



FRIARS' BOOKSHELF



God: His Existence and His Nature. Vol. I. By R. Garrigou-Lagrange, O.P., S.T.M. Translated from the Fifth French Edition by Bede Rose, O.S.B., D.D. xv-392 pp. B. Herder Book Co., St. Louis, Mo. \$3.00.

Sincere gratitude is due Dom Bede Rose for making available to English readers this brilliant work of the renowned Thomist. The translation is as smooth and accurate as one could hope for and merits praise for its attempts to render into readable English difficult philosophical terminology and Latin Scholastic idioms. However, the abstract character of the work even in the original French presupposes that the reader has, at least, an acquaintance with philosophical problems.

A preliminary section sets forth the teaching of the Catholic Church concerning God's existence and nature, and the knowledge which we can have of Him by means of the natural light of reason. *Atheism, Pantheism, Positivism, Kantian Criticism, Ontologism, Fideism and Traditionalism* are all condemned. The nature and quality of demonstrability and objections against it are then investigated. *Empiricism and Agnosticism* are traced back to *Sensualistic Nominalism*. The ontological validity of first ideas and first principles is upheld. This latter section is an application of the author's Thomistic doctrine as exposed in *Le Sens Commun et la Philosophie de l'Etre* where it is shown "that common sense or natural reason is a rudimentary philosophy of being, opposed to the philosophy of the phenomenon and to that of becoming. . . ." The necessity of first principles, their dependence upon the first principle and their ontological and transcendent validity is profoundly treated. "It will be seen that the proofs for God's existence rest ultimately upon the principle of identity or non-contradiction, their proximate basis being the principle of sufficient reason, and their immediate basis the principle of causality. Each of the proofs will establish clearly the fact that the principle of identity, which is the supreme law of thought, must be at the same time the supreme law of reality; that the reality which is fundamental must be absolutely identical with itself; that it must

be to "Being" as A is to A, the self-subsisting Being; consequently, it must be essentially distinct from the world, which on its part is essentially composite and subject to change. Hence the alternative: either the true God or radical absurdity." (Pref. to First Edition)

The five main proofs are then proposed and critically analyzed. The proof from motion is given extensive treatment with special reference to old and new scientific theories. No serious student of philosophy who is inclined to discard or ridicule the force of this argument can conscientiously slight this masterful, thorough, profound and beautiful exposition. Numerous and important discussions on such influential moderns as Descartes, Newton, Hume, Kant, Spencer, Mill, Boutroux, Lachelier, Janet Spinoza and Hegel attest the competency of the author in his evaluation of modern philosophy in the light of Thomistic principles. A more forceful book for combatting the Agnosticism and Atheism of the last three hundred years is hardly available in English. One hopes that this work together with the next volume will help to build again on a solid Thomistic basis what Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* has so tragically and needlessly demolished.

J.C.D.

Milton. By Hilaire Belloc. 312 pp. Lippincott, Philadelphia. \$4.00.

We should always judge a man by the best that he has done. Hilaire Belloc has this in mind when he writes about John Milton. Any praise is puny, he admits, when its subject is the immortal *Paradise Lost*, the triumphant *Samson Agonistes*, or others of Milton's sonnets and poems. But Belloc also seems to take a particular delight in holding up for inspection some of Milton's poor lines, of which there are not a few. *Paradise Regained* is "bad." In all this he is seeking to give us a true appreciation of the poet for our own enjoyment of beauty as well as for an understanding of the England that came after him. Milton was a moving force in shaping the literature and policies of his country. Since it was his verse which had such a marked influence, it is his verse which chiefly concerns Belloc. Incidents in the poet's life are considered only in so far as they "affect his character and, above all, his Muse."

This absorbing book is written in the familiar Bellocian style and contains the many usual pointed reflections and asides, which, together with Belloc's intimate knowledge of the poet and his historical background, make it an important study of Milton. Its reading will be enjoyable for old friends of the poet and for others, too; and for the latter incentive, perhaps, to know him better. H.M.G.

