

It is the outstanding merit of this volume that it traces all these strands and that none are seen out of perspective. Its importance lies in the significance of Taoism for new China. Taoism has had a sporadic influence on Chinese cultures since the third century B.C. even if often eclipsed by Confucianism. While Confucianism can never revive as long as China is Marxist, Marxism and Taoism could form a possible amalgam.

GERVASE MATHEW, O.P.

THE MUSE UNCHAINED. By E. M. W. Tillyard. (Bowes and Bowes; 16s.)

Dr Tillyard has written what he rightly calls an intimate account of the revolution in English studies at Cambridge. The English Tripos was founded in 1917 and when Dr Tillyard came back from the war he became one of the first young dons to work in the faculty. He had read Classics as an undergraduate, but at the Perse school had been trained by that paragon of teachers, W. H. D. Rouse, to 'think of Classics as part of a greater body of literature and to reflect on the nature of literature itself'. The interest of this work is threefold. It is firstly domestic: anyone who has had anything to do with the English Tripos will find an enormous amount to ponder and discuss. Secondly, it will be valuable to anyone whose business is education and who needs to consider how new educational disciplines grow. The almost haphazard way in which the first dons were recruited is a tribute to the underlying unity of all studies. Lastly, and most important, in commenting on the form an English Tripos should take Dr Tillyard has important things to say about the purpose of university education which, he believes, exists primarily to construct people and only secondarily to turn out dons. The charm and learning of his writing is a comment on the liberal spirit of Cambridge.

GERARD MEATH, O.P.

PFEILER IN STROM. By Rheinhold Schneider. (Insel Verlag, Wiesbaden; n.p.)

Shortly before his death on Easter Monday 1958, Rheinhold Schneider sent the manuscript of this book to his publishers asking them to delay its appearance till he had finished writing an introduction to these fifty essays which have so unexpectedly become his legacy.

The themes of these essays covers a characteristically wide field: history, poetry, faith, friends encountered on life's journey, the cities and landscapes he had grown to love and cherish in memory. All these stand for him as so many 'pillars in the stream' of passing events, representing enduring values in the midst of so much that is ephemeral and vain.

It is impossible in a short review to give an adequate account of the range of this book. Many of the essays deal with German subjects, literary and public figures of her past and present, and the landscape of his native Baden. But Schneider was catholic in his interests and a true European. Thus he will write of the Crown of St Stephen of Hungary; show intimate acquaintance with an astonishingly wide range of foreign poetry, from Shakespeare down to contemporary poets in Switzerland, Spain and Russia; and meditate on the Jeremiah of the Sistine Chapel: 'Prophecy is the essence of the experience of history, for the history of the future is already present in prophecy. When the prophecy is pronounced against the speaker's will, and he who speaks is forced to utter an unwilling truth, it is then our duty to listen.'

Schneider was the author of over one hundred and fifty books and this last volume is written with the same lucid nobility that characterizes them all.

MARIE HEYNEMANN

MR SPONGE'S SPORTING TOUR. By R. S. Surtees. (Oxford University Press; 9s. 6d.)

JOURNALS OF DOROTHY WORDSWORTH. (Oxford University Press; 7s.)

The World's Classics, to which both these volumes belong, must be one of the most serviceable editions in England, for besides the inescapable texts it gives us many that we would probably not read, certainly not with the same relish, if they were not, literally, so handy. We all know of Jorrocks, but Jorrocks to Surtees is like Pickwick to Dickens. The best Surtees, though perhaps not the most widely known, is more nearly three-dimensional. Mr Sponge is a crook and we see the complete world he lives in, and for a time we can escape into it ourselves. Dorothy Wordsworth too affords us an escape, by the mesmeric power of her prose and by the immediacy of her human sympathy. This is the sort of work that is very welcome in World's Classics.

G.A.M.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- Blackfriars Publications.* Sister Mary Laurence, O.P.: One Nun to Another, 12s. 6d.
Burns and Oates. Ronald Knox and Ronald Cox: The Gospel Story, 18s.; George Tavad: Holy Writ or Holy Church, 30s.; René Biot: What is Life?; B. Piault: What is the Trinity?; J. Leclercq: Christianity and Money; J. Daujat: The Theology of Grace; L. Cristiani: Why we Believe; A. Gelin: Religion of Israel, Faith and Fact Books, 7s. 6d. each.
Cetf. A. M. Roguet, O.P.: On nous change la religion!, 330 fr.; A. M. Carré, O.P.: Le vrai visage du prêtre, 600 fr.
Clarke. (Ed.) C. S. Thompson: Morals and Missiles, 2s. 6d.
Chapman. J. L. McKenzie, S.J.: The Two-Edged Sword, 24s.
Cohen and West. E. Lassin: San Nicandro, 21s.
Dacre Press. A. Farrer: Finite and Infinite (second ed.), 35s.