

Society's work but as standing in the very forefront of its *raison d'être*. Again, there is much interesting evidence on early Jesuit views of the Generalship and on the working of authority within the Society, where the spirit was often far less rigid and autocratic than established caricature would have us believe. The pull of contemplation against practical activity in some of the Spanish Jesuits is also a phenomenon of much significance. These however are but a few of the issues that emerge from this fascinating book. We shall await with high expectation Father Brodrick's picture of the Jesuits under Aquaviva.

H. O. EVENETT

AN OLD APOSTLE SPEAKS. By Vincent McNabb, O.P. (Blackfriars Publications, Oxford; 1s. 6d.)

Father Vincent McNabb was one of those men who becomes a legend while he still walks this earth—an indication, not of premature deadness, but of abounding vitality. The present reviewer has, like many other people, heard many stories about Father Vincent (some of them surprising enough), and he does not know which of them are true to fact and which are not; but they are all *ben trovato*, for Father Vincent lived up (and it was 'up') to his 'legend'. In this booklet we get another insight to 'the real Father Vincent', a selection mostly of his spoken words, illustrations of a friar preacher at his specific work.

The ten items bring out well some characteristic lines of Father Vincent's thought and life: the significance of Christian work, poverty and prayer; the use of our natural powers; a point of biblical translation and its importance (the meaning of *metanoia*); a case in moral theology ('hunger-striking'); the centrality of the Eucharist in the Church. These and the others, and Father Gerald Vann's half-dozen pages of discerning memoir, all bring out the appropriateness of the title, and the glowing mind and heart of this apostle.

When the time comes for a full and frank biography of Father Vincent McNabb this booklet will be a valuable little item among the sources; and it suggests to this reviewer that the most characteristic words of Father Vincent to go on the title-page of that biography should be: '. . . people don't love each other enough'. D.A.

THE HOODED HAWK, or, *The Case of Mr Boswell*. By D. B. Wyndham Lewis. (Eyre & Spottiswoode; 12s. 6d.)

This psychological study of James Boswell of Auchinleck is a masterpiece, an almost faultless piece of learning, wit and historical criticism written in fascinating style. Its curious title refers to Boswell's family crest, fitting symbol of its owner, who was for ever attempting to soar into the empyrean, clogged by his tirings, and perpetually falling to earth again, baffled.

The book is no mere laboured apology for Boswell, no piece of