The Essence of Plato's Philosophy. By Constantin Ritter. 413 pp. 1933. The Dial Press, New York. \$3.50.

This book is the fruit of reverent scholarship and the résumé of more comprehensive publications. It summarizes the author's previous studies and reveals the fine grasp of Plato's philosophy that the author possesses. His attitude toward Plato is well expressed in the final paragraph of his work. "In this I tried briefly to characterize Plato's meaning for all time. To me, he is a philosopher second to none; an artist of the first rank; a man favoured by God as few others have been; unforgettable for all time; releasing spiritual powers which have been a blessing to many and which will continue to be a blessing for all time." (p. 390)

The book is divided into two sections: the first considers the dialogues of Plato's youth and early manhood, up to 367; the second treats of the later dialogues. The most careful treatment is accorded the ontology and epistemology of Plato.

Professor Ritter maintains that the traditional concept of Plato's epistemology is false. Aristotle misinterpreted the doctrine of his master and the line of commentators and philosophers who followed him have perpetuated the misinterpretation. He claims that Plato employed mythological language in describing his Ideas. In fact, Plato was trying to emphasize the objective reality that corresponded to our ideas. His arguments against subjectivism are still valuable. Professor Ritter comes very close to St. Augustine's interpretation of Plato. "Even though we cannot demonstrate their spacial existence, these Ideas depend on the physical and psychical powers which exist in the universe." (p. 223) Unfortunately, the Professor thinks that he has disposed of the objection that the Ideas have separate existence, when he shows that we need not conceive them as being in space. The only way out for him is to place them in the mind of God.

Whether his interpretation will stand the test of expert scholars, we cannot say. Apart from this point, his work is an excellent exposition of Platonic philosophy. The final chapters give a synthetic view of Plato's teaching on Logic, Natural and Practical Philosophy, the Philosophy of Art, and Plato's thoughts concerning God.

J.M.E.

On Being Human. By Gerald Vann, O.P. 109 pp. Sheed & Ward, New York. \$1.00.

This small but enlightening treatise is the twelfth in the series *Essays in Order*. Its theme, Christian Humanism, is treated in contrast to Puritanism and Exaggerated-Humanism. Having assigned

the causes for the decay of Scholasticism, Father Vann proceeds to reconcile the tenets of the real Scholasticism with those of the Humanism. His conclusion, the only one to be reached, is that Scholasticism is more human than Humanism. His deductions are based upon the doctrine of the Church and the principles of Thomism.

Puritanism is the negation of humanity in that it attempts to suppress all bodily reaction. Non-Christian Humanism does violence to nature in an exaggerated cultivation of the senses to the exclusion of the supernatural. Christian Humanism infuses into humanist ideal the concept of the supernatural, for all creation mirrors the beauty and goodness of God. It is an harmonious development of the natural faculties with a view to supernatural perfection in a life to come.

Creatures are intrinsically good, hence desirable in themselves. To conceive of them as mere utilities is to countenance Hedonism. Human love, expressing itself in the desire to give and to possess, even though the traffic be in things of trifling value, is a natural right. To condemn it is to condemn the work of the Creator and to deify it is to give it a perfection which it was never meant to possess. Life is of absolute value, with its final perfection in the vision of God. Hence Puritanism and Exaggerated humanism are perversions by defect and excess of Christian Humanism.

Father Vann has said much in few words. Special commendation is due him for his clarity in the use of scholastic expressions. Latin quotations have been graciously translated. It would have been well had he favored his readers with the same consideration in the excerpts from the French. Withal, his work is a welcome contribution to the work of popularizing Thomistic doctrine and the Catholic outlook upon Humanism. For if Humanism is "the effort to enrich human experience to its utmost capacity" only the Catholic can rightly be called a humanist.

A.M.V.

Chaucer's Hymn to the Blessed Virgin. Done in Modern English by Anselm M. Townsend, O.P. 50 pp. The Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. \$1.00.

