

and justice for the common man'; he has little to say about the charity without which all else is nothing.

M. C. GRAIN

INSTEAD OF ARMS. By Count Folke Bernadotte. (Hodder & Stoughton; 12s.6d.)

This is a diary, though not strictly chronological, of Count Bernadotte's relief-work experiences in almost every European country since 1939. It was published in Sweden—so the 'blurb' informs us—two days before his assassination. It makes no claim to be a literary masterpiece; nor is it the story of a subtle diplomat. It is rather an informal talk with a humble, humanitarian peacemaker.

Among the descriptions of his varied work with the Swedish Red Cross during and after hostilities, the Count has much of interest to tell us. Few would be so ready to record all that he does: the appreciation shown by Russian internees in Sweden; an explanation (but emphatically not a justification) of the Russian failure to give news of P.O.W.s; the Paris hotel valet who had come to respect his war-time 'guest', a German general. We hear of inter-rank informality valued and practised by the R.A.F., but not in the Russian army; how strangely some enemy objectives escaped in Berlin and Frankfurt while civilian and neutral property were destroyed on an immense scale. Soon after the story of the murder of 400 Jugoslavs in Norway by Nazis, we read of the mass grave of 45,000 unknown Germans in Hamburg. This was total war, and the Count was particularly able to understand this.

And always he draws the moral; some might find this tedious. Yet some truths need telling 'opportune, importune'. Our forgetfulness to thank God for the greater mercies; the underlying humanity of our enemies; and, above all, the Count's lesson, the supreme value of personal contacts. He ends by describing his new and formidable task in Palestine, and by refusing to be pessimistic, writing as he flew to Lake Success for further negotiations. The whole impresses, and sometimes shames us. It has good reason to do both.

J.O.H.

CHAPTERS IN WESTERN CIVILISATION. (Columbia University Press. London: Geoffrey Cumberlege; 2 vols., 14s.0d. each.)

These two volumes contain essays from various hands, and are designed to meet the academic needs of the American student, especially of those engaged on the Contemporary Civilisation Course at Columbia University. They range through Politics, Economics, Philosophy, Law, Religion and Science from the early Middle Ages down to the year 1939. They are inevitably of unequal merit, but are on the whole informative and competently written. There are naiveties, however, which leave one wondering, as for example (Vol.