

constructed in Germanic style. This does not, however, make its perusal too difficult. True, the opening stretches suffer from a certain loose allusiveness and lack of exact definition which make for a rather cloudy atmosphere, but this tends to disappear as the work progresses. Still it is rather disturbing to discover that an interesting-sounding separate heading, solemnly recorded and numbered in the list of contents, covers only two short sentences (p. 48). Again, I am quite at a loss to understand why the discussion on pp. 53-54 should be headed " 'Als ob' theology". On p. 255 the text leads one to expect a quotation from Aquinas in footnote 21, where in fact Scotus is cited.

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CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT, Essays in Honour of Sir Cyril Fox, edited by I. Ll. Foster and L. Alcock; Routledge and Kegan Paul; 5 gns.

Sir Cyril Fox, for twenty-two years Director of the National Museum of Wales, has been a formative influence in many branches of study since his first book was published in 1923. It is fitting therefore as well as inevitable that the essays in his honour should be heterogeneous even though this is partly disguised by a very ingenious title. The volume consists of two distinct books each approximately of about two hundred pages and a number of articles.

The book that will appeal to the widest public is that on the development of the English and Welsh house with primary reference to the medieval period. It begins with an analysis of the Welsh platform-house in chapter ten, it finds its climax in W. A. Pantin's chapter on the Medieval English town house, it ends in chapter twenty with a very valuable glossary of the names for rooms in houses of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It will remain indispensable for any student of domestic architecture in Britain and throughout there are sporadic influences from Sir Cyril's own work on Monmouthshire houses.

The other book is not so epoch-making but it is a significant contribution to British pre-history by specialists of the standing of Glyn Daniel, Stuart Piggott and W. F. Grimes. Six chapters once again coalesce into a unity and there are over-riding links with Sir Cyril's *Personality of Britain*. Besides these two main sections there are a number of isolated articles. Two of these are of quite outstanding value—'Pottery and Settlements in Wales and the March (AD 400-700)' by Leslie Alcock and 'The Native Ecclesiastical Architecture of Wales' by C. A. Ralegh Radford. Both represent the missing book in this volume, one dealing with Medieval Wales. Its absence is the chief criticism that should be made of *Culture and Environment*. The illustrations have been chosen admirably, notably the frontispiece, and there is a characteristically felicitous preface by Sir Mortimer Wheeler.

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