In any study of the foundation of our language the principal credit must always go to Chaucer. He was the great pioneer. His famous work, the *Canterbury Tales*, is well known to every student of early English literature. That work, however, was epic in its scope. The present little work, containing what is believed to be the earliest surviving specimen of Chaucer's poetic genius, is but one of many examples of the devotion to the Mother of God in early England. The picture forms a sad contrast to the vision of the England

of later days. The poem was written at the request of a noble English lady as a prayer for her private use. "Its object, then, is to promote devotion to the Blessed Virgin and we do wrong merely to consider it as a poem." (p. 9) Father Townsend fosters the fond hope that the present version will serve the same high purpose for his modern readers.

The opening stanza is highly reminiscent of the *Memorare* that famous prayer of St. Bernard who seems never to have tired sounding the praises of Mary. Towards the end of the poem another favorite theme of the great doctor comes to light. It is (as Father Townsend remarks in a footnote) that most common and thoroughly pleasing teaching of theologians, namely, that all graces come to us through Mary.

Dedicating his little volume to that peer of present-day masters of the English tongue, G. K. Chesterton, Father Townsend gives us a thoroughly enjoyable version of this bit of early English. As far as possible he clings closely to the original. The reverend editor has supplied footnotes explaining difficult or obsolete words. The book concludes with a copy of the old English of Chaucer, the text of Professor Robinson of Harvard, which is indeed very useful for a comparative study of the two versions.

J.B.S.

The Emperor Charles IV. By Bede Jarrett, O.P., M.A. xxi-247 pp. Sheed and Ward Inc., New York. 1935. \$3.00.

In the death of Bede Jarrett the English speaking world not only lost an eloquent preacher, a literary artist and a saintly Dominican but also an able historian. Those who knew him well and were cognizant of his many activities were astonished by the fact that he could find time to spend on historical studies. He was interested most of all in medieval history and he was able to catch a great deal of the spirit of those distant times which, to the average modern historian are still a cause of bewilderment. After Father Jarrett's death a manuscript that he had been working on was found. This has been revised and published,—a last offering to his many admiring readers in England and America.

The manuscript he left was a life of Charles the Fourth, king of Bohemia from 1347 to 1378 and emperor of the Holy Roman Empire from 1349 to 1378. It is rather a description of Charles, his times and his government than the usual categorical exposition of his activities. Due to misrepresentation, especially by German authors, Charles has been underestimated and perhaps not a little maligned. His times, too, are generally misunderstood and unappreciated, but

they were the beginnings of a new era of history and in them were sown the seeds of nationalism and modern Europe. Serious papal difficulties, such as the crisis of the papal captivity at Avignon and the Great Western Schism, added to the general confusion of a dis-united and unwieldy conglomeration of states and dukedoms which made up the empire. It is Father Jarrett's opinion that Charles acquitted himself creditably.

Undoubtedly Father Jarrett would rather have done the revision of his book himself. Yet in spite of all that may be offered against it, its comprehension of the situation of Europe in the fourteenth century, its estimation of the value of the efforts made to improve society and its sensible recognition of the mistakes and faults of the leaders of the people give this single volume of history no mean worth. Indeed no one interested in fourteenth century history can afford to overlook this contribution to the literature on that period.

C.M.F.

My Old World. By Ernest Dimnet. 280 pp. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$2.50.

Abbé Dimnet's latest book is not intended to be an autobiography. Instead it is a most delightful volume of memoirs. He writes of his "old world" of childhood and youth, of that period when one is "less conscious of reacting upon his surroundings than of being nurtured by them." His purpose in writing is to help the reader "while going through this everyday story of plain development, to re-enter the world of his own dormant past."

My Old World introduces the readers to the brilliant and genial Abbé Dimnet himself. It is the story of his life as a student; as a teacher in the school of St. Jean at Douai, the University of Lille and at the famous Collège Stanislaus in Paris. By his vivid pen portraits the Abbé makes us know and love the three aunts among whom he made his childhood home, the great poet and scholar, Angellier, and a host of others. The reader is made to understand how Abbé Dimnet, while essentially a Frenchman, came to write in English and to establish himself as an English stylist. "*My Old World*" is the first personal book Abbé Dimnet has written and will be warmly welcomed by his American followers for its narrative, its descriptions and its portraits.

