



Romewards. By C. J. Eustace. xvi-329 pp. Benziger Brothers, New York.
\$2.25.

Romewards (an unhappy title for such a work) aligns the teaching and philosophy of the world with that of the Catholic Church, and points out that "the truths which the Catholic Church enshrines are not outworn or unpractical but are the well-springs of true modern thought." The author evidences a keen appreciation of the value of Thomistic philosophy coupled with an analysis of faulty modern thinking. His treatment of comparative science in the light of Thomistic philosophy is a step in the right direction and ought to urge others to action in this field lest history repeat itself and Catholic Philosophers allow a barrier to be built between modern scientific advances and their philosophy as was so effectively done in the past when scholastic philosophers, confident in their self-sufficiency, disregarded the scientific theories of their time with the consequent desuetude and loss of prestige of true scholastic philosophy. St. Thomas himself had acknowledged the possible advent of theories which would subvert certain Aristotelian theories, particularly in astronomy, when he said: "Our suppositions are not necessarily true . . . for perchance other theories not yet known to man may yet come to light," but some of his followers had to be so unreasonable as to be more Thomistic than Thomas himself.

When one considers the mass of informative data that the author has compiled it will not seem strange that a few inaccuracies have crept in here and there. One can hardly excuse, however, such a joining of hands with the heretic Nestorius as is found on page 186 wherein the Incarnation is described as "God linked to human personality." Again the necessity of the Incarnation is made to appear as something absolute rather than relative. Inaccuracy in terminology is a constant fault throughout the book. In his excellent treatment of the *Summa Theologica*, Mr. Eustace inadvertently changes the order, placing the contents of the third part as immediately following Thomas' treatment of the nature and attributes of God. On page 208 he fails to distinguish between the *right* and the

use of private property. A more serious error is to be found on page 210 for there the writer acquiesces in the view of Pascal saying that "faith in God is not in the reason but in the heart." Modern scoffers of religion would approve of such a statement for they claim that religion and faith are not a matter of the mind but merely of the emotions.

These and similar inaccuracies may be attributed to haste and not to the true thought of the writer, for, for example, a hundred pages after making his error on the Incarnation he gives a clear account of the Nestorian heresy and its condemnation by the Council of Ephesus. In conclusion we strongly recommend *Romewards* to all who have earnestly desired a comprehensive presentation of subjects with which the student of today must be in constant touch.

J. R. S.

Joseph Smith. By John H. Evans. viii, 447 pp. The Macmillan Co., New York. \$4.00.

Mr. Evans has attempted to give the general reader a true picture of Joseph Smith and to gather into some sort of form the "prophet's" religious scheme. He fails in both. The Joseph Smith of the book is a Joseph Smith about whom all has not been told. The writer is evidently a Mormon and so one can understand his desire to present Smith in the best possible light; but when he omits much that would clearly define the man he falls short of true biography. Nothing that may darken the picture is told; wherever inevitable circumstance forces the telling of something derogatory, it is related in such a way that Smith is always in the right. Undoubtedly Smith was murdered and Mr. Evans gives a fine tale about it, but he is too hurried in telling of the events that led up to the shooting. Men need at least a pretext for murder. To bolster up his statements regarding Smith, Mr. Evans often quotes contemporaries of the "prophet" but only in so far as they support him. For instance, he mentions the praise of Josiah Quincy, yet he neglects to report what the Boston mayor had to say of Smith's vulgarism and his absurdity in showing off Egyptian mummies and Moses' autograph. So far as his purpose is to give the reader a true picture of Smith, Mr. Evans fails.

He likewise fails in giving philosophic form to Smith's religious scheme. A simple exposition of Mormon doctrine would have made the book fair, but the defense Mr. Evans essays lands the whole thing in a muddle. The author is evidently ignorant of the great theological Summas of the thirteenth century, of the history of philosophy, of Patristic theology and scriptural exegesis. The Book of

