

necessary to present Christian truth without compromise or hesitancy but in a manner that will at least be significant to a scientifically minded unbeliever: the latter is not expected to believe, still less reason to 'the Abrahamic presupposition', but to allow that as a hypothesis and see how other things fall into line. After this there is a prospect 'of making Christianity visible again, of making people see it as a really possible way of looking at things'. On these lines in very limited space he does work out a valuable apologetic. The weakness is, of course, that well-established scientific theories may be wholly transformed in the course of time: Christianity cannot be accepted on those terms. The method is useful, provided we are alert to its limitations. But surely the most effective approach today as at any time in the past is by way of the *fact* of Christ, not indeed as some of the text-books present it, but quite simply with that evidence of historicity which the learning of the critic demands and with that graciousness that the charity of Christ imposes on the apologist.

E.Q.

ALL MY DAYS FOR GOD. Vol. IV. Selection from the writings of St Alphonsus. By J. B. Coyle, C.S.S.R. (Gill, Dublin; 6s.6d.)

This concludes the series of readings for every day in the year from St Alphonsus and embraces the period from the 13th Sunday after Pentecost until Advent. It includes in this broken-up form the whole of 'The Practice of the Love of Jesus Christ' which the Saint regarded as the most devotional and useful of his ascetical works. Like many selections of a like nature no references are given, which makes it of little value as an introduction to the works of St Alphonsus.

X.T.Z.

DIFFICULTIES. Questions on Religion with answers by prominent Churchmen. Foreword by the Bishop of London. (Mowbray; 4s.)

Seven bishops, Emile Cammaerts and Dr Prestige are amongst the contributors to this little book. That fact alone would be enough to recommend it. The questions asked are typical of the twentieth century: 'There are plenty of people like me who behave decently and yet get through life without religion. Why should we bother about it?' is an example; and the answers, although brief, are very much to the point. We must disagree with some of the views put forward concerning papal authority and scriptural interpretation, but the great majority of the questions dealt with are fundamental to Christianity and common to all its forms. *Mutatis mutandis* we recommend it to Catholics as a brief Christian apologetic.

The immediate occasion for its publication was the May Mission to London but its usefulness will extend far beyond that date. It is a timely production.

G.B.