B.B.

The Sceptical Approach to Religion. By Paul Elmer More. 201 pp. Vol. II of the New Shelburne Essays. Princeton University Press. Princeton, New Jersey. \$2.00.

Paul Elmer More, having won recognition as an outstanding exponent of the Humanistic Movement in America, presents us with

another learned group of essays which were originally written to be presented as lectures. Again Professor More gives his deep and sincere philosophical conclusions in a brilliant style understandable to all.

Especially fine are the essays which give a brief summation of the doctrines of Socrates and Plato. He points out with dexterity the teleological scheme in the non-Christian Plato. The *Telos of Christianity* deserves to be called beautiful in treatment.

The first essay, *Rationalism and Faith* has many points against which can be brought strong objections. The sceptical approach or rational approach, as we see it, stresses too much the ability of the human intellect to treat with matters of faith. We grant that natural religion can most certainly be attained through this method of approach, but for supernatural religion, to which man is ordained, the sceptical approach can only give credibility not credence. This distinction between the natural and the supernatural is not sufficiently made in this book.

M.M.M.

Education of the Founding Fathers of the Republic. By Dr. James J. Walsh. xii-376 pp. Fordham University Press, New York. \$3.50.

Dr. Walsh while studying early New England printing came upon many of the old theses sheets printed in Latin and distributed on Commencement Day at our early American colleges. Fortunately he noticed a striking similarity between the propositions contained in these sheets and those he had defended while a young man at Fordham College. Further study of the broadsheets led him to the conclusion that the principal subject taught at our colonial colleges, philosophy, both in content and method was definitely scholastic.

He presents as evidence of this fact propositions defended in public disputations and the order of studies in American colleges of the eighteenth century. In all branches of philosophy we have theses which show very clearly their medieval origin. The scholastic doctrine of matter and form, the exposition of the principles of causality and finality, the defense of the freedom of the will and of Divine Providence, all of these were important in the training of the men who later gave us our Declaration of Independence, our constitutions and our laws.

Of course not all the theses presented to the student were as purely scholastic in character as those given above. Many propositions in Ethics, for example, were not entirely in accord with Catholic teaching.

The author proves quite satisfactorily that it was the medieval method and largely the study of medieval subjects which formed the minds of the founders of our republic. J.T.F.

Things To Live For. By Francis Stuart. Macmillan, N. Y. 278 pp. \$2.50.

In this book, a series of essays with a biographical trend, Francis Stuart, one of the most successful of the younger writers, gives his philosophy of life and does his best to impart the impression that the inane mysticism of his novels (*Pigeon Irish*, *The Coloured Dome*) was not an assumed pose, but is really part of his makeup. I was left a bit bemused by *Pigeon Irish*, but I carried away with me the faint impression that its writer was a poseur. The impression was heightened by *The Coloured Dome*. *Things to Live For* has given me conviction. I realize that the weight of critical opinion, American at least, is quite against any such view of Francis Stuart. American critics go into ecstasy at the mere mention of Stuart's name. His mysticism overwhelms them. According to Stuart, mystical experience can be obtained in two ways: in total surrender to life or in total surrender to God. For him ecstasy may be had equally in fornication or contemplation. Stuart is Irish and he writes about Ireland and the Irish but his morbid mysticism and his entire outlook is decidedly un-Irish. His philosophy and style is an imitation, possibly forced, of the Russian novelist Dostoevsky. It goes fine with a Russian setting but is decidedly out of place against an Irish background.

There are in the book occasional flashes of brilliant description, a number of passages of brilliant writing. You may (if you are not Irish) find it good entertainment. R.M.C.

The Works of William Shakespeare. Printed for the Shakespeare Head Press and Published by Oxford University Press, New York. x-1263. \$3.00. 1934.