Mormon may be a great work, but to claim it as "the most complete, cohesive and satisfying, not only in American thought, but in the thought of the world" is absurd. Speaking of miracles Mr. Evans loses all logic. "It was our ignorance of the laws involved in the miraculous that made it a miracle." Yet miracles, stripped of the supernatural element, are offered as proofs of the divine sanction of Mormonism. The author would probably disavow polytheism, yet "the three Persons in the godhead are as separate and distinct in their individualities as any three persons in the flesh; their unity, like the unity of any three mortals consisted of an agreement of minds." "Joseph Smith's 'godhead' was a real triune. It comprised three distinct Entities." The book fairly bulges with like statements from subjects like metempsychosis to eschatology and in them all Mr. Evans bungles the whole affair. He misstates Catholic doctrine; the Virgin Birth and the Immaculate Conception are confused; he has the Church sending unbaptized children to hell; "the Roman Catholics taught that a man is saved through 'works' and by works they meant not what we now understand by the term, but whatever the church requires one to do." "The Catholic was not supposed to read, to study things in religion out for himself." Ignorance of Catholic doctrine can be understood, even violent hate; but when a man sets forth what he calls Catholic doctrine he should be certain that it really is what he says it is. There is absolutely no excuse for the ignorance of Mr. Evans in his blunders on Catholic teaching; there are too many books on the subject easily had and understood.

R. D. R.

The Modern Dilemma. By Christopher Dawson. 113 pp. New York: Sheed & Ward. \$1.00.

Will Europe and Western civilization return to the old traditions of Christianity, Democracy and Science, "and apply them anew to the needs of the present situation? Or must we abandon them in whole or in part, and look elsewhere for new ideals and new gods to take their place?" This is the "Modern Dilemma."

Striking deeply into the major fields of thought, Christopher Dawson selects, defines and characterizes the fundamental forces that have been the life of Modern Progress. He analyzes and exposes the unifying and vitalizing principles of these forces. Refusing to speculate upon which "horn" of the dilemma the world will ultimately cast itself, he leaves no doubt in your mind where European unity and the salvation of Western Civilization hang.

Clear expression and the total absence of scholarly digression have made this work one of the finest comprehensive outline studies of the present world crisis. Reading this, you will "understand what is the nature of the spiritual traditions that have made Europe (and Western Civilization) what it is, what are the principles, which have governed its past development, and what are the ideals that it must preserve if it is to be true to itself and to retain its spiritual vitality."

S. N.

The Family. A Study of Member Roles. By Katharine DuPre Lumpkin. xix-184 pp. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press. \$2.00.

Machine Age in the Hills. By Malcolm Ross. x-248 pp. New York: The Macmillan Co. \$2.00.

The present economic crisis, one might safely say, has affected every branch of our culture. It has been the occasion of stagnation in some instances, of the greatest activity in others. Organizations heretofore drifting with the tide, got up steam and forged ahead at full speed to offer assistance to victims of the tidal wave of economic depression. The business of keeping body and soul together was the first life-line thrown to the unfortunates. Most relief work has not gone beyond that stage. These rescue workers, however, have preserved accounts of their experiences for the guidance and enlightenment of others of the present and the future.

Miss Lumpkin bases her study, *The Family*, on the information afforded by the case-studies of forty-six dependent families in the city of New York. She analyzes the effect of poverty and misfortune upon the traditional way of looking upon things in the family. The rôles of "provider" and "home-maker" are viewed from many and various angles. The group is so small it would not be in keeping with scientific principles to draw a general conclusion. Yet, the longing for economic independence appears among these people with the omnipresence of a universal. An opportunity seems to have been missed in Miss Lumpkin's failure to analyze the data statistically for correlations between various traits. Graphic tables and index round out this interesting study.

In *Machine Age in the Hills* Mr. Ross does not have to look for ill effects of "depression." He cannot miss them in the Blue Ridge mining region. He retells traditional stories of the mountain people in a clever, journalistic fashion, and tells a new story of their present distress. He gathers data on the case, studies it carefully and diagnoses the trouble. Then in an ardent appeal to the whole country he

suggests remedies which he thinks fool-proof. It is to be regretted, though, to see with, what matter-of-fact attitude Mr. Ross proposes birth control to "relieve the intolerable pressure of unwanted children (p. 191)." The economic situation in the mining region of the Blue Ridge Mountains is a challenge not to the Quakers alone—who are alone in successful relief work there—but to the whole country. Eighteen photographic illustrations quicken the reader's interest as he reads this tale of misery.

