

adjective 'little'? There is a danger of losing something of the necessary perfecting of humility and the 'Inward Man' in the new preaching of Christianity as a cultural power.

In general the book is balanced in spite of such slips. Canon Pfiiegler is large enough in spirit to be able to criticise constructively. And as coming from Austria, which was called till recently a Catholic country, it is a lesson of the bitterest practical experience.

FINBAR SYNNOTT, O.P.

NOTICES

POEMS. By F. T. Prince. (Faber and Faber; 5s.)

Mr. Prince has written an extremely interesting group of poems. They are interesting because he has those two prerequisites of the poet, a subtle apprehension of fine shades of experience, and the gift for recording those apprehensions in phrases and rhythms which are not so much a record of the experience as a distillation of the experience itself, so that the reading of his words is like lifting the stopper from a decanter of Burgundy and having before one at once the whole Côte d'Or.

It is this gift of the poetic phrase that Mr. Prince has most strongly developed as, for instance, here:

'The copper thunder kept in the sulky flanks of your horse.'

There is, however, a defect which is the complement of this gift of subtle, comprehensive and carefully-articulated phrases. The defect is that such phrases tend to dominate the poem; the main theme of it becomes obscured. The core of the poem is not sufficiently apparent to satisfy the mind that the juxtaposition of all these 'jewels five words long' is valid. It is as if Mr. Prince had written a set of Enigma Variations which were not completely satisfying in themselves, for the ear continually hungers after the lost theme. But no one can read these poems without being conscious of the rare quality of the author's experience, and without being enriched by the harmonics of that chord to which he has been attuned.

U.F.

WHY THE CROSS? By Edward Leen, C.S.Sp. (Sheed & Ward; 7s. 6d.)

NOTRE SŒUR LA DOULEUR. By D. V. Fumet. (Editions du Seuil; 12 frs.)

Two meditations on the problem of pain. Fr. Leen's book will serve at once as spiritual reading for contemplative and

active folk and as an apologetic for the Christian philosophy of life. M. Fumet's will have a less wide but perhaps a deeper appeal. 'A cause de cette loi qui pleure, Yahweh n'abandonnera pas le lieu de la triste terre. Il y habitera justement à cause de la douleur, et dans la douleur, seule chose sainte qui soit encore, en dehors de l'empire du Ciel.'

K.H.

FAITH AND COMMON SENSE. By Canon J. P. Arendzen, D.D., Ph.D. (Burns Oates; 6s.)

THE SUNDAY EPISTLES SIMPLY EXPLAINED. By E. C. Messenger, Ph.D. (Burns Oates; 6s.)

Weekly sermons from *The Catholic Times* and *The Universe* respectively; each providing simple instructions on the epistle and gospel for each Sunday of the year. While Dr. Messenger undertakes the task of direct commentary on the epistles, Dr. Arendzen prefers to use epistle or gospel as a starting-point for consideration of practical problems of Christian living. It is good to have both these very useful and helpful series in volume form.

K.H.

'The Encyclicals of the Popes are written in a traditional and formal style, which is full of dignity but not conducive to easy reading. Also they treat of their subjects with a thoroughness such that considerable study is needed to extract the clear outlines of the message contained.' To obviate this very real and serious difficulty 'an attempt has been made to express the main outline of what the Pope teaches in language so simple that even the children in the top classes of elementary schools could read it with advantage.' These words preface an excellent paraphrase made of *Quadragesimo Anno* by The Grail—a paraphrase in semi-verse form reminiscent of Maurin's *Easy Essays*—under the title THIS IS JUSTICE. THIS IS MARRIAGE is a similar treatment of *Casti Connubii*. Judicious indentation would, we think, have relieved monotony to the eye and afforded further assistance to the mind, but we cannot be too grateful for these highly successful efforts to make accessible to all the main contents of these two great encyclicals (published by The Grail, 58 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1).