This handsome new edition of the complete works of Shakespeare deserves only the highest praise. It boasts a clear, comfortably large type, a blessing too infrequently found in many volumes of this sort. Printed in this type is the excellent text prepared by A. H. Bullen, a recognized authority in the field of Elizabethan research. The names of the characters are inserted fully written out, above each speech, a provision that greatly facilitates reading. This book was printed generously, that is, with a very modicum of distracting attempts to save space at the ends of the lines. A still further recommendation

lies in the arrangement of the plays in the order of their chronological composition. This is indeed a difficult task and has given rise to many a lively dispute, but the arrangement in this volume represents for the most part, the consensus of expert opinion today. By an intelligent use of this arrangement the discerning reader can note and appreciate the gradual unfolding of Shakespeare's genius,—for genius he was, "not of an age, but for all time,"—as his friend Ben Jonson said of him.

There are other incidentals calculated to give satisfaction to the most exacting readers. For instance, at the head of each column of the plays there is an unobtrusive, numerical reference to the act, scenes and lines contained in it, its evident purpose being to counteract the treachery of man's memory and help him dig his way quickly to the treasured gems of the Master Bard. Following on the poems of Shakespeare comes the capable Glossary. Those who find deep pleasure in the immortal Comedies, Histories and Tragedies of Will Shakespeare will welcome this new volume.

T.A.M.

John England—Bishop of Charleston. By Joseph L. O'Brien, M.A.; S.T.D. 220 pp. The Edward O'Toole Co., New York.

No book on a Catholic subject could be more interesting or more welcome to the faithful of the South. Bishop England, although almost a century has passed since the time of his labors, is still considered by the American Hierarchy as one of its ablest apostles, one of its saintliest Bishops, and one of its greatest Churchmen.

It was the Hawley controversy that brought out John England in the role that he was to play in a striking manner throughout his life. He was preeminently the apostle to Democracy. No man ever lived who loved America and her free institutions better than he. He foresaw the decay of European civilization rooted as it was in national jealousies and hatreds. He saw in the Young Republic of the West the Morning Star of hope for new and better ages. He saw the Church rising to greater glory untrammelled by the bitter nationalisms of Europe, each trying to identify the Church with its own aggrandizement. He realized that the framers of our Constitution had builded better than they knew when they decreed: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or the prohibiting of the free exercise thereof."

Dr. O'Brien popularizes the foremost ecclesiastic in the

United States from 1820 to 1842 depicting the sturdy, patriotic love for America which pervaded John England's whole life in the Southland. He uses as sources the pages of the United States Catholic Miscellany. Imbued as he is with the spirit of the founder of his diocese, the author gives us in his well written book an intimate biography of a Bishop who will remain the pride of American Catholic Churchmen and Statesmen.

J.J.M.

From Green Hills of Galilee. By Cathal O'Byrne. New York. P. J. Kenedy & Sons. 151 pp. \$1.65.

This book has been chosen as the book of the month by several literary societies. It is an attempt to elaborate our scanty knowledge of the little known figures of the New Testament, and the effect their contact with Christ wrought in their lives. There is very little known about these people from the viewpoint of accurate history. However, the author has drawn heavily upon his imagination to fill in the lacunae. There are stories of Mary Magdalen, of Simon the Cyrenian, of the Syro-phenician woman and many others. Variouslly acclaimed as a "prose-poem," *From Green Hills of Galilee* is better described as a collection of pious and devotional stories, which will be welcomed or shunned according to each reader's personal standards of judgment.

P.H.

The Word Incarnate. A Harmony of the Gospels. By Most Rev. Alban Goodier, S.J. xvii-370 pp. P. J. Kenedy and Sons, New York. \$1.75.

Archbishop Goodier has espoused the cause of the Bible and has already done much to make it better known and loved. Having himself a deep appreciation of this Holy Book, he is anxious that others, too, should esteem it.

This latest volume from the pen of the eminent churchman and scripture scholar is divided into four parts. It treats respectively of the private life, the public ministry, the passion and the resurrection of Christ. Parallel passages are taken from two or more of the evangelists and from these a harmony is made. Certain events in the life of Christ, recorded by only one of the sacred writers, are given for the sake of completeness. Like every scholarly work, the book contains a valuable index. The work will be a welcome addition to the libraries of both special students and casual readers of the Sacred Scriptures.

