

THE ORDER OF THE COURT. By J. Dudley Pank. (Hodder and Stoughton; 8s. 6d.)

Bring back the birch as a deterrent; fine the parents of juvenile delinquents; publish the names of offenders; censor crime films more strictly; abolish the 'open' system in Approved Schools, at least for the lawless boys who do not respect their privileges; allow increased punishments to be meted out to the lawless element to make them understand forcibly that crime does not pay; segregate persistent absconders in special Schools where locks and bars can put an end to their activities. If there is any thesis at all in Mr Pank's *Order of the Court*, it is to be found in the above points outlined on the dust cover of the book. The reader who is looking for arguments for and against these highly controversial statements will be disappointed, and will be well advised to read no more than the dust cover or, at most, the last chapter of the book, in which they are embodied under the style of 'Conclusion'.

In no sense does this last chapter form a conclusion, for the rest of the book is devoted to a light-hearted, somewhat sentimental, account of the author's experiences as a Supervision Officer in a Senior Approved School, with an undue emphasis on 'escapes' and the tribulations suffered by Supervisors in seeking and bringing back absconders. It will, however, be of interest to the general reader who has no conception of what life in an Approved School is like, especially in the earlier chapters where the day-to-day routine is fully described.

J.N.P.

THE FUTURE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. By George Goyder. (Blackwell; 9s. 6d.)

There has been a good deal of discussion among Catholic and other sociologists about the importance of responsibility in industry. There can be no doubt that the way workers and employers behave is to a large extent influenced by the way industry is organised. We argue interminably about the relative merits of private enterprise and nationalisation, but curiously little attention has been paid to the detailed problems of making adjustments in the structure of industry without nationalisation. General principles are discussed, but industry is basically governed by company law and few people seem to have paid very much attention to the possibilities of modifying company law.

Mr Goyder is one of the few. He is an Anglican sociologist with a wide experience of industrial administration, and his views deserve careful study by all interested in the application of Christian principles to industry, though they are not put forward as a 'Christian' policy for

industry. He suggests that one of the root causes of industrial friction is that the law does not recognise that companies have any responsibilities either to their workers, to their customers, or to the community as a whole. He proposes that the Memorandum of Association in which every limited liability company has to define its objects should clearly recognise its responsibilities to workers and consumers and the community as a whole, both locally and nationally, as well as to shareholders.

He also suggests that the rights of the workers in relation to a company should be defined in its Articles of Association and that certain fundamental rights should be defined in Special Articles guaranteed by Trustees so that they cannot be changed except by, say, a three-quarters majority. Workers would become *members* of the companies for which they worked by being issued with a special class of share carrying equal voting power with the ordinary shares so long as dividends on the latter were maintained, and might often elect, say, two-fifths of the directors. The allocation of a company's surplus revenues would be defined in its articles; the return which it paid on capital might be limited and it might be required by law to redeem its ordinary share capital or convert it into preference share or debenture capital at the end of fifty years.

The possibilities of modifying company structure are discussed in great detail and the articles of the Carl Zeiss Foundation are reproduced in an appendix. The whole book is most stimulating and interesting and should do much to bring discussions about responsibility and vocation in industry down from the sphere of generalities to that of concrete proposals. It illustrates what the 'modification of the wage contract by a contract of partnership' might mean in terms of company structure. It should be of particular value to employers contemplating introducing changes designed to foster closer co-operation between management and workers.

P.D.

SELECTED POEMS. By Robert Farren. (Sheed and Ward; 10s. 6d.)

OUR LADY'S TUMBLER. By Ronald Duncan. (Faber; 8s. 6d.)

The first of these two books is a selection from four already published, by a man who is a director of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin; the second is a verse play written for performance in church (Anglican), and already performed in Salisbury Cathedral: they have then this in common, a background where poetry is meant to be spoken aloud.

Mr Duncan's play is half satire on three rather pceevish aesthetes disguised as monks, whose productions in honour of our Lady we are yet supposed to take seriously, and half a sentimental unthcological