

of phenomena so long denied scientific attention; and often accepted only rather grudgingly and as "of faith" even among Christians, whose religion necessarily involves belief in personal immortality, in the existence of discarnate beings, in instances of foreknowledge, and in the collective subconscious of the "old Adam" on the one hand and of the Mystical Body on the other'.

ALDATE.

### C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

To the Editor of BLACKFRIARS:

Dear Sir—In your June Blackfriars (which is the one paper I *make* time to read here) you review the F.A.U. Annual Report and end up with the words: 'We wish the Catholics of England would follow their example'. Now may I leap to their defence and that of the C.C.R.A.?

We have at present 53 workers in the field, 22 in Italy, 24 in Germany, and 7 in Austria—we have been over 60. We began sending workers overseas in 1944, when we had only been in existence six months, and *as soon as* we were asked by the Council of British Societies for Relief Abroad to do so. We were terribly handicapped by the fact that nearly all able-bodied male Catholics were in the Forces, and our first three teams were working under real difficulties for lack of males to do the loading and unloading of trucks (cf. the Friends, who had, in the nature of the case a big pool of first class male volunteers to draw on). Now things are easier—but the kind of young man the Quakers get, when he is a Catholic, usually joins one of the Orders: and, in fact, the relief work done by the Quakers is their main expression of the vocational form of service that takes so many rich and varied shapes in our religious orders. Financially—looking back—I can't think how we took the risks we did, both in the sending of teams and supplies; we really did verge on imprudence. And, until early this year when we received a 50 per cent. grant on past expenditure from the Treasury and a share of the combined food appeal by the relief societies, 99.9 per cent. of our funds were contributed *by Catholics alone*—whereas the Quakers have in the past deservedly earned such a high reputation and are so unobjectionable to English religious prejudices, that they receive funds from many non-Quaker sources. And we are still, in 1946, receiving clothes from all over England for relief purposes. No, I don't think English Catholics have done so badly in the relief line, especially in view of their other commitments.

Yours, etc.,

R. H.

Vienna.