L.M.O.

I Speak for the Silent. By Vladimir Tchernavin. Hale, Cushman and Flint, Boston. \$2.50.

Judging from the title and lurid dust cover of this book, one would expect to find within its covers a horror story of Soviet persecution. But the book by no means lives up to the impression made by its flamboyant externals. M. Tchernavin is a scientist, an ichthyologist and he spends a good portion of the book expounding the finer points of ichthyology and lamenting the difficulties met with by an honest, hard-working ichthyologist under the stupid five year plan. To be sure there are some horror stories but the author gives the impression that he is telling them between yawns and the reader may find it rather difficult not to yawn with him. Professor Tchernavin is not a skilled writer. If he were, he could have made this tale of real life in Soviet prison camps one of the most gripping in years. The point that looms largest in the book's favor is its unconscious humor. Professor Tchernavin's account of his dealings with the awful O.G.P.U., the sinister secret police of the Soviets, is truly comical. One receives the impression that this terrible organization is composed of farcical custard-pie policemen, the ridiculous "cops" of the Keystone Comedies. But the note of humor is lost now and again as the reader is brought to the realization of the arbitrary and unlimited power over life and death exercised by these comedy "cops."

I Speak for the Silent is an earnest book but one not too skillfully written.

R.M.C.

DIGEST OF RECENT BOOKS

THEOLOGY: Spirit of Catholicism. For anyone who has not yet had the pleasure of accompanying Karl Adam in his examination into the motive power of Catholicism, we heartily recommend this revised edition of *The Spirit of Catholicism* in its new and more pleasing format. This work has had a profound influence both within and especially without the Church. (The Macmillan Co. \$1.00.)

Means of Grace by Rev. Leon A. McNeill and Mandelein Aaron. This book is a course of instructions on the Sacraments, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Sacramentals and Prayers in the light of the doctrine of the Mystical Body of Christ. It is principally intended for teachers; they will find it an invaluable aid for the clear presentation of the doctrine on grace. (St. Anthony's Guild Press, Paterson, New Jersey. No price was listed with the book.)

SCRIPTURE: Concerning The Bible by Conrad Skinner, M.A. The author has taken upon himself the difficult task of giving a complete survey of the Bible. He treats of its origin, preservation and the various

changes which it has undergone down through the centuries. The book is predominantly Protestant in thought and in very few instances does it give the Catholic Church credit for her indisputable place in the history of the Bible. (Abingdon Press, New York, \$1.50.)

DEVOTIONAL: The exquisite illustrations in **When We Say "OUR FATHER,"** are by the noted religious painter, C. Bosseron Chambers. The text is by Florence M. Hornback. The book would be a very appropriate gift to a child because of its simplicity of language and beauty of illustration. From this book a child could soon learn some of the sublime thoughts concealed in the Lord's Prayer. (Published by Saint Anthony's Guild, Paterson, N.J. Price, \$1.50.)

When we say: "HAIL MARY," is a companion volume to the book, "When We say: "OUR FATHER." Some of Chambers' best work is used as illustrations. The printing, illustrations, binding, etc., make it a genuine work of art. (Published by Saint Anthony's Guild, Paterson, N.J. Price, \$1.50.)

Sermons For Lent by Rev. John F. Burns, O.S.A. The subject-matter treated so clearly in seven sermons need not be restricted to use during Lent, but can be used to advantage at any time during the year. Penance, Worship of God, Preparation for Death are a few of the subjects treated. (The Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$0.75).

LITERATURE: The Reader's Browning is a book that will appeal to the novice and to the initiated. It contains a selection of Browning's best poems from *Pippa Passes* to *The Ring and the Book*. It is edited by Walter Graham and contains an introduction, bibliography and notes. The binding is neat and handy. It is worth having on hand when the complete works are unavailable or undesirable. (American Book Co., New York).

