

the book as a whole. It covers an exceptionally wide field and is wisely divided into sections. Seventeen in all. The reader who cannot select from among these a meadow in which to browse contentedly, reflect, or find stimulant for thought or action must be difficult to cater for. Curiously, Prof. Lethaby and Amanda Coomaraswamy are absent from the great company assembled.

The make-up, paper and printing are excellent.

GEO. M.

THE GUIDE TO CATHOLIC LITERATURE, 1948. Edited by Walter Romig. (W. Romig; \$3.75.)

Though rather more costly than the usual products of the Stationery Office, this *Guide* with its green paper covers looks like a Government publication. The controverted question about what constitutes Catholic literature is faced in the sub-title which states that the *Guide* is 'An author-title-subject index in one straight alphabetical order, with biographical and critical notes and references, of books and pamphlets by Catholics or of particular Catholic interest, published originally or in revised edition, in any language and in any country, during the year January 1 to December 1, 1948'.

The *Guide* is, of course, American. Where else than in the United States could one hope to find such pains-taking research, such amassing of detail in such a field? In every sense the *Guide* is catholic. Learned writings, doctorate theses and the like rub shoulders with such works as *A Spoonful of Honey*, *Laughter from Downstairs*, and J. P. DiMaggio's *Baseball for Everyone*.

Dominican writers are well represented, and there are many critical extracts from book reviews in this periodical.

Mr Romig deserves great praise for editing and publishing this informative and diverting *Guide*.

KIERAN MULVEY, O.P.

THE BRITISH PRESS. By Robert Sinclair. (Home and Van Thal; 8s.6d.)

With 30 years' experience of professional journalism the author combines an objective view of that important calling. The combination is sufficient to make his criticism of the Press very valuable. He examines often-claimed freedoms of thought and speech as exercised by the British Press. In order to reach a studied judgment on this vital point he takes the reader through the responsibilities and machinery which lead to the 'news' appearing on the printed page. A rather disillusioned footnote on p. 224 vouches for the honesty of the author who has to withdraw his original statement that politics do not influence the reports of a journalist. It is a 'frightening' thought, as he says, that politics now play a part in the reporter's news.

CONRAD PEPLER, O.P.