

Blessed Trinity

THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY.

By R. S. Franks. (Duckworth, 8s. 6d.) THIS book consists in the main of a valuable historical survey of the doctrine of the Trinity. It is short, lucid and simply written. If the limitation of space means that at times the treatment is superficial, yet the compression of the material is a remarkable achievement.

The book is divided into three main parts: the New Testament matrix; the patristic development; Assimilation, Criticism and Reconstruction. There is a postscript giving the author's own views. The New Testament section is finely written, although it is hardly true to say that "with John, redemption by the death of Christ is absorbed in the wider setting of revelation." In the patristic section there is perhaps too much preoccupation with Christology and too little with the doctrine of the Spirit, while the few pages on Tertullian scarcely do justice to his ideas of the organic unity within the Godhead. The third section gives great prominence to Schleiermacher, Ritschl and Barth. In the review of British theology there are some surprising omissions. Professor Hodgson is refuted at length, but Professor D. M. Baillie is not so much as mentioned, nor are the "Essays on the Trinity and Incarnation." The author betrays his lack of interest in Roman Catholic theology, and he does not refer to le Breton's great work on the Doctrine of the Trinity.

In ten pages at the end of the book, Dr. Franks gives his own conclusions from his historical study. Dr. Franks uses "person" in the old sense of *hypostasis*, and rejects "social" analogies of the Trinity in favour of the "psychological" approach which St. Augustine first suggested. "The Christology of Schleiermacher must be combined with the Trinitarianism of Aquinas as interpreted by Barth." It is one of the limitations of the historical method which Dr. Franks employs that he is unable to defend his own conclusions more fully. Thus he makes no personal contribution to the apprehension of this great mystery. This short book should be valuable to students.

The Houses of Parliament, a monograph on the palace of Westminster, with photographs by Hans Wild and descriptive essays by James Pope-Hennessy, has just reached a third edition (Batsford, 16s.). This is a fine record in letterpress and picture of the architecture, customs and personalities of Parliament.

The Owl Club, by W. E. Ranby (privately printed in Cape Town, n.p.), is an account of a South African club which, for more than fifty years, has numbered among its members the most distinguished men in the public and literary life of Cape Town. Among prominent members was Dr. Hermitage Day, sometime Editor of the *Church Times*.

The Courage to Be. By Paul Tillich. (Nesbitt, 10s. 6d.). Written with wide learning and intensity of feeling, this analysis of courage by the Professor of Philosophical Theology in the Union Theological Seminary, New York, attempts to provide a cure for the fear which, in the author's opinion, poisons life to-day. There is an acute description of the difference between the American and the Russian psychology of courage.

Church Teaching

SYLLABUS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS. By S. J. Curtis, MA, PhD. (E. J. Arnold & Son Ltd., 2s. 6d.)

THE author of this pamphlet was partly responsible, a few years ago, for the production of an Agreed Syllabus for use in the schools of the West Riding of Yorkshire by teachers of any Christian denomination. This, of course, made no provision for definite, doctrinal Church teaching. At the request of the Bishop of Ripon, Dr. Curtis has now produced a Syllabus of Religious Instruction for Church Schools. It is designed to be used, primarily, as a supplement to the West Riding Agreed Syllabus, or any other Agreed Syllabus, for teaching the Church's children the full Catholic faith.

It is a very thorough piece of work, and will be welcomed by all teachers who want a practical guide to the teaching of the Catholic faith. It contains many valuable suggestions about such teaching, as well as information which will be new to some. There is an outline of teaching for "infants" aged three to seven; a junior syllabus for children aged seven to eleven, and a secondary syllabus for those of twelve to eighteen years. All the ground is covered. There are suggestions for lessons on the historic ministry, the Church's year, Church services, buildings and ornaments, the sacraments, the Prayer Book, the liturgical colours, the missionary work of the Church, and much else. The history and the meaning of the Holy Communion is dealt with in a very useful and comprehensive section. Here the author shows, among other things, how the different aspects of the Sacrament are emphasized by the variety of names by which it is designated. Any Church teacher, whatever his views, will find this section both informative and helpful.

There is an interesting appendix consisting of notes for teachers on the Black Letter Holy Days of the Church, in which the calendar of the Prayer Book of 1662 has been followed, with the addition of a number of saints who are universally recognized and who are included either in the Prayer Book of 1928 or in the Prayer Book of the Church of Scotland.

This pamphlet deserves a wide circulation.

A Garden in Your Window, by Joan Hersey (Messrs. Andrew Melrose, 15s.), is a book transplanted from the other side of the Atlantic. Though some of the plants which Miss Hersey describes may be hard to come by in this country, her book is nevertheless a well-written and capable guide to the art of growing lovely things in window boxes, large and small. She is an expert herself in this kind of gardening, and knows how to communicate her expert knowledge and enthusiasm to the reader.

