

through the pages, particularly in Chapters 4 and 5. One example may be mentioned. The authors point out that the cathartic effect of aggressiveness which follows frustration serves only to reduce the secondary instigation produced by frustration not, as is commonly assumed, the strength of the primary instigation which suffered frustration.

The frustration-aggression hypothesis, even with limited scope, is not simply of academic interest. All those charged with the care and upbringing of children, with the management of personnel in the various spheres of industrial and social life are frequently confronted by individuals in their charge who react in a hostile manner to unavoidable frustrations. This clear discussion of the problems of adjustment which individuals must face in any society should be of much practical value. Further verification of the theoretical basis will be welcomed.

JOHN COHEN.

BERKELEY'S PHILOSOPHICAL NOTES

Philosophical Commentaries, generally called the *Commonplace Book*

By George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne. An editio diplomatica transcribed and edited with Introduction and Notes by Prof. A. A. Luce. Pp. xlii+486. (London and Edinburgh: Thomas Nelson and Sons, Ltd., 1944.) 73s. 6d. net.

THE manuscript generally, but inaptly, called "Berkeley's *Commonplace Book*" is a document of unique interest in philosophical literature. Berkeley took his B.A. at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1704 at the age of nineteen. In 1709 and 1710 he published his "New Theory of Vision" and his "Principles of Human Knowledge", the two works on which his philosophical fame has always rested. Berkeley's ideas were novel, but very clear and articulate, and skilfully argued in these books. The only thinkers to compare with him, who advanced so far so quickly, are Descartes and Hume. It is most fortunate that we can examine the notebook in which he recorded his philosophical reflexions during this short period of intense mental activity. Prof. Luce considers that the notes were written during 1707-8, and that Berkeley probably had before him a preliminary draft of his theories. Thus the "*Commonplace Book*" shows how his first thoughts were altered and improved until they attained their first published form, never greatly altered afterwards.

The manuscript was discovered by Campbell Fraser and published in 1871 in his edition of Berkeley's works. Unfortunately, Fraser failed to notice that the two notebooks Berkeley used had been bound together in the wrong order, so that his text is confusing. G. A. Johnston's edition of 1930 corrects the principal error in chronological order. Prof. Luce, however, finds that Johnston has still got some entries misplaced. There are also other inaccuracies in the two earlier texts. Moreover, the original document was damaged by sea water when Berkeley had it with him on his travels. Parts were difficult to decipher in Fraser's day and are now much worse. Prof. Luce has therefore undertaken to produce a complete type-facsimile of all the entries of philosophical interest, with erasures, alterations and later remarks all in place. In addition he has provided copious and very necessary notes, cross-references

and indexes. The value of these can be seen by taking an example at random. Entry No. 526 reads: "Locke says the modes of simple Ideas besides extension and number are counted by degrees. I deny there are any modes or degrees of simple Ideas. What he terms such are complex Ideas as I have prov'd by Green". This is cryptic enough. However, given the correct reference to Locke, to several other entries in the "*Commonplace Book*" and to Berkeley's published work, we can then see how Locke's tentative, stumbling but very suggestive analysis of perceptual processes stimulated Berkeley's more precise mind; how Berkeley gradually clarified his own thinking and terminology to produce a different, far more definite (perhaps more erroneous) statement. Prof. Luce provides a guide to these interconnexions that will save readers much hard work and many misunderstandings.

Students of Berkeley for many generations to come will be grateful to Prof. Luce for this fine piece of work, to his publishers and printers who have shown that good craftsmanship is still possible after nearly five years of total war, and to Trinity College, where Berkeley's thinking was fostered and where his memory is still honoured as it should be.

A. D. RITCHIE.

AN ASTRONOMICAL TEXT-BOOK

Elementary Mathematical Astronomy

By C. W. C. Barlow and Dr. G. H. Bryan. Fifth edition, revised by Sir Harold Spencer Jones. Pp. viii+388. (London: University Tutorial Press, Ltd., 1944.) 12s. 6d.

THIS book belongs to the peculiar class intermediate between the popular work on astronomy on one hand and the serious technical treatise on the other. The scope of the class is otherwise not easily defined in precise terms. Sir Robert Ball, who made a distinctly elegant contribution to it, confessed that the effort had caused him great and apparently unexpected difficulty. Simon Newcomb, whose work on the popular side had been as conspicuously successful as his labours in mathematical astronomy were of the most distinguished, once ventured into a similar field belonging to neither. In acknowledging frankly an error brought to his notice he showed himself-conscious of a pitfall to which the expert is liable in the attempt to make a statement adapted to the intelligence of readers less gifted than his usual audience.

Neither of the two original authors of the present text-book belonged to the ranks of the professional astronomer. That it possessed merits of a distinct kind is attested by the fact that it has outlived half a century, during which it has reached a fifth edition while the number of impressions demanded has been far more numerous. The third edition (1923) received the revision of Dr. A. C. D. Crommelin. But it may be suspected that the survival of the book is due in no small degree to the English mania for examinations and the demand fostered thereby. It has now received a fresh lease of life at the hands of a most eminent editor who has done his work well. Yet there remain traces of that aridity which is a natural outcome of its origin. It may be hoped that when war-time restrictions are removed an editor so eminently qualified will see his way to expound the subject with greater freedom in his own manner.