FICTION: The Abbey of Evolayne by Paule Regnier. This book, Goncourt prize winner, is a religious romance whose chief fault is that it contains too much sentimental religion and not enough romance. It is a well-executed work and had Mlle. Regnier portrayed her hero, Michael, as finely as she did his wife, Adelaide, and had she been less a sentimentalist in religion she might have produced a truly great book. (Harcourt Brace and Co. \$2.00)

The Pope From The Ghetto by Gertrude Von Le Fort. This book is an excellent piece of historical fiction. The story is related in an unusual style, that of the medieval chronicle. The book contains many interesting features of 12th century Rome, the struggle between the Papacy and the Empire, the power of the Frangipani, life in the Ghetto and the lives of the Popes of that period. (Sheed and Ward Inc., N. Y. \$2.50).

Girl of the Riverland by Stephen Morris is a splendidly written novel, full of interest. The author's ability to introduce a variety of characters each playing an important part in the plot should give this novel a special rating. (Benziger Brothers, New York \$1.50).

FOREIGN: La Vierge Marie is a book of complete extracts compiled by Abbé Chapeau, Canon of Blois, from the printed works of Père Monsabré, O.P. This book is well-ordered in its three divisions: the Grandeur of Mary, the prayer to the Virgin (the Rosary) and the universal devotion to Our Lady. The author has succeeded in producing in print the fiery eloquence and learning of Monsabré, preacher at Notre Dame fifty years ago. L. Lethielleux, 10, rue Cassette, Paris (VIe) 12frs.

Praelectiones Biblicae ad usum scholarum, by the Rev. Hadrian Simon C. SS. R., S.S.L., is a work of extensive research and scholarship present-

ing an exposition of the history of the Old Testament. (Casa Editrice Marietti, Via Legnano, 23-Torino (118). L. 30.

Ius Religiosorum. This compendium treating of the law of religious, was written for beginners in the religious life. After the publication of the Code many works have been written on this subject, but none has been as useful for youthful religious as this present volume. Thanks are due Gerster a Zeil O.M. Cap., S.T.Lr., for his splendid work. (Casa Editrice Marietti, Via Legnano, 23-Torino (118) L. 15.

Theologia Specialis Vol. II. (A Loiano O.M. Cap., S.T.Lr.) This book is divided into three sections: the first part deals with the Theological Virtues, the second with the precepts of the Decalogue, and the third with certain precepts of the Church. The chief merit of this work is the practical manner in which the doctrine is treated. (Casa Editrice Marietti, Via Legnano, 23-Torino (118) L. 25.)

Jesus in Ore Prophetarum. (Gerster a Zeil O.M. Cap., S.T.Lr.) Catholic apologists have proved the Divinity of Our Lord from the prophecies of the Old Testament. The author in his present work gathers these prophecies together in the first part of the book and in the latter section he shows their fulfilment. (Casa Editrice Marietti, Via Legnano, 23-Torino (118) L. 8.

Circulus philosophicus seu objectionum cumolata collectio iuxta methodum scholasticam. Vol. I. Logica, by Carbone professor of Sacred Theology and Eloquence. This book is of great importance to seminarians beginning their philosophical and theological studies. The author has expended considerable effort in gathering objections from the works of St. Thomas and others worthy of reproduction. (Casa Editrice Marietti, Via Legnano, 23-Torino (118) L. 15.

PAMPHLETS: From The Bishop England High School, 203 Calhoun St., Charleston, S. C. A worthy and instructive pamphlet series called the Bishop England High School Series has been started by the Rev. Joseph L. O'Brien, S.T.D., founder and rector of the Bishop England High School, Charleston, S. C. Six have already been published; others are to follow. 1) **John England A Man Of God**, is a resumé of Dr. O'Brien's book, **John England—Bishop of Charleston**. From it emerges a vigorous picture of the greatest apologist the United States has known. 2) **The Protestant—Episcopal—Catholic Church**—a treatise showing the precise difference between the Roman Catholic faith and that of the Episcopal church. 3) **The Unknown God**—a consideration of the true God. 4) **Dr. Martin Luther and The Bible-Bubble** gives valuable information on the sixteenth century reformer. 5 and 6) **What is the Church?** and **The Catholic Church** present such practical truths as Infallibility, Catholicity, Apostolicity.