A Report on the Treatment and Care of the Elderly Chronic Sick in Bristol. This comprehensive piece of research work examines the problems of old age generally, and deals with the questions of the acute aged sick, of the "frail ambulant," of the housing of old people normally well, as well as with the problem of the elderly aged sick. It is of more than local interest. It can be obtained from the Bristol Local Medical Committee, 7, The Dell, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol (2s. 6d., post free).

Public Schools

THE CHRIST'S HOSPITAL BOOK.

(Hamish Hamilton, 25s.)

A HISTORY OF THE CHELTENHAM LADIES' COLLEGE. By A. K. Clarke. (Faber, 10s. 6d.)

THE present century has seen the strongest criticism and the greatest popularity of the public schools. These two new books should do much to disarm criticism and to explain popularity. Both books are inspired by sober devotion; both speak of extraordinary achievement in the widest fields of education; both are based on the knowledge that truly sound learning is inseparable from the recognition of God.

The Christ's Hospital Book has been published to mark the fourth centenary of the Religious, Royal and Ancient Foundation, long established in the City of London as "an Illustrious Pattern of Charity to all the Christian World," and more lately flourishing at Horsham. The book is the work of an editorial committee which includes Edmund Blunden. It is an anthology of passages from various pens of the last four hundred years, which throw light on the changing fortunes of the school and its great personalities, and which pay honour to its peculiar genius. Certainly no school has had greater success in eliciting liking and love from its scholars; none has better reason to boast of its record in training men of subsequent distinction in life and letters; none has embodied more nobly the ideal of Christian charity in its best educational sense. Loyalty to other institutions must prevent many who are not Old Blues from agreeing with Sir William Hamilton Fyfe's "mature and unshakable conviction, that Christ's Hospital is the best school in the world." But any reader of this book who cares for English education and English character will find himself compelled to agree that the Bluecoat School is certainly one of the very best.

Miss Clarke's volume, published in honour of the first centenary of Cheltenham Ladies' College, is a slighter piece of work, but extremely well done. A mere century is not so very long for an English school. But the last hundred years are altogether exceptional as a period of expansion in women's education in England. In this expansion, Cheltenham has played a most distinguished and sometimes even dramatic part, which will be found described in detail in Miss Clarke's labour of love. She records the great achievement of Miss Dorothea Beale, Principal for nearly half a century, and shows how later developments in the College have given it world-wide connexions. This book is a worthy tribute to a great school, whose proudest boast is that it has taught generations of girls not only the learning of the mind, but the wisdom of the spirit.

Welsh Border

THE NORTHERN MARCHES. By

Cledwyn Hughes. (Robert Hale, 18s.) "THE REGIONAL BOOKS," of which this is the most recent volume, have rapidly acquired a reputation for giving vigorous and highly individualist interpretations of various parts of Britain. *The Northern Marches* is no exception to this admirable tradition. Mr. Hughes writes with captivating gusto of his native Welsh Border. He has long lived in this region, which stretches from the coastline of Liverpool Bay to the borders of Herefordshire in the south, westwards into Wales up the lovely valleys of the Dee, Severn and Clwyd, and eastwards into the North Shropshire plain and South Shropshire hills. All is grist that comes to Mr. Hughes's mill. He writes like a poet in love, as he describes the Border people, past and present, their crafts and industries and country pastimes. He looks backwards into the grim history of the Lords Marchers and their stern repression of the turbulent Welsh: forwards, with some anxiety, into the future that awaits this border region.

It is all good fun, and more, to read—a certain source of pleasure for the idle hours of all who have felt the charm of these secluded hills and dales. But this is not a book for those who like to find a tidy scheme in such things, and who look for evidence of a well-ordered mind. Mr. Hughes writes with an absolute lack of discrimination, which will entertain some readers while it infuriates others. He darts from one topic to another like a dragon-fly, and lumps together the most varied information with little pretence of pattern or design. The clergy, by the way, will be interested to find themselves included low down the list of "odd-job men" in Mr. Hughes's description of the Border people: they come after "rabbit-catchers, the men who paint white lines on the roads, undertakers . . ." but before "car-hire men, cattle-dealers and wireless-battery chargers." After this, it is some consolation to find that Mr. Hughes does at any rate regard them all as "active."

ROUND-ABOUT PAPERS

One's Self Alone

NOBODY, in his heart, likes being called a solipsist, but it is not at all easy to know, on the instant, how to answer the accusation—and the more so if you are not quite certain what the word means. Fortunately, the epithet is not bandied about to any great extent. I have never heard it used on a 'bus, or shouted, as with some point it might be, from a theatre gallery towards the leading lady taking her call below. In fact, the only instance I can recall of anything like it, used impromptu, was gained at second-hand from my dentist's receptionist, after a visit to an aunt by marriage at Market Rasen, who had heard her own father, when rector of a parish in Clonmacnoise, accused by a disgruntled churchwarden of shameless solipsism.

