

Kirsopp Lake, of Harvard, as "general but imperfect education and democratic government." If that be so, perhaps the United States will not be the only country to be affected by this strange recrudescence of superstition.

No doubt Fundamentalism will one day meet its Voltaire; but he will be neither man of science nor philosopher, but theologian. It is only the theologian who can appreciate the imbecility of this revival. Properly speaking, it is not a revival, for the Fundamentalist has forgotten much of the theological thought of the past, while learning little of that of the present.

Mr. Stuart Gager has attempted to disseminate a certain amount of light where it is badly needed by delivering popular lectures, and by publishing their substance in the present volume. The book is to be commended for two reasons: (1) The author has taken a good deal of trouble to understand and to explain what is really meant by literary criticism of the Bible, and (2), he has concentrated not upon the *results* of the natural sciences, but upon the *method* of science in general. Thus, he has gone the right way to work; for no one who has a clear grasp of the methods and results either of the literary and historical criticism of the Bible, or of the natural sciences, would find Fundamentalism intellectually or emotionally attractive. It is really a question of whether a person is or is not capable of following an argument, or weighing evidence, or indeed used to any kind of systematic thinking. Neither Mr. Gager nor an angel from heaven could do much for people whose limitations or obstinacy preclude them from availing themselves of his help.

Mr. Gager's title—"The Relation between Science and Theology," not "Science and Religion"—indicates that he understands the nature of the problem; for the quarrel is not between the incommensurables, science and religion, but between science and some particular theory about our religion, its origin and its meaning. In justice to theology it has to be remembered that Fundamentalist theology, unlike that, for example, of St. Thomas Aquinas, is intellectually not respectable.

The general reader will not find this book any less valuable on account of its somewhat naïve metaphysical point of view. For example, the conceptions of *cause* and *change*, though they play some part in the argument, are not subjected to any radical analysis. But Mr. Gager is not writing for students of Kant, who rarely succumb to the seductions of Fundamentalism.

Mr. Gager's work, simple, straightforward, and well informed, deserves a wide circulation; especially perhaps in some parts of the United States, where theological thought seems to be more remote from the precincts of reason than it is, at present, in Great Britain.

J. C. HARDWICK.

Our Bookshelf.

Le Cerveau et le cœur. Par Prof. G. Fano. Traduit de l'italien par G. Caputo. (Nouvelle Collection scientifique.) Pp. vii+211. (Paris: Félix Alcan, 1925.) 10 francs.

THERE is often a baldness of statement necessary in contributions to scientific journals which freezes the interest of a sympathetic but non-scientific reader. This is partly because wide general conclusions cannot be appended to each single published contribution. At intervals, however, during a career of scientific work, it is possible for some to touch on the deeper aspect of things. Prof. Fano has published a series of lectures in book form which can be recommended to the biologist and to the general reader, to one for an attempt to probe the *causa causans* of his science, to the other for its exposition of scientific methods and of the trend of physiology.

In introducing the author to the French public, Prof. Gley says, "Fano n'est pas seulement un expérimentateur: c'est un penseur." The truth of this statement is made evident to the reader as he finds described and discussed various problems of research, each in turn. The properties of living matter are dealt with at some length and from many aspects. Probably more satisfying to the majority of readers are later chapters, which describe the effects of ablating at different levels the higher nerve centres of the tortoise, *Emys Europæa*, and the interpretation of the results in relation to the will and to inhibition. A parallel deduction might have been made from the similar work of Sherrington and of Magnus on higher animals.

Other chapters recapitulate the earlier work of the author on electrical responses of cardiac muscle and his observations on the heart of the chick, and give insight into his minute technique. The book is a useful collation, in a language other than Italian, of the researches and philosophical views of this Italian *doyen*, and takes a worthy place among its fellows in the "Nouvelle Collection scientifique" Alcan.

Air Ministry: Meteorological Office. The Observatories' Year Book, 1922: Comprising the Results obtained from Autographic Records and Eye Observations at the Observatories at Aberdeen, Eskdalemuir, Cahirciveen (Valencia Observatory), Richmond (Kew Observatory), and Benson; in continuation of the former British Meteorological and Magnetic Year Book, Parts 3 and 4. (M.O. 259.) Pp. 337+6 plates. (London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1925.) 63s. net.

THE elements dealt with in the volume are barometric pressure, air temperature, humidity, rainfall, sunshine, wind velocity and direction, cloud and general weather. Records are tabulated for each hour. Details are given of the exposure and surroundings of the different instruments, and photographs show generally the position of the instruments. The work consists mostly of tabular results closely printed. Much information is afforded for minute study on various subjects of meteorological importance. At Eskdalemuir the diurnal variation in the components of magnetic force on quiet and disturbed days is given. The