From Our Sunday Visitor Press, Huntington, Indiana. (\$0.10 each). **The One and Only Church** is a series of four radio talks by the Rev. Edward M. Betowski printed for converts to the Catholic faith. **Words of Encouragement** by the Very Rev. John E. Mullet, V.F., is a wise and practical appeal to careless Catholics. The following by the Rev. John A. O'Brien, Ph.D., **Intellectuals Turn to Rome: Why?**, briefly tells the dramatic stories of G. K. Chesterton and Arnold Lunn. **Does The Universe Dwarf Man?** relates the bearing of modern astronomy upon the Christian faith. **The Church and Temperance**—a timely presentation on the urgent need for temperance and the teaching of the church on the same. **The New Knowledge and the Old Faith**—an account of the bearing of modern science upon Christianity. **Through Purgatory** by Marie E. Kolz tells of an imaginary journey through purgatory and sets forth the effects our prayers have on the souls there. **Truly Emmanuel** by the Rev. Wm. F. Hendrix, S.J., is a story of the days of Christ recommended for Bible history classes.

From *The Queen's Work*, 3742 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. (\$0.10). **What of Lawful Birth Control?** is distinctive in its exposition of the Church's doctrine on lawful birth control. **A Successful Failure** is a story of a poor yet godly workman. Both are by Daniel A. Lord, S.J. **Our Precious Bodies**, by Richard A. Welfe, S.J., contains convincing arguments in support of the Church's stand on cremation.

It's the Greatest Gift, by H. O'H. Walker, S.J., helps us to understand more clearly that the Mass is truly man's greatest gift from God.

BOOKS RECEIVED: From Samuel French, Inc., New York: **Post Road**, by Wilbur Daniel Steele and Norma Mitchell; **Small Miracle**, by Norman Krasna; **The Sailors of Cattaro**, by Friedrich Wolf (each \$1.50); **Cyrano De Bergerac**, by Erna Kruckemeyer; **Mr. Faithful**, by Lord Dunsany; **Invitation to a Murder**, by Rufus King; **Meteor**, by S. N. Berhman (each \$0.75); **I Object, Your Honor**, by Peter Donchian; **Madame Butterfly**, by David Belasco; **The Spider and the Fly**, by Charles George; **The Jinx**, by Wilbur Braun; **Without Benefit of Relatives**, by Boyce Loving; **And Let Who Will Be Clever**, by Alden Nash; **Valentine and the Gargoyle**, by Elizabeth McCormick; **Great Patriots' Days**, by Nina B. Lamkin (each \$0.50); **Milestones of Modes and Melodies**, by Irene Jean Crandall; **Gory George**, by Race Kent; **Wits' End**, by Wall Spence; **Minstrel Maids and Men**, by Preston Powell; **The Christmas Rose**, by Essex Dane; **No Retreat**, by the students and teachers of the University High School, Ann Arbor, Michigan (each \$0.35); **Little Black Hands**, by Ray E. Hurd; **Woman's Might**, by Jude Storm; **Twins**, by Helen Welshimer (each \$0.30). **The Alpha Individual Arithmetics**. Book Eight Part II, (Ginn & Company, \$0.48); **Vita Christi**, Vol. IV, by Mother St. Paul. (Longmans, Green & Co., New York, \$1.20); **Laughing Prelude**, by Isabel C. Clark. (Longmans, Green & Co., \$2.50); **The Story of a Mother**, by Rev. Thomas David Williams. (Benziger Bros., New York, \$1.50); **Values and Reality**, by Leo Ward, C.S.C. (Sheed & Ward, N.Y., \$3.00); **Girl of the Riverland**, by Stephen Morris. (Benziger Brothers, N. Y., \$1.50).