

EDITORIAL

THE major part of the present issue of *THE LIFE* is taken up with some of the papers read at *THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT* Conference held at Spode House in September 1954. Previous conferences had dealt with the major needs of the spiritual life in the present century such as the sense of community and the biblical background. But it was felt that the Christian of today should attempt to face the civilization of the age of science. The scientific and technicological world which dictates so much of the thought and imagination of the present century remains almost entirely cut off from the life which Christ has set in the heart of his Church. There is a great deal of pseudo-science and merely imaginative speculation on the structure of man and of the universe which tends to saturate people's minds with space fiction, pictures of flying saucers, men from other planets and voyages round the sun which leave the great pioneers like Edgar Allan Poe far behind in scientific jargon. But behind all this there is the constant and indefatigably serious work of the true scientists dealing with one aspect of the reality which proceeds from the Word of God. It is an urgent necessity that this human occupation should be sanctified and turned to the worship of the triune God; and that means that it should be made liturgical, patient of the fully human worship of the Creator through the Word made flesh. The majority of those present at the Conference were practising scientists as well as practising Christians so that the papers and discussions were informed and valuable. Readers, then, who are not scientifically minded should not be deterred from studying the papers since they should help to provide the beginning of a clue to the problem of linking modern life with the Christian life.
