

upon the face of matter. It is the final triumph of Rodrigo in the *Satin Slipper*; and the fun of it is that he has only got one foot into heaven (which is the only way to preserve freedom) by losing it on earth. Rodrigo was smiling through his tears when he was spurned by all and cast aside as less than second rate.

Only great and serious men like Claudel can smile in a tragedy. This is not a conspicuously French virtue! Is it because Frenchmen take their own virtues too seriously and are too little aware of others? Many who love France find themselves ill at ease when reading French patriotic writing. It often seems narrow and asserts itself and at the expense of others. This is not only true of French writers for it is a vice of the age, but it is particularly regrettable in the writers of a country which has contributed in so conspicuous a way to the cultivation of the ideal of man as such.

We are too near to Claudel fully to appreciate his greatness, his catholicity, but it is already clear that he stands out as one who has preserved this ideal of man in a time of mean and narrow nationalism.

SIMON BLAKE, O.P.

NOUS AUTRES FRANÇAIS. PAR Georges Bernanos. (N.R.F. Gallimard; 1939).

This is a violent book written for Frenchmen, but others may find it stimulating. Those who are not scandalised by a Bloy or Péguy should be able to read it to the end, even though perhaps bored by the repeated attacks on Maurras. Even Maurras's corrupting influence must have its limits.

The book is a passionate plea for kingship through which, it is maintained, France would rediscover her real greatness. This is not proved, of course, but stated as a first principle. All Frenchmen who are moved by the "sentiment de l'honneur" rather than by base political motives, will accept this principle. This is, no doubt, a matter for Frenchmen to decide, but one does wonder what Péguy would have said.

There is, of course, plenty of incidental richness throughout the book, but the things which stand out are Bernanos's answering loyalty to Christ (or the Church, which is the same thing for a Catholic) and his generous testimony to the truth. One can love such a man with all his defects.

SIMON BLAKE, O.P.

PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRIAL AREAS OF GREAT BRITAIN. By M. P. Fogarty. (Methuen; 32s.).

This is the first considerable work to be published by the Nuffield College Social Reconstruction Survey under the general editorship of Professors Cole and Lindsay. It is based on some fifty regional reports submitted to the Government between 1941 and 1943, and deals with the economic conditions in thirteen areas which, between them, cover the whole of Great Britain. This is followed by an estimate of the economic outlook for the post-war period. Inevit-

ably, as this survey was compiled during the war, security reasons prevented the author from carrying his research as far as might have been done in peace time. But the aim of the survey, which was "more to discover the situation on which policy would have to operate than to illustrate the conditions which policy might create," has been adequately achieved.

One wonders, reading the facile observations of journalists and even politicians on such subjects as planning and demobilisation, whether their authors realise what an enormous amount of survey, statistical work, and really hard thinking must precede any serious attempt at post-war resettlement. Such a book as Mr. Fogarty's should be prescribed as required reading for these people, if only to convince them that the problem of the location of industry, on which ultimately will depend the lives and happiness of thousands of people, is something more than the resolution of a conflict between private enterprise and nationalisation.

The conclusions drawn by the author are not altogether optimistic. He says that the rate of progress, in this matter of the location of industry, has not been commensurate with the problems which will have to be dealt with after the war, and indicates four main problems. First, there are the maladjustments inherited from before the war; secondly, problems arising from the dislocation of national and world economy due to the war, and which are likely to continue for a long time. He instances the fact that the effects of the 1914-18 war were still being felt well into the 'thirties. Thirdly, those adjustments which will be called for through technical progress and changes in demand. Fourthly, problems connected with town and country planning, and particularly with the decentralization of industry in and from Greater London.

In reviewing such a work as this one cannot pronounce any final judgment, except to repeat that its aim has been achieved in assembling a body of facts which are essential to all who are at all concerned with town and country planning and with the location of industry. In its indictment of mistakes of government of the past, indications are given of how the machinery can be overhauled and made efficient for the future. This is a book which is essential if one wishes to have an over-all picture of the national economy and of its prospects for the future. None but the expert would wish to read right through its five hundred pages, but for the study group and the library it will prove invaluable. J.F.

THE ECONOMICS OF CHARITY. By Adam Doboszynski. (F. Mildner and Sons, Herbal Hill, Clerkenwell Road, E.C.1; 4s. 6d.).

Whether Economics has anything to do with Ethics is the subject of an old debate. Mr. Doboszynski goes much further and reminds us of what ought to be the obvious fact that Economics has a great deal to do with Theology. Its problems are all reduced to the problem of man—in a state of grace or fallen from it—pursuing