Both of these books are a credit to the craftsmen who have multiplied Miss Lumpkin's and Mr. Ross' words so that others may profit by their experience. R. C.

The Tragedy of Lynching. By Arthur Raper. vi-499 pp. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. \$2.50.

The present day need for prompt and vigorous action in so many departments of organized society has had the salutary effect of intensifying and rationalizing public social consciousness. The doctrine of "rugged individualism" is rapidly losing ground in favor of scientific social action. Since we must know before we can act rationally, the social sciences are enjoying a high degree of prestige, which is a fair barometer of our social-mindedness.

Mr. Raper has opened up a field of great importance to the social-scientist, a field which has been sadly neglected. The work consists of a thorough and systematic analysis of the principal lynchings of the last three years. The political, financial and social background of the various communities in which the lynchings took place are carefully studied, forming a valuable nucleus for scientific investigation of the intricate causes of mob psychology. Above all, the book is a distinct contribution to the cause of better racial understanding in the United States.

The whole question is a difficult one, inextricably linked with the larger racial problems, and probably will never be wholly solved. Nevertheless, any advance toward a happier disposition of the racial question begets a debt of public gratitude to the author. It is hoped that Mr. Raper's book will be of real assistance to those who are laboring to remove this great stain on the public conscience.

R. H. G.

The Odyssey of Homer. Translated by T. E. Shaw. iii-327. New York: Oxford University Press. \$3.50.

At a time when Greek has been almost completely eliminated from collegiate curricula, it comes somewhat as a surprise, this trans-

lation of the Odyssey. Undoubtedly one reason for cutting out the hoary Hellenic is inability to conceive any practical purpose in studying it. Mr. Shaw has given the answering argument. The "first novel of Europe" is worth reading as all good books are. Further, a point of view is to be gained by putting oneself, for ever so short a time, in the atmosphere of the ancient Aegean culture. Shaw has fortunately disdained to fill the book with signs of pedantic scholarship masquerading under foot-notes, references and ponderous bibliographies. The Odyssey is given as a tale to be read and enjoyed, not presented as an intellectual duty. At first sight the translator's audacity in contrast with the common, prim renditions raises the suspicion that this is an attempt to bring Homer "up to date." But as one gathers interest, the forthright freshness is seen as a welcome departure from the usual strained renderings. Mr. Shaw has succeeded in giving what former translators have perhaps striven for but never quite attained. The virility of Homeric times is made to stand out before the reader. The frankness of expression in this translation, at first startling, gradually limns the whole story in a setting perfectly adapted to the Homeric tale. In the note, Shaw contributes an original and provocative guess at the identity of Homer. Scholars will argue about this conception, but, without considering whether or not it be true, the spirit of the translation may best be understood in this same characterization.

G. W.

The Church in the South American Republics. (*The Science and Culture Series*). By Edwin Ryan, D.D. viii-119 pp. Milwaukee: The Bruce Publishing Co. \$1.50.

"This book," the publishers state, "meets the long-felt need for a concise and authoritative work, in English, on the history of the Church in the most Catholic of continents." In this little volume, the first of its kind in English, Dr. Ryan has made a surprisingly comprehensive study of his subject. Briefly, but clearly, he has indicated the historical background of Spain and Portugal and the influence of the mother countries upon the South American colonies. He then tells of the condition of the Church in the republics until the present day. Many points hitherto puzzling to the general reader are explained in this work. The extensive ecclesiastical privileges enjoyed by the Spanish king, which the Crown tried to retain in the colonies even after the latter had achieved independence; the rule, during the formative period of the republics, of dictators who were sometimes hostile toward the Church—the explanation of these and

other factors helps to make clear to Americans the reasons for the Church's vicissitudes in these Catholic countries.

The book is embellished with pictures of some of the larger cathedrals and religious houses and the Appendices contain considerable statistical matter which should prove valuable to any students interested in this subject.

T. C. D.

This is Christian Marriage. By Adrian Lynch, C.P. vii-249 pp. The Sign Press, Union City, N. J. \$1.50. Postpaid \$1.60.

In the form of Questions and Answers the author presents the marriage legislation of the Church according to the New Code of Canon Law. By dint of much effort a plain and direct exposition, avoiding technicalities, is the result. Accurate and intelligible, this volume is worthy of special consideration, not only from the clergy but particularly from the laity.

