

often convenient to refer from note to verse and the small reference figure in the text is hard to find. Small misprints have been noticed: p. 147, note 2; p. 320, note 3.

The price of 12s. 6d. is a considerable increase over that of the earlier edition. The dust-cover tells us that the first volume of the Old Testament—to which we look forward with mixed hope and fear—will be uniform with the present New Testament, and will cost 16s. These prices will do little to encourage the 'devout habit of reading and meditating upon the Sacred Scriptures' which authority desires. It is greatly to be hoped that a much cheaper edition of at least the New Testament in this Catholic and English form will soon be provided: its circulation might easily be far wider than among the Catholic public alone.

If in future the present translation should be revised one might hazard a suggestion. The use of 'so as' followed by the infinitive to introduce a *final* clause is rather frequent: for example, Gal. 2, 4 and in note 3 on the same page. This use is at best ambiguous; the obvious sense of 'so as to . . .' is surely consecutive.

DOM J. HIGGENS.

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR. By A. Bonnar, O.F.M., D.D. (Burns Oates; 8s. 6d.)

The 1944 edition of this admirable book, provides verbatim the text for the greater part of the present edition, repeating even, it is regretted, such misprints as F.C.O.G. for F.R.C.O.G. twice on page 67, and the phrase, 'During the war', in the smaller print on page 72, clearly referring to that of 1914-18. Also the last sentence of footnote 1 on page 120, because of its verbatim transcription from the third edition, is now quite misleading. More importantly, it is regretted that the misdefinition of abortion, pointed out in a previous review, remains uncorrected on page 77.

Apart from the reversal of the order of the final two chapters, the only major alteration consists in the more comprehensive—and conclusively successful—treatment of Artificial Insemination. It is unfortunate, therefore, that the edition went to press before the publication of the report of the Archbishop of Canterbury's commission, 'Artificial Human Insemination' (S.P.C.K., 1948), with its amazing acceptance of the principle of instillation which presupposes onanism.

It is regrettable that the chapter on Psychotherapy, outdated in the last edition, is retained, Dr Jung receiving only the mention that he would not be satisfied by an account which omits him and his school entirely: yet the position in relation to the Church's teaching of the integrative psychotherapy of his school deserves discussion.

A further serious omission is of all reference to the operation of Prefrontal Leucotomy, the ethical considerations of which have

been recently discussed by Dr Ronan O'Rahilly (*Catholic Medical Quarterly*, April 1948, page 62). This operation was devised in 1935, was first performed in this country in 1940 and possessed an extensive literature well before the date of this edition's 'imprimatur'. It is suggested that in future editions it should be considered in relation to other apparently mutilating operations like those of vagotomy for peptic ulceration and lumbar and peripheral sympathectomy, in all of which, including leucotomy itself, healthy nervous tissue is destroyed in order to eradicate or ameliorate an abnormal function. It would be useful to distinguish the ethics of such 'mutilating' operations from that of sterilisation; in the present edition of this book mutilation as such is mentioned only in a footnote on page 100 which appears to beg the question at issue.

The general usefulness of this book remains; but, as the relative antiquity of most of the literary references confirm, a more radical revision of the text seems indicated in the next edition.

SEYMOUR SPENCER.

A HISTORY OF THE CHURCH, Vols. I and II. By Philip Hughes. New revised edition. (Sheed and Ward; 21s. and 25s.)

It was indeed a happy chance that gave Father Hughes the opportunity of revising and correcting the first two volumes of his *Church History*, for it means that an indispensable and improved instrument of study is once again available to students.

Before Fr Hughes published his first volume some fourteen years ago, there was no English text-book written by a Catholic worthy to be compared with the many non-Catholic church histories in circulation. By the time Fr Hughes's second volume was published it was clear that he had set up a new standard of historical writing for English Catholics. His work is marked by its scientific competence not only in matters of fact but in the more difficult matters of emphasis and perspective. The attention given to the intellectual movements in the Church was a new and welcome feature. We have come to take for granted his gift for rapid and vivid narrative, for the swift delineation of character, for the apt epithet, and for the serene appraisal of ecclesiastical controversies and scandals. Coupled with its high scientific quality, these things go to make the whole work one of which we can be proud and for which we should be grateful.

The corrections have been carefully done, and in just those places where they were most needed, e.g. in the account of the Photian 'Schism', and in the affairs of the Eastern Church generally. The author draws attention to only one change in the first and to twelve in the second volume but a detailed examination of both editions reveals a dozen other touches, such as the cleaning up of pronouns, or the addition of a word, which all go to make the narrative more lucid and convincing. Unfortunately there is a new, if small, crop