

abstract intuition. But Mr Kenny has made a thorough study of his material and provided an excellent introduction to a new and interesting field of Newmanic research.

The second book is collection of Newman's letters edited by an Anglican and a Catholic. The Anglican half of Newman's life is in the hands of Mr Derek Stanford, the Catholic half in the hands of Miss Muriel Spark. Each editor gives an introduction. The letters are bound to be extremely selective, being in number but an infinitesimal fraction of the total number in existence. Over half the Anglican letters are from the period when Newman had begun to doubt the truth of Anglicanism. Mr Stanford himself is obviously quite unsympathetic to Newman's Anglican interests. He has something like Thomas Arnold's contempt for the Oxford Movement. He also makes it quite clear that he is unimpressed by the Newman revealed in the letters. It is unfortunate that the introducer to the Anglican section should be so unsympathetic with his subject. Incidentally he quotes the exploded myth about Newman's semitic blood, admitting however that it is an 'unproven speculation'. The reviewer would have preferred as an introduction an objective statement of the circumstances of Newman's Anglican life which form a background to the letters. However, the letters, though they omit those which show any enthusiastic support of Anglicanism, are indeed most interesting, and afford an intimate illustration of the Newman we know from the lives.

The Catholic half of the volume has a useful objective introduction by Miss Spark. She is content to trace the Catholic life in so far as it forms a background to her selection. I think Miss Spark has made her selection with a view to showing Newman's trials and troubles as a Catholic. However, until the whole of the Catholic letters are published it will be difficult to decide how far her selection is a fair sample. All who are interested in Newman will especially value this half of the book, if only for the reason mentioned, that no general collection of Catholic letters is as yet available. One at least of Newman's little-known humorous letters is happily included.

H. FRANCIS DAVIS

TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP. Based on a study of Arthur Deakin. By V. L. Allen. (Longmans; 30s.)

There are many strands in this enthralling book: the difficulties of a federal structure for a trade union as exemplified in the working of the Transport and General Workers' Union, the techniques of administration and leadership of a popular movement as shown by the activities of Arthur Deakin, and finally the life and character of Deakin himself. One may question whether Mr Allen has not tried to cram too much into one treatise: whether leadership might have been better

analysed by a comparative study of some of the giants who were Deakin's contemporaries, such as Sir Will Lawther, Sir Lincoln Evans, Sir Tom Williamson. In a sense he has made his subject more difficult by choosing Arthur Deakin, who had so many unusual difficulties to contend with, succeeding Ernest Bevin who had built up the T.G.W.U. to be *his* union, coming to power in the immediate post-war years, inheriting the headaches of the wartime Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee, assuming the presidency of the newly-founded World Federation of Trade Unions. Yet, despite these self-imposed complications, Mr Allen has succeeded in writing a book which is at once a critical but generous tribute to the work of Arthur Deakin and a creative contribution to the understanding of how trade unions function in England.

Deakin emerged from the shadows, shadows cast by the bulk of Bevin, to take over the post of General Secretary of the T.G.W.U. in 1945. He had been Acting General Secretary while Bevin was a wartime Cabinet Minister, but it had been understood that Bevin would return at the end of the war. The Labour landslide changed all that and it was only after his election to the position of General Secretary in 1945 that Deakin ceased to be the administrator of the Bevin machine and had a free hand to build his own. He showed his true leadership—statesmanship would perhaps be a better term—by the way in which he insisted on the responsibilities of the Trade Unions to the national economy. He did not believe in class conflict, and although he stood for a planned economy he recognized and impressed on the members of his union that the well-being of the workers depends on the prosperity of industry and not on political systems. His militancy and aggressiveness were reserved for the Communists, both in his own union and in the World Federation. Yet withal he had the majority of the members of the Union with him, because they knew that he was straight and that he would obtain justice for them.

The most dissident group was the dockers and waterside workers, and Mr Allen does well to devote several chapters to their affairs. The wartime decasualization scheme for the dockers was made absolute in 1947, but both before and after its acceptance there were many strikes, local and even national, all of them unofficial, i.e. against the advice of their union officials. In effect they were strikes not against their employers but against their union. Mr Allen is rather critical of Deakin's handling of unrest among the dockers, but it may have been that he was not well enough briefed and, despite his tendency to tackle things that should have been left to subordinates, he relied on them too much in this instance. Mr Allen analyses the reasons why the

dock industry is strike-prone, but would have rounded out the picture had he made use of the studies done by the Field Research Group of the British Institute of Management. Of the 1945 national strike he concludes that it defies analysis and is 'an excellent example of the inscrutability of dockers' behaviour'. The explanation, or at least one of the missing elements in the analysis, is to be found in the personalities and objectives of the strike leaders themselves, and of these Deakin was far more conscious than is Mr Allen.

Deakin was not an administrator and brought about no startling changes during his ten years of office which ended with his untimely death in 1955. Nor did he do much to tighten up the methods of control and communication in the rather unwieldy system of Trade Groups of the T.G.W.U. But, says Mr Allen, 'in Deakin, perhaps more than in any other trade union leader of his generation, could be seen the incompatibility of some of the qualities required for leadership in a large modern union. His position as an administrator required him to be able to handle individuals, to trust them, and to extract the best from them; but his natural facility, hence his main qualification for leadership in general, was in the way he handled masses of men.' His one important contribution which showed administrative leadership ability was the support he gave to the provision of educational services in the Union in order to raise the quality of candidates for office in the Union. He was very conscious, as he admitted to the present writer, of how this had been neglected in the past and was determined to remedy it. Summer Schools, scholarships to universities, educational courses were launched and the measure of the attention that he paid to this is shown by the rise of the Union's expenditure on educational grants from £10 in 1942 to £7,544 in 1947 to £34,764 in his last complete year of office.

Deakin was by temperament somewhat of an authoritarian, but the patience he showed in trying to make the World Federation viable proved that he could control these tendencies when necessary. He was a man of principle, owing a great deal no doubt to his Primitive Methodist upbringing, and would insist on the use of constitutional procedure (which he instinctively preferred to the strike weapon) and on the necessity of honouring agreements that had been freely entered into. At times this earned him unpopularity, but he was never one to court the favour of the mob. He lacked the touch of genius that was Bevin's, but in a very difficult situation he did not make the mistake of trying to become another Bevin. He remained himself, rising to greater stature with his office, and did more than most in helping to bring Britain through the economic difficulties of the post-war years.

JOHN FITZSIMONS