

REVIEWS

On March 13th Albert Coates makes one of his all too rare appearances in London to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra in a programme of Wagner's music with that magnificent singer, Ivar Andréson, as the soloist. To all keen Wagnerites this will be the night of nights.

PATRICK GEOGHEGAN.

CINEMA

EXPERIMENTAL CINEMA. No. 4. (1625 N. Vine Street, Hollywood; 50 cents.)

Something that is at least revolutionary has come out of Hollywood. Revolutionary in both a political and filmic sense. One is struck at once by the amazingly beautiful stills of Eisenstein's *Que Viva Mexico*—the great film which orthodox Hollywood is doing its best to butcher. They alone should convince that the film can be art and art of a high order. When we turn to the text we soon realise that not only are the films themselves in complete opposition to the usual Hollywood output, but that the whole basis of 'experiment' implies an inexorable hostility to the entire social values on which the Californian Eldorado thrives. The magazine is, in fact, an organ of the Communist Party: and in its eyes the film is the most powerful instrument of propaganda. Not that it does not contain much that is of importance from a purely filmic viewpoint—Eisenstein's valuable article, *The Principles of Film Form*, for example—but its vitality and drive manifestly spring from this revolutionary stimulus. It is vital and it has drive: it is like a strong cleansing wind. How tragic therefore that it should seem to consider the Christian religion as a support of those rotten values: for traces of the anti-God bias are not hard to discern. The Christian religion intends death for that corruption just as vehemently as does Communism: and it offers a new vitality that is infinitely more vigorous than any that can issue from Communist ideology. That is the fact: but it is up to Christians by the heroism of their lives to prove it. This magazine and its significance, like Communism itself, is a tremendous challenge.

Æ.M.

NOTICES

BESFORD COURT CATHOLIC MENTAL WELFARE HOSPITAL. Thirteenth and Fourteenth Annual Reports. (Besford, Worcs.; Pp. 115.)

In this report of a Catholic charity employing the latest methods—and language—of psychology, we signalise two matters of interest, although there are many more. The first is