

De Caelo et Mundo is bound up with that of Grosseteste's *De Anima* (p. 86), the two works stand or fall together.

We may here note that numerous citations from Grosseteste's commentaries on the Pseudo-Dionysian corpus occur in Rudolph de Biberach's *De Septem Itineribus Aeternitatis*, printed among St. Bonaventure's *Opera Omnia* (ed. Vaticana, VII, 145-196; ed. Vivés, VIII, 393-482). Again, to the list of MSS. of the spurious *De Doctrina Cordis* (pp. 248-249) we must add MS. Pommerfelden, Schlossbibliothek, 40/2919, fol. 3-52.

'In spite of the temerity of the undertaking, dates have been suggested for the composition of many works' (p. 3). Such an attempt is praiseworthy, even though in several cases the indications are too slender to be convincing. As in the case of authorship, it is not wise to generalise about dates; each work must be examined and judged on its own merit.

These remarks are not meant to detract from the value of an accurate and thoroughly useful book, for omissions and oversights are inevitable in a work of this kind. The volume contains a wealth of information, and no student of Grosseteste will be able to dispense with it. Mediaevalists have all incurred a debt of gratitude to Professor Thomson for his patient labour and skill, and it is to be hoped that he will continue his work and give us the promised edition of Grosseteste's principal *medita*. The names of his collaborators, Professor Ezio Franceschini, Dr. R. W. Hunt and Miss Ruth J. Dean, are a good omen of scholarly work.

DANIEL A. CALLUS, O.P.

EUROPEAN PAINTING AND SCULPTURE. By Eric Newton. (Pelican Books; 6d.)

If you have thought about painting, European painting in particular, you will probably be already familiar with most of Mr. Newton's analyses and observations. But if you have not thought much about the art and are none the less interested (perhaps even to the extent of occasionally 'sketching'), then this little book may be just what you require. In any case you will enjoy his crisp and sometimes witty writing; and it is always fun to reconsider one's opinions in the light of a clear and charming statement of their subject-matter. Mr. Newton can rouse the intellect without ceasing to be observant and informative. He makes you think, and use your two eyes; and what more should an introducer to the history of painting do, in 125 pages?

The answer is 'nothing'—provided only that he teaches you to look before you think; and that he does not swamp your

thoughts with his. He must not intrude; he must show you how to begin to judge a painting, but he should leave you to make your best discoveries for yourself. He should bring you face to face with the object and make you see, first, that you understand very little about it, and, secondly, that there is a lot in it to be understood. He should humiliate and encourage at the same time; in a word, he should *interest*. This Mr. Newton does. If there is such a thing as 'the Cause of Art' he deserves well of it. At any rate, the Cause of Man—of which the history of that 'restless visual curiosity,' which has always characterised the art of Europe, makes one so sharply aware—does not suffer at this critic's hands; to read him is to nourish one's interest in mankind itself.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

- BENEDICTINE LITURGICAL CONFERENCE (Newark, U.S.A.): *National Liturgical Week, Chicago, October, 1940* (\$2.00).
- BURNS OATES: *Our Present Discontent*, J. P. Smyth (2/- and 3/6); *The Persecution of the Catholic Church in German-occupied Poland* (2/6).
- CAPE: *Britain and France, The Entente Cordiale*, Catherine Gavin (10/6).
- COLLINS: *Britain and Europe*, Douglas Jerrold (7/6).
- JAMES CLARKE: *The Two Humanities*, D. R. Davies (7/6).
- DACRE PRESS: *Creative Suffering*, Iulia de Beausobre; *Dante and the Present War*, Lucy Redpath (Dacre papers 4 & 5; 6d.).
- DAKERS: *Give Christ a Chance*, Leo (1/-); *Everyman's Affair*, A. Ruth Fry (1/-).
- EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE: *Facing the Facts in Foreign Policy*, Algernon Cecil (5/-).
- FRIENDSHIP HOUSE (New York): *The Story of Friendship House*, Baroness de Hueck (25c.); *Christ in the Negro*, de Hueck (8c.).
- LONGMANS: *Diplomacy and God*, George Glasgow (7/6).
- MACMILLAN: *The Medieval Papacy in Action*, Marshall W. Baldwin (4/6); *Chronology of Failure*, Hamilton Fish Armstrong (7/6).
- STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT PRESS: *Secular Despair and Christian Faith*, A. R. Vidler (2/-); *Personal Religion and the Future of Europe*, Douglas Stewart (2/6).
- WATTS: *Let the People Think*, Bertrand Russel (1/3).