

Book Reviews

LA HIERARCHIE CATHOLIQUE ET LE PROBLEME SOCIAL DEPUIS L'ENCYCLIQUE 'RERUM NOVARUM,' 1781—1913. (Editions Spes : 17 Rue Soufflot, Paris ; 40 fr. ; 1931.)

'Many Catholic industrialists and men of business remain in state of blank and bland ignorance as to the very existence of principles that should guide their daily actions, and are accustomed to accept unquestioned the very questionable maxims upon which a great deal of modern industry and business is day by day conducted . . . It is a sad fact that, nearly forty years after the promulgation of 'Rerum Novarum,' its teachings are still but imperfectly assimilated, even by many of the Catholic clergy, and are not so much as suspected by a very large proportion of the Catholic laity': so writes Mr. Leslie Toke in his Preface to *A Code of Social Principles* (Catholic Social Guild, Oxford, 1931). His words should direct us to *La Hiérarchie Catholique*, which is clear evidence that for the last forty years the Bishops throughout the world have been doing their best to enlighten and stimulate both clergy and laity in this matter of principles. This book is an exhaustive bibliography and index of all responsible utterances on the social question. It is issued by the International Union of Social Studies which was founded by Cardinal Mercier: it has been accorded a certain official sanction by being mentioned in the present Holy Father's recent Encyclical, *Quadragesimo Anno*—Regarding the Catholic view on social problems it provides a guide indispensable to the student.

GALE WARNING. By W. J. Blyton. (Burns, Oates and Washbourne, Ltd ; 7/6.)

This is a first novel stamped on every page with the sincerity that marks all its author's writings. It is a post-war story of modern life, with well drawn characters and some capital descriptive work. We wander in Germany, assist at folk dancing in the Chilterns, visit a night club—the usual dreary place—attend a séance and enjoy ourselves with discussions on everything under the sun; everything that really matters that is. The love interest is skilfully managed and the end is finely wrought. In fact the latter part of the book is immensely better than the beginning and the story does not march till the excellent Hara is removed. The real hero is, of course, Torwade; a quite recognisable portrait of the 'spiritual tramp' who combines farming with writing for the Press. Torwade and his household at Four Ways dominate the book and who could wish for better company? We await with hopeful expectancy Mr.