

THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST. By W. A. Visser 'T Hooft. (S.C.M. Press; 4s.)

A valiant, valuable little book as uncompromisingly Protestant in tone as *Quas Primas* is Catholic. There is a harsh passage on page 90 in which allusion is made to 'church centred power politics'. This we feel would never have been written if the distinction between the Church Militant and the Church Triumphant had been grasped. A reading of Dom Aelred Graham's 'The Christ of Catholicism', pp. 293-309, would go far to dispel a number of unpleasant misconceptions of Catholic doctrine. We endorse the words of Dr Berkhof, 'The Church must again dare to preach the theocratic commandment. But it must do this in such a way that it does not exclude but include tolerance'. To say however that the true meaning of Christocracy is 'that the Church announces what it believes to be the word of Christ to the world, but that it does not use any other means of persuasion than the truth of its message' (p. 91), would seem to say that Christ is King without being Law-giver, which is to grant the Glory with one hand and to take away the Power with the other.

BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT. By Philip Leon. (S.C.M. Press; 2s. 6d.)

This short essay on a supremely difficult problem is addressed to the 'non-philosophic reader', but whether such a reader will get beyond the first chapter, especially page 29, one takes leave to doubt. To those however of an eclectic mentality we recommend the essay, confident that they will find it interesting and stimulating.

R.V.

DEAR BISHOP. By Catherine de Hueck. (Sheed and Ward; 6s.)

Catherine de Hueck is the woman who sold up her home and all she had to found Friendship House. The Bishop is Bishop Sheil, Auxiliary of Chicago, who has called her 'one of the most dynamic and colourful figures of our times'. During the war he asked her to find out the reasons for the leakage among American youth; what they thought of God and the Church. For six months she worked as a factory hand, a waitress, a barmaid, mixing, too, with what would be called in polite circles the scum of society. These are her reports to Bishop Sheil, and many will wonder how they have come to be published. She lived in a hell of sweated labour, obscenity and filth, and she does not spare us the facts.

For these young people the Church has ceased to count. It is not a force to be reckoned with. God, the Church, Christ, do not touch their lives. They mean nothing to them. Or do they? Appalling social conditions, no contact with the ministers of Christ, is it not expecting too much to wait for these lost sheep to come looking for the shepherd? Yet Christ thirsts for these souls. Who will give him to drink?

This is *the* problem of our times: the problem that cannot wait.