us would agree. But if there be an implied criticism of the Concise Guides, it should be pointed out that it is at least their objective, as expressed in their own words: to "attempt to interpret the Bible stories in the total context of God's activity towards man and man's response".

The writer would be the last to claim that all is well with the content and method of Sunday School lessons based on the B.L.C. Courses, but for them it can be claimed that they do at least try to show the child "his place in history and the Church's role in it".

W. T. COWLAN.

Dr. West comments anent the criticism of his suggestion that the Church Secretary or Sunday School Superintendent should stand alongside the parents during the ceremony of Dedication, and make a response on behalf of the Church; that he thinks it of value that the congregation should "hear their response" from "one of their number standing actually alongside the family and child". This could be in addition to and not alternatively to the congregation itself standing as well.

GOD'S PRESENCE WITH THE BLIND

"THE Practice of the Presence of God" is a phrase made familiar to us by Brother Lawrence, who, some centuries ago, testified that the Presence of God was as real to him amid the duties of the Monastery kitchen as in the chapel of his devotions. This testimony makes a special appeal to Christian people who may have lost their sight. They have the compensating advantage of being more free from those outward distractions of the world of sense and sound, which tend to hinder concentration on the development of the spiritual life. Shut out from the world of action, they are more shut in to the realisation of the Presence of God.

Seated next to another patient at the hospital, some time ago, waiting for an interview with the specialist, the writer remarked to his neighbour "Does not the loss of sight throw you back upon God?" To this he readily assented. One makes the discovery of inner spiritual resources previously unsuspected.

In a recent broadcast, a well-known poet and public servant described his first reaction to the loss of his sight. In masterly language he said he was held by his faith in God, an anchor sure and steadfast. And so, to use the title of a book published recently "The world we have forgotten" becomes, and may become to those who know Jesus Christ, reversed, and the spiritual world, with all its opportunities of discovery and exploration, becomes the world of growing reality.

A soldier, blinded in the last war, recently gave his testimony over the air. Previously, indifferent to religion, the reading of the Braille New Testament brought to him a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This experience he expressed by saying "I was made blind

in order that I might see". One is reminded of the poet's words:
 " Power was with him in the night,
 That makes the darkness and the light,
 And dwells not in the light alone."

In the night of his handicap, the blind man may know the meaning of that power, and rejoice in it.

That wonderful American lady, Helen Keller was triply handicapped, with the lost of sight, speech and hearing. The time came when it was necessary for someone to speak to her about God. For this purpose good Bishop Phillips Brooks was chosen. He spoke to her of the revelation of God in Jesus Christ, as a God of Love. To this she replied "I have known it for some time, but did not know His name." Thanks be to God that, though physical sight may be withdrawn, the blind also may practise the Presence of God, through faith which is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

OSWALD HENDERSON.

An Enquiry. William Carey. Carey Kingsgate Press. 10s. 6d.

Realism, imagination, vision, these are the characteristics of the Enquiry. Statistics may be cold, but Carey makes them speak with warmth and passion. Here is an example of how to prepare and present a project to a public yet to be convinced. Here is a modern book, alive, vital, challenging. The modern Missionary Movement has achieved much, but the task today is even greater than in 1792. If we can make the hard statistical evidence of the world's need of Christ glow with the practical passion Carey achieved in the Enquiry our Churches will begin to expect great things from God and attempt great things for Him. Mission is a mark of the Church. For helping us to realise this we owe much to Carey. The reader will be grateful for Dr. Payne's Introduction, which sets the book in its context and underlines its present significance.

N.B.J.

ANGOLA

As we go to Press there is evidence that the spirit of Carey and Knibb is alive among us again, anent the "dreadful campaign resolved upon by the Portuguese Government". C. J. Parsons packed into his five minutes on the air a lot of information known at first hand to few but missionaries. And there is evidence that Churches and ministers are being stirred to further action on the Assembly Resolution. In Southend, particularly, the ministers under the lead of L. E. Addicott and E. L. Blakebrough, are on the holy warpath, organising meetings, approaching M.P.s and the Portuguese legation, getting letters and information into the Press. If such activity sprang to life all over the country in our Churches and Associations, if letters of protest were sent and meetings of protest were held and resolutions of protest were forwarded, we might "light such a candle, by God's grace" as would not easily be put out.