

In conclusion one may be permitted to hope that many headmasters will read this book with sympathy, although it is rather sanguine to expect that many will yet be willing to support so extensive an experiment as is here expounded.

AUSTIN FENNECK, O.S.B.

ON BEING A STUDENT. By Pierre Danchin. (Harvill Press; 3s. 6d.)

This little book is full of practical wisdom for the ordering of the student's life. M. Danchin applies the principles of a Catholic humanism to put specialisation in its proper place, and to emphasise the need for integration in the too often haphazard and narrow life of the modern undergraduate. He is not just concerned with principles, but also with their practical application even in such little details as the student's need for a budget but, 'a budget that is pervaded by Charity'.

The author lays stress on integration—integration of studies, and studies with life. Intellectual work must have a moral basis of purity and poverty. 'Thought and life should properly speaking be always inseparable', an appeal against the experiential immaturity of so much university life.

M. Danchin discusses the dangers arising from specialisation and the neglect of the 'fundamental inter-relation of things'. He would have done well to show the reason for this inter-relation: '*Omne Verax a Veritate*' in St Augustine's words. He talks of the inter-relation of the sciences but not of their relations to the queen of the sciences, yet surely the greatest need of contemporary intellectual life is for an ordering of science in the light of wisdom that is born only of contemplation. Every science can and must lead to the author of being and of science. M. Danchin knows these things if he does not say them, and his deeply humanistic approach does rely on them for its validity, as his constant quotations from Newman show.

Finally he emphasises that the inner spring of the student's life must be love, which alone can transform facts into life. The failure of the modern university 'is all, at bottom, a question of lack of love'.

A. HASTINGS.

I FIGHT TO LIVE. By Robert Boothby. (Gollancz; 21s.)

Mr Boothby says approvingly of Lord Birkenhead that he gave one a feeling that he preferred the company of undergraduates to any other and that he was himself still an undergraduate. Mr Boothby can be assured that this book entitles him to that very same approbation, for this autobiography has many of the notes of an undergraduate essay, particularly from the rambling fashion in which it raises many issues without making enough effort to separate them,