

glad to see that Mr. Lewis defends the orthodoxy of Milton against Professor Saurat by showing that on almost every point he follows St. Augustine and Catholic tradition. The one great exception is in the matter of the angels, where Milton apparently held the opinion of the seventeenth century Platonists that the angels possessed subtle aerial bodies which were capable among other things of digesting food (cf. *Paradise Lost*, v. 435).

But in the character of Satan Milton once again returns to tradition, and Mr. Lewis is most successful in exploding the myth that Satan is Milton's hero, and in showing how truly diabolical he is. In the same way he shows how Adam and Eve must be seen in the light of Christian tradition if the profound psychology of their fall is to be understood. There can be no doubt that if this point of view is accepted—and whether it is right or wrong it is Milton's own point of view—and the reader will surrender to the 'incantation' of its verse, he will find in *Paradise Lost* an education in Christian thought and feeling such as no poet, after Dante, can give.

BEDE GRIFFITHS, O.S.B.

THE BISHOP OF MUNSTER AND THE NAZIS. By Patrick Smith. (Burns Oates; 2s.)

No one who has been in close touch with German Catholicism during recent years will be surprised at the fiery indignation, the unqualified denunciation of the Nazi régime which breathes through the three sermons here published. The unthinking members of the 'Kill off every German' school will not be convinced of course; but the great majority of Englishmen who, seeing only the façade of united enthusiasm for Hitler which surrounds public life in Germany, are yet unwilling to believe that all the people of a great nation could sink to such depths, will find much in this book which will suggest an answer to the most immediate of post-war problems. The spontaneous cheers of the Bishop of Münster's congregation show that, even in war-time Germany, there are many who seek a higher good than the material enslavement of others. Mr. Smith deserves thanks for his excellent translation, Messrs. Burns and Oates for the publication of the book at a price which none will find difficult.

C.B.

THE PRIEST'S PRAYER BOOK. A Handbook to the Breviary. By Christopher J. Wilmot, S.J. (Burns, Oates; 7s. 6d.)

A priest's life is necessarily liturgical and the Mass and the Divine Office should be the main sources of his spiritual life. Too often the latter is not, and so any book that helps a priest to discover the riches of the Breviary is to be welcomed. Fr. Wilmot provides two essentials: information about the subject of the psalm and (praise be) a *corrected* translation. A glance at these alone will be en-