

But whether such political wisdom will ever be given a hearing in the Blunderland where dwell the politicians and militarists who will map out the post-war world is doubtful.

MICHAEL SEWELL.

THE CRISIS OF THE NATIONAL STATE. By W. Friedmann. (Macmillan; 12s. 6d.)

That war should be a first class breeder of platitudes is inevitable; what, however, is surprising in view of the paper shortage, is that these platitudes should be given a permanent form in stacks of books, reports and blue papers. In contrast to such a welter valueless aphorisms, Dr. Friedmann's book is thrice welcome. For the future of the national state must be one of the most important problems which the post-war world has to face. The publishers are not exaggerating when they claim that this book gives a comprehensive (I would add, brilliant) analysis of the problem. The dilemma of the much-talked-of 'national self-determination,' the a-national character of modern imperialism and of the Nazi empire, the super-national character of modern economics and social problems are analysed in turn. The author shows that the alternative between nationalism and super-nationalism has become rather the choice between different international ideas and forces. Dr. Friedmann discusses the Continental Order (Grossraumordnung), British Imperialism and the Commonwealth, the Federal Idea, the idea of Collective Security, the rights-of-man ideology in contradistinction to Fascism. The potency and direction of these are accurately appraised against the background of a resurgent patriotism and a new tendency to nationalism outside as well as within Europe. The book cannot be too heartily recommended to all who wish to face the post-war world as a reality rather than a golden dream or a nightmare.

J. F. T. PRINCE.

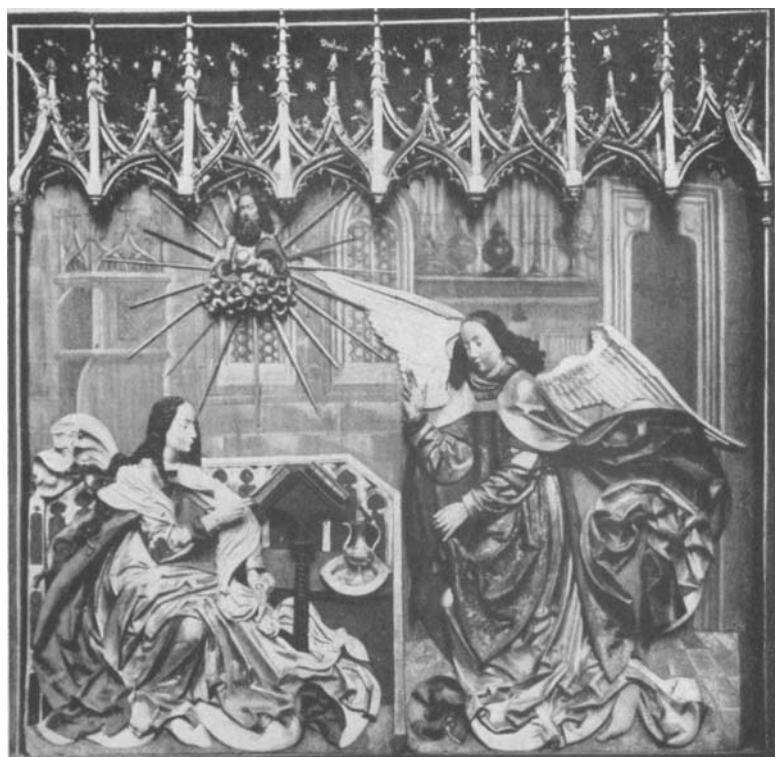
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A Panel of the Retable by Wit Stwosz in Our Lady's Church, Cracow.