We deeply regret that in our review of Dom Gaspar Lefebvre's *Pour Comprendre la Messe* in our December issue, the esteemed author's name was rendered Dom Gasper Lefebure But we are consoled to learn that our reviewer's aspiration

for an English translation had already been anticipated by The Grail—and very well they have done it. Like the French original, the English edition, entitled HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE MASS, is published at St. Andrew's Abbey, near Bruges, Belgium.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- ANGELICUM (Rome): *Thomas de Vio Cardinalis Caietanus: Scripta Philosophica: Commentaria in De Anima Aristotelis*, ed. P. I. Cognelle, O.P. Vol. I, pp. ii, 72 (no price).
- BLOT (Paris): *Elementa Philosophiae*, F. X. Maquart. 2 vols. (n.p.)
- BURNS, OATES and WASHBOURNE: *Old Catholic Lancashire*, Dom. F. O. Blundell, O.S.B., Vol. II, illus. (bs.); *The Rosary*, G. Bernoville, tr. Mary Russell, illus. R. de Sousa (2s. 6d.); *A Sermon on the Incarnation*, Francis Woodlock, S.J. (6d.); *Mass and the Interior Life*, Dom I. Ryelandt, tr. Dom Matthew Dillon; *Lives of the Saints*, Alban Butler, ed. Herbert Thurston and Donald Attwater, Vol. XII, December (7s. 6d.); *A Dictionary of the Saints (General Index to the 12 vols. of Butler's Lives)*, comp. Donald Attwater (9s.); *The Gospel of Jesus Christ*, Père M.-J. Lagrange, O.P., tr. The Fathers of the English Dominican Province (Vol. II) (10s. 6d.).
- CENTENARY PRESS: *Whom the Lord hath Redeemed*, Percy Maryon-Wilson (3s. 6d.).
- DESCLEE DE BROUWER (Paris-Bruges): *Constantin Leontieff*, Nicolas Berdiaeff, tr. Hélène Iswoisky (25 frs.).
- EDITIONS DU CERF (Paris): *Cathedra Petri, Etudes d'histoire ancienne de L'Eglise*, Pierre Batiffol (no price); *Actes de la Vie Chrétienne*, Jean de Saint-Samson (5 frs.); *Les Trois Ages de la Vie Intérieure, Prélude de Cécile du Ciel*, Reg. Garrigou-Lagrange, O.P. (25 frs.); *De la Communauté Populaire*, Jacques Leclercq (n.p.); *Les Martyrs d'Arcueil*, Marc-André Fabre (n.p.); *Notre Dame Auxiliatrice dans la Vie de Saint Jean Bosco*, Pierre Cras (10 frs.).
- HERDER (London): *Social Ideals of St. Francis*, Fr. James Meyer, O.F.M. (7s. 6d.).
- HODGE AND CO.: *Towards Freedom, A Survey of Fascism, Communism and Modern Democracy*, Sir Alexander MacEwen (5s.).
- KENNEDY & SONS (New York): *Staircase to a Star*, Paul Bussard (\$1.50).
- LONGMANS: *In Divers Manners*, R. H. J. Steuart, S.J. (5s.); *The Voice of the Church in China, A Collection of Documents*, Preface by Dom Pierre-Celestin Lou Tseng-Tsiang, O.S.B. (3s. 6d.).
- NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY (Indiana, U.S.A.): *Petri Pictaviensis Allegoriae super Tabernaculum Moysi (Mediaeval Studies)*, Philip S. Moore and James A. Corbett (n.p.).
- OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS: *Taliesin Through Logres*, Charles Williams (6s.).
- PALADIN PRESS: *Communism and Christians*, Francis Mauriac, Père Ducatillon, Denis de Rougemont, Nicolas Berdiaev, Daniel-Rops, Alexandre Marc, tr. J. F. Scanlon (7s. 6d.).
- PRESERVATION OF THE FAITH (Silver Springs, Maryland): *From Union Square to Rome*, Dorothy Day (\$1.50).