

Editorial.

THE subject which had been chosen for the Oxford Conference this year was "The Prayer Book". Unfortunately, the war situation compelled the abandonment of the Conference, to the disappointment of many.

At our invitation, three of the selected speakers have contributed papers for this issue of *The Churchman*, dealing with some of the important aspects of the subject which are of interest to all Churchmen, and we acknowledge our indebtedness to the writers. Their papers include the question of Adherence to the Prayer Book in Public Worship; the needful Amendments and Additions to make it more effective for use to-day, and the very vital question of Lawful Authority for any variation from the prescribed order.

It should be understood that their contributions are only intended to give some indication of what would have been the substance of their papers had they been read at the Conference, and further that the content of their papers would have been open to general discussion, and, following the usual custom of the Conference, "Findings" would have been issued giving the general consensus of opinion of the members.

The subject is of supreme importance to Evangelicals and we therefore hope that these contributions will stimulate thought and be useful if, in the near future, the question of Prayer Book Revision should become a "live" issue, which is by no means beyond the realm of possibility.

The writer of the paper "Evangelical Catholicity" wishes us to state that his contribution is the substance of a paper read at a Conference arranged by the Church Pastoral-Aid Society at Heightside.

We would like to take this opportunity of expressing our warm appreciation to all our writers, including those who contribute book reviews, which are so much appreciated by our readers.

The Churchman is recognised as a magazine which is making a most valuable contribution in theology, and is evidence that, in the ranks of Evangelicals, there are theologians possessing a knowledge of modern scholarship. The steady increase of its circulation during the year is a real encouragement to all who have any share in its production.

We must offer our sincere apology for the delay in the publication of this number, but it was quite unavoidable.