

It is the outstanding merit of this volume that it traces all these strands and that none are seen out of perspective. Its importance lies in the significance of Taoism for new China. Taoism has had a sporadic influence on Chinese cultures since the third century B.C. even if often eclipsed by Confucianism. While Confucianism can never revive as long as China is Marxist, Marxism and Taoism could form a possible amalgam.

GERVASE MATHEW, O.P.

THE MUSE UNCHAINED. By E. M. W. Tillyard. (Bowes and Bowes; 16s.)

Dr Tillyard has written what he rightly calls an intimate account of the revolution in English studies at Cambridge. The English Tripos was founded in 1917 and when Dr Tillyard came back from the war he became one of the first young dons to work in the faculty. He had read Classics as an undergraduate, but at the Perse school had been trained by that paragon of teachers, W. H. D. Rouse, to 'think of Classics as part of a greater body of literature and to reflect on the nature of literature itself'. The interest of this work is threefold. It is firstly domestic: anyone who has had anything to do with the English Tripos will find an enormous amount to ponder and discuss. Secondly, it will be valuable to anyone whose business is education and who needs to consider how new educational disciplines grow. The almost haphazard way in which the first dons were recruited is a tribute to the underlying unity of all studies. Lastly, and most important, in commenting on the form an English Tripos should take Dr Tillyard has important things to say about the purpose of university education which, he believes, exists primarily to construct people and only secondarily to turn out dons. The charm and learning of his writing is a comment on the liberal spirit of Cambridge.

GERARD MEATH, O.P.

PFEILER IN STROM. By Rheinhold Schneider. (Insel Verlag, Wiesbaden; n.p.)

Shortly before his death on Easter Monday 1958, Rheinhold Schneider sent the manuscript of this book to his publishers asking them to delay its appearance till he had finished writing an introduction to these fifty essays which have so unexpectedly become his legacy.

The themes of these essays covers a characteristically wide field: history, poetry, faith, friends encountered on life's journey, the cities and landscapes he had grown to love and cherish in memory. All these stand for him as so many 'pillars in the stream' of passing events, representing enduring values in the midst of so much that is ephemeral and vain.