

factures of almost any other English novelist. A story such as *The Basement Room* reminds one of Mr Greene's capacity to seize the agony of pursuit, realised here in the open mind of a child and reflecting a universal agony. It may be that the preoccupation with escape, with the fear of nameless danger, makes for monotony. For Mr Lever in the torrid African jungle as for Francis playing hide-and-seek at the party, the anonymous threat is ever at hand.

Nineteen Stories add nothing to Mr Greene's reputation. It needs no addition. But they are of the greatest interest in illuminating the mind and method of their author. And they provide an interim instalment while we await his next novel. It need scarcely be said that the writing is that level of understatement and cool observation of the commonplace which allows the power of a human disaster to emerge with terrifying reality. To re-read *Brighton Rock* in the light of these marginal notes is to realise that in Graham Greene the contemporary novel has found its master.

I.E.

CORRESPONDENCE

To The Editor, 'BLACKFRIARS'

Dear Sir,—In the article 'By what authority' in the current number of BLACKFRIARS (p. 14) I find it stated that the Church of England is a state department, and its bishops and clergy government officials drawing their revenues from the state.

It is surprising to find such a statement in a magazine today, especially perhaps in one with such a high standard of accuracy as BLACKFRIARS.

To the outsider possibly the fact of 'establishment' might seem *prima facie* to be a proof that the Church of England is actually a state department. But the officials of a state department are, as you say, paid, by the state, which, in fact, the bishops and clergy of the Church of England are not and never have been.

This ancient fallacy was conclusively denied in a debate in the House of Commons in the summer of 1943 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Kingsley Wood, in his reply to a question asked by Mr T. Driberg and reported in *Hansard*.

Mr Driberg asked for information about the total annual charge on public funds in respect of the pay of Service and Prison Chaplains.

The Chancellor replied, 'The total annual charge on the public funds is about £1,160,000'.

Mr Driberg then asked: 'Apart from the relatively small minority—consisting of course of all denominations—would it be correct to say that none of the clergy or bishops of the Church of England are paid by the State?'

The Chancellor replied: 'Yes, Sir'.

I think that this effectively disposes of the delusion, apparently still existing, in regard to the stipends of the bishops and clergy of the Church of England. I think that, in the interests of accuracy and in fairness to the Church of England, some reference to this matter should be made in a forthcoming issue of BLACKFRIARS.

Yours truly,

Newark, 6: 1.48.

C. G. EVERITT.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- Batsford.* Christina Hole: *English Home-Life*, 15s. 0d.
Blackfriars. M. Harrison, O.P.: *Everyday Catholic*, 10s. 6d.; H. D. C. Pepler: *Stations of the Cross in Mime*, 2s. 0d.
Cambridge University Press. David Knowles: *Prospect for Medieval Studies*, 1s. 6d.
Contact Books. *World of Neighbours*, 5s. 0d.
Dobson. Paul Claudel: *Lord Teach us to Pray*, 6s. 0d.
Dundalgon Press. W. M. Letts: *Songs from Leinster*, 9s. 6d.
Editions du Cerf. Basile du Cesarie: *Traite du S. Esprit*, 22s. 6d.; Athanase. d'Alexandrie: *Contre les Paiens*, 14s. 0d.
Editions du Seuil. R. Rouquette: *Textes des Martyrs de la Nouvelle France*, n.p.
Epworth Press. A. L. Drummond: *The Churches Pictured by Punch*, 5s. 0d.
Faber & Faber. H. Rawlinson, etc.: *Indian Art*, 7s. 6d.; W. J. Smith: *Music in Education*, 8s. 6d.
Gill. F. Wynne: *The True Level*, 7s. 6d.; Fr Victor, C.P.: *A Retreat Souvenir*, 1s. 6d.
Gollancz. Victor Gollancz: *On Reconciliation*, 1s. 0d.
Herder. F. A. Houck: *Man's Triumph with God in Christ*, n.p.
Hollis & Carter. Laura Lovat: *Maurice Baring, A Postscript*, 10s. 6d.; Dewar & Shotten: *Is Evolution Proved?*, 18s. 0d.; Dallar & Nicolrevsky: *Forced Labour in Soviet Russia*, 25s. 0d.
Kegan Paul. E. W. Tomlin: *The Approach to Metaphysics*, 12s. 6d.
Liberal Press. Martin S. Alwood: *Marginal Man*, n.p.
Murray. Frederick Harrison: *Medieval Man and His Notions*, 7s. 6d.
Organ. K. Rook Davis: *The Christmas House*, 7s. 6d.
Oxford University Press. ed. R. Brottell: *A Kierkegaard Anthology*, 30s.; T. H. Parry-Williams: *Welsh Poetic Diction*, 5s. 0d.
Princeton U.P. (Cumberlege). ed. Elizabeth Rogers: *The Correspondence of Sir Thomas More*, 42s. 0d.
Sands. Dom Van Zeller: *Kaleidoscope*, 6s. 6d.; L. Keppel: *Anne du Rousier*, 4s. 0d.

BLACKFRIARS

(with which is incorporated *The Catholic Review*)

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