

The words then 'Peace ceases when all seek what is their own' may very easily lead people astray, if baldly stated without the essential qualification that alone gives them the meaning intended by St. Thomas and before him by St. Paul.

Peace ceases when all seek what is their own, *selfishly to the detriment of neighbour and of state*. The words italicised are the essential qualification.

I am, etc.,

ÆLRED WHITACRE, O.P.

R E V I E W S

SPIRITUALITY

THE SPIRIT OF SAINT DOMINIC. By Humbert Clérissac, O.P.

Revised and edited with an Introduction by Father Bernard Delany, O.P. (Burns Oates; 6s.)

Father Humbert Clérissac, a former distinguished member of the French Dominican Province, is still remembered especially by those English Dominicans who heard the Retreat he preached to them at Hawkesyard thirty years ago. Though a Frenchman by birth and education he had a remarkable command of the English tongue, though in some ways the trace of accent and occasional oddity of idiom was an added attraction to his gifts as a preacher. Fortunately the text of those Retreat conferences was preserved and Father Delany, the present English Provincial, has revised and edited it with a delicacy of touch combined with reverence for the original that one has learnt to expect from this writer of fine English and former Editor of BLACKFRIARS. As he notes in his Introduction, Père Clérissac was filled with an absorbing and lifelong enthusiasm for St. Dominic and this is naturally at its keenest when he is addressing a group of his own Brethren, many of them still in the early stages of their religious life. His purpose, as he himself explains in his opening words, is 'to make a progressive study of the Dominican idea,' and this purpose he achieves so admirably that it would have been a great loss had his words not been committed to print and given to Catholics at large; for the Dominican idea, that is the spirit of St. Dominic, is a distinct and notable facet of the jewel of Christian spirituality and when expounded in so masterly yet simple a fashion as here, must prove of notable worth and a great practical help to all those who are concerned to possess themselves of the full treasure of the spiritual life.

HILARY J. CARPENTER, O.P.