New Blackfriars

A Monthly Review May 1971 25p

Beowulf and the Limits of Literature—2
Eric John

Signs in the Wind
Rosemary Haughton

Catholics and Pentecostals
Simon Tugwell, O.P.

What is the Point of being a Roman Catholic?
Brian Wicker & Ian Gregor

Satan and the Failure of Nerve
Roy Yates

On Non-Infallible Pronouncements
Cardinal Newman

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In this issue

Eric John

the medieval historian concludes his argument (in the context of *Beowulf*) that a purely 'literary' approach to literature is only possible where author and critic share certain social and cultural presuppositions.

Rosemary Haughton

brings together a defence of older and unfashionable forms of piety and an examination of the meaning of the folk song movement amongst young people in an exploration of the way the Spirit challenges, disturbs and criticizes us and our world.

Simon Tugwell, O.P.

of the Oxford community, also concerned with the Holy Spirit in our time, considers the Catholic Pentecostal movement, praising it with faint damns—mainly fearing lest it betray and impoverish itself by losing touch with other areas of Catholic experience.

Brian Wicker and Ian Gregor

both academics intimately concerned in the renewal of the Catholic Church in England in recent years, have been looking at Holland. They report on the problems they see exemplified in the Dutch experience, especially the problems arising from the embodiment of Christianity in a culture. 'If we have no recognizable Catholic sensibility, no specifically Catholic attitudes, customs, formulations, styles, where then is the Church itself? Is not some element of the concretely universal necessary, if we are to remain incarnational at all?' They do not solve these problems.

Roy Yates

traces the story of Satan and argues that his development, from the angel in Yahweh's court concerned with the maintenance of the Law to the arch-enemy of God and man, marks a failure to maintain the tension implicit in the 'act of faith which affirms that God is in direct control of the course of history, despite suffering and evil in the world'; it represents in this sense a 'failure of nerve'.

Cardinal Newman

in a letter to the Dominican Provincial a hundred years ago discusses infallibility and the way the teaching authority of the Church should operate.

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Gabriel Ibarra—An Appeal

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