

aspects of the sacramental life has been largely successful; and that his book which is based on a solid patristic and scholastic theology and reflects a profound spirituality should do much good. Yet the central thesis—that the *ornatus* or *res et sacramentum* of a sacrament conforms us to the Son, thereby putting us in the way of sacramental grace which conforms us to the Holy Spirit—leaves us wondering. Not, of course, that we reject the exposition and development of Père d'Eypernon's thesis; but rather that we think that the stress should be put on the 'christian' aspect of the sacramental grace itself, the clearest treatment of which theology offers us is to be found in John of St Thomas (*Cursus Theologicus* IIIa, pars disp. xxiv a 2. dut. un.). It is a viewpoint that provides an escape from certain developments which derive more from devotion and rhetoric than from sober theological thinking; especially since it allows full account to be taken of the fact that sacramental grace is only as is Christ himself—a means to an end. What we are getting at will be better understood if the chapters of Père d'Eypernon on Extreme Unction and the Eucharist are pondered; for it is hard to admit (as the author would have it) that the effect of Extreme Unction is a grace of 'fecundity' and 'witness'; or that 'delectation' is the essential characteristic of the sacramental grace that the Eucharist gives.

All the same we think that within its own limits the treatment Père d'Eypernon proffers is careful and competent. Indeed, investigations such as his are necessary at least in that they enable us to reflect on and gain some inkling of the implications of the mystery of our divine life.

HENRI DE RIEDMATTER, O.P.

DAUGHTERS OF BRITAIN. By Vera Douie. (Published from 12, Charlbury Road, Oxford; 12s.6d.)

At first glance this book gives one the impression of being a Government Blue Book and one is prepared to be bored. It has all the accurate information of a Blue Book: it has carefully-worked-out statistics: it is a first-rate book of reference. And yet one is not bored. The account of the work of British women during the war is written simply and objectively. Its chapters cover accounts not only of women in the 'services' but also of the work of women doctors and nurses attached to the forces at home and abroad: of the Women's Land Army, of workers in the war factories, and of those too in the voluntary associations—even the Girl Guides are not overlooked. Some pages too are given to the well-deserving housewives, with of course special mention of food queues. Yet, with all this, the book consists of only 159 pages, and its conciseness, clarity and brevity are to be commended.

FLORENCE ROCH.