

NOTICES

A SPIRITUAL ÆNEID, Ronald Knox's account of his 'journey to the Catholic Faith', first published thirty-three years ago, has been elegantly reprinted and provided with a new preface (Burns Oates; 10s. 6d.) Many other accounts of conversion have appeared since *A Spiritual Æneid*, but none so lively or with so sensitive an awareness of the workings of *gracc*. Mgr Knox in the light of his years as a Catholic provides reassuring answers to the inevitable questions: 'Do you regret it?' and 'Has the Church come up to your expectations?'

THE LAWYER, 'a conversation piece', (Eyre and Spottiswoode; 16s.) brings together selections from the *Lawyer's Notebooks*, published anonymously in his lifetime by E. S. P. Haynes, and includes an autobiographical introduction, and a memoir by his daughter, Renée Haynes. It is good to have the *obiter scripta* of this most witty of lawyers; a rationalist with an immense respect for the Catholic Church, an advocate of Divorce Law Reform with a profound appreciation of Christian marriage, a distributist who was a great friend of H. G. Wells. His aphorisms and comments can be devastating, and his style is worthy of Swift. By some error of arrangement, identical paragraphs appear on pages 222 and 266.

DIVINE PLAN FOR WORK AND WEALTH (Clonmore and Reynolds; 4s.) is a concise and well-arranged paraphrase of the Encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno* by Fr J. S. McAuley. It should be of the greatest usefulness for Catholic Social study-circles, or indeed for anyone who wishes to have the papal teaching on social matters in an accessible form. The Encyclicals are technical documents, written in a conventional style difficult for the ordinary reader to manage, and Fr McAuley has found an ideal way of presenting the doctrine in a lively way without evading its fullest implications.

SERMON MATTER FROM ST THOMAS AQUINAS (B. Herder, London, W.C.; 37s. 6d.) is the latest evidence of the immense industry of Fr C. J. Callan, O.P., who has done so much to enrich the pastoral theology of our time. Books of sermon notes too often reflect only an individual preacher's approach, but Fr Callan's selection from St Thomas's commentaries on the Sunday Epistles and Gospels provides a carefully-arranged anthology of doctrine at once authoritative and of the greatest practical value. Fr Callan, with an expert's familiarity with his sources, draws on a variety of material which would escape the casual dipper into St Thomas's *Opera omnia*, and he has provided not only priests, but all who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Scriptures used during the liturgical year, with an invaluable commentary.