Being taken unaware—not, that is, having a dictionary handy—the rector appeared to great disadvantage, and the meeting was shocked into silence. Yet we all have a streak of solipsism in us. For, after all, what does it amount to—setting aside metaphysical niceties—but to seeing oneself at times as the only person that matters, the only object of worthwhile knowledge? I suspect that we are all born as solipsists, aware of no conscious existence other than our own. And because of that, I am not inclined to be scornful when I behold men still innocently trailing a concept of being which the more sophisticated among us have tucked out of sight, but have by no means discarded.

Indeed, so far from scorn is the emotion which they invoke, that there would be something lost to the world of innocent pleasure if they were to cease from their naive betrayals. For one thing, it would stop the flow of picture-postcards depicting lovely and historic scenes, expected to be of interest, not primarily for their own sakes, but because it was there that the senders spent the night, or missed the connexion. Only yesterday, I received a postal picture of a weather-boarded auberge on a mountain side. A cross in ink, indicating "my room," showed how innocently solipsistic and surprisingly unsophisticated even a young Oxford graduate can be.

Solipsism is not, of course, the same thing as egoism, but I should find myself hard put to it to define the difference: to mark the moment at which the one passes over into the other, and *vice versa*. Dr. Johnson observed, with oracular assurance, that every man is of importance to himself. Yet any such man may be quite acutely conscious that he is of little importance to anyone else. None the less, he remains an egoist. What, on the other hand, are you to say about the Senior Wrangler in Thackeray's *Pendennis* "who bowed to the audience from his box at the play, because he and the King happened to enter the theatre at the same time"?

One of the engaging traits about your thoroughgoing solipsist is that there is none of the usual traits of self-importance about him, for self-importance thrives best when a man is very much alive to being one among many claimants for attention. For the same reason, he has no superiority complex. Not of him could the famous and anonymous *Charma Virumque Cano* have been composed:

Charms and a man I sing, to wit—a most superior person,
Myself who bear the fitting name of
George Nathaniel Gurzon.

Perhaps we are getting nearer to a literary definition of our solipsist when, in the final scene of *The Taming of the Shrew*, the widow, who is of the very mixed party in Lucentio's house, remarks, "He that is giddy thinks the world turns round"—I ignore her later explanation to Katherine. For a contemporary example, you need look no farther than the current number of the *Liverpool Diocesan Leaflet* where, in the midst of the Bishop's first-page article, you will find a paragraph, boxed, as the printers call it, like this:

CORONATION PICTURE

The outstanding picture of the Coronation for Liverpool is printed on pages 4 and 5; it includes the Bishop of Liverpool, and was taken as the Queen moved to the throne for the Enthroning.

STORMET RAINWEAR



STORMET Rainwear, made from specially woven Gaberdine, is ideal for town or country wear.

They are generously cut to provide a comfortable fit and are lined with either cotton check or rayon, with a showerproof interlining through the shoulders.

Available in standard stock sizes.

- Medium Grey Cotton Gaberdine £5. 5.0
- Dark Grey & Black Union Gaberdines £9. 0.0
- Black All Wool Gaberdines £12.10.0

When ordering state height and chest measurement, taken over waistcoat.

J. WIPPELL & CO. LTD.

EXETER: 55/56 High Street.
LONDON: 11, Tufton Street, S.W.1.
MANCHESTER (2): 24/26 King St.

IS MONEY A PROBLEM IN YOUR PARISH?

DUPLEX can solve it!

How the system can be started in a Parish of any size, any type, anywhere, is explained in literature sent free on application to:—

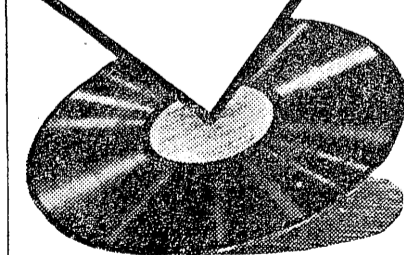
The Secretaries,

Church Duplex Movement,
57 (Y), Mount Avenue, Ealing, London, W.5

SELFRIDGES Recording Service

PUTS YOUR BEST PERFORMANCE

"ON RECORD"



Choirs Singers Orchestras Players etc.

Records of professional standard and quality are now easy and inexpensive to make . . . Selfridges recording team and apparatus visit churches, chapels, halls (within 50 miles) to record choirs, bands, weddings, etc. POST COUPON FOR DETAILS:

To: SELFRIDGES LTD.,
Recording Studios,
Oxford Street, London, W.1.
Please send me details of the Selfridge Sound Recording Service, and descriptive price list.
Name.....
Address.....

URBANUS

A Sound Investment



Shares in the Westbourne Park Building Society are the ideal form of investment. No depreciation of capital, no initial expenses. Withdrawals at short notice. For Investment Brochure, write to the General Manager.

WESTBOURNE PARK BUILDING SOCIETY

WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON, W.2

Assets £20,000,000 Reserves £1,500,000