

REVIEWS

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY. By George S. Hendry. (S.C.M. Press; 12s. 6d.)

Despite the central position which should be held by a theology of the Holy Spirit, it has not yet been fully developed in Western Christendom. This book, written from the point of view of the Reformed Churches, and suggestive rather than systematic, should be an incentive to further research. Catholics will be able to agree with much of what Dr Hendry says, and indeed may often find themselves closer to him than he seems to suppose. Since the themes are treated in historical order, this agreement will naturally be greater in the earlier part of the book. It begins with an admirable account of the relationship of the Spirit to Christ in the New Testament, and goes on to discuss the Spirit in the Trinity, treating the difficult question of the relation between his creative and salvific work, largely through a sustained criticism of Barth. In the third chapter, on the Spirit and the Church, one begins to feel uneasy about the misrepresentation of Catholic teaching; I cannot see how, after a careful reading of *Mystici Corporis*, which Dr Hendry quotes, it is still possible to maintain that our theology 'obliterates any real distinction between the body and him who acts through it', or that we deny the essential subordination of the apostles and their successors to the Spirit: the Pope specifically says that the Spirit is 'the source from which proceeds every single vital and effectively salutary action in all the parts of the Body' (C.T.S. p. 34). The same is true of the chapter on the inspiration of Scripture: the contrast drawn is too sharp, since a Catholic could certainly agree with the formulation 'the Spirit is in the Church only when it is a Church of the Word, and the Spirit is in the Word only when it is the Word in the Church'. In the final chapter Dr Hendry returns to his attack on Barth, maintaining the presence of a created spirit in man which can respond to the Spirit of God. Theologians will do well to ponder this stimulating book.

LAURENCE BRIGHT, O.P.

RELIGIOUS LANGUAGE. By Ian Ramsay. (S.C.M. Press; 18s.)

WORDS AND IMAGES. By E. L. Mascall. (Longmans; 12s. 6d.)

CRUCIAL PROBLEMS OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY. By D. J. B. Hawkins. (Sheed and Ward; 10s. 6d.)

Professor Ramsay investigates what he calls (perhaps rather too often) the 'logically odd' language in which Christians talk about God: scriptural images, and the analogical use of words in theology. Such