

tianity but his need of Christianity. These are windows opened, if only rarely, upon eternity.

Much more might be said, particularly of the interesting parallel drawn between the aesthetic and the religious senses of the timeless. It is enough in a short review to have traced the main development ; and to recommend strongly that the book should be read, and read with as much care as has gone to the writing.

COLUMBA RYAN, O.P.

WHY WORK ? by Dorothy Sayers. (Methuen : 1s.)

Why indeed if Miss Sayers' diagnosis is correct? Factory work is on the whole ordained to waste—unnecessary products in peace with consequent unnatural stimulus to consumption, and purely destructive products in war. Must we then work for waste and waste to work? Not if we adopt the right attitude to work as a creative and noble occupation. It is refreshing to find one who looks humanly at the problem of modern labour and is not hampered by its economic or 'party' implications. Egregious generalisations there are bound to be in only twenty-two pages, but the main theme is sound and forcibly set out. The change war has wrought in the making and consuming of things must be recognised and consciously adopted. Miss Sayers has some hard things to say about ecclesiastics who apparently have erred in making men work for the Church rather than the Church for the work. But the indispensable distinction between *finis operis* and *finis operantis* introduced in the last paragraph should have played a greater part in the whole essay. The present situation certainly demands an insistence on the perfection of the work, but no work can be perfect without true alignment with its end, that *for* which it is made or done. Readers of this pamphlet should therefore apply the principles of final causality to each of its author's three propositions: (a) Work is not primarily a thing one does to live, but the thing one lives to do; (b) It is the business of the Church to recognise that the secular vocation as such is sacred; and (c) the worker's first duty is *to serve the work*. The purpose of the work and that of the worker are not in all things identical.

CONRAD PEPLER, O.P.

OLD AGE PENSIONS. An Historical and Critical Study. By Sir Arnold Wilson and G. S. Mackay. (Oxford University Press ; Milford. 16s.)

This book, like previous ones on Workmen's Compensation, Burial Costs and Industrial Assurance produced under the co-editorship of the late Sir Arnold Wilson, is indispensable for the student of the social services. From a mass of reports of Royal Commissions, actuaries' statements and parliamentary bills the authors have pro-