Considering first the nature of marriage both as a contract and as a Sacrament, Fr. Lynch then treats of its unity and indissolubility, emphasizing the doctrine of 'one partner: no divorce.' After this he discusses pre-nuptial questions: the age required for validity; company-keeping; the betrothal; the laws regarding the banns. A clear and concise chapter treats of the impediments to marriage. Other chapters consider mixed marriages; matrimonial consent; the form of marriage; the effects and obligation of marriage. The important questions of separation, second marriages, nullification and validation are answered to their fullest extent. A special chapter is devoted to the ritual and ceremony for the celebration of Matrimony.

The last section of the book is the English translation of the Encyclical of Pope Pius XI, "*Casti Connubii*" (Chaste Wedlock). Thus we have the complete and commendable presentation and explanation of the holy Sacrament of Matrimony ". . . so that that fruitfulness dedicated to God will flourish again vigorously in Christian wedlock."

B. A. M.

A Modern Messenger of Purity. By Albert H. Dolan, O.Carm. Longmans, Green and Co., New York. \$0.75.

It cannot be denied that there has been an enormous amount of books dealing with education in sex, yet when one looks around for practical, understandable information on education in purity the dearth of books is deplorable. Questionnaires have revealed that the problem of sex is *the* problem of high school students. It is for such that the book is best adapted. Fr. Dolan never generalizes yet is never so specific as to counteract the instruction by playing on the

imagination or whetting the curiosity. The *Why* of the Sixth Commandment is clearly explained and the reasons given for its observance. The author is to be commended for his frank handling of so delicate a subject. The point is never clouded yet the work never descends from a high moral tone. Some may perhaps take issue with the emphasis the author lays on the observance of this commandment. Not that it admits of laxity, but the treatment given it by Fr. Dolan may lead too easily to the conclusion that the other precepts are of lesser importance or at least are easier to fulfill. However, though one may differ with the author on this point, it is really of small import since any misunderstanding can be easily corrected. Fr. Dolan gives ten practical ways to avoid sins of the flesh and to build character and habits of resistance. The book ends with an extremely practical, and timely, chapter on what are sins, how they are to be clearly recognized and what to do about it all. Any one having charge of boys or girls will find this little book of immense value.

J. L.

St. Jerome—The Early Years. By Paul Monceaux. Translated by F. J. Sheed. New York: Sheed & Ward. \$2.00.

As the title indicates, M. Monceaux gives us a biography of but part of the life of the Church's most illustrious scripture scholar. Despite the limited scope of the volume, it is an accomplishment deserving the highest commendation. The work dealing with the first thirty years of Jerome's life is the result of many years of intelligent research. About the figure of this great Doctor had grown up confused with notions that have no foundation in fact.

The date of St. Jerome's birth and the location of his birthplace have been the subjects of much controversy as well as conjecture, and many are the nations that have claimed the saintly abbot as their own. In the very first sentence of the introduction, Paul Monceaux states that "Jerome—in Latin *Eusebius Hieronymus*—was born about the year 347, in the town of Stridon, in the north-east corner of Italy." The author, in his forceful and engaging style, presents the relevant facts which he by diligent research has ascertained, exploding as a result many fables consequent upon the antedating of Jerome's birth.

Jerome in his native Aquileia is depicted as an ordinary child, active in mind and body, but not very strong physically. He goes to Rome at the age of twelve to study, spending four years under the grammarians and completing the study of the Latin classics in the

summer of the year of the death of Julian the Apostate, 363. The succeeding four years were spent at the feet of the rhetoricians, developing and perfecting his polemical powers. In fact, so well did he imbibe the spirit of his masters that it took him many years to overcome the attendant literary faults that they had instilled in him. Taking into consideration his frequent visits to the courts of law, his passion for copying manuscripts and his private study of dialectic, it hardly seems possible that Jerome could have found time to lead the sinful life of which he so often accuses himself.

At the time of his baptism in 366 by Pope Liberius, Jerome's vocation to the ascetical life had not yet come to him. It was several years later at Treves in Gaul that the future anchorite vowed to live for Christ alone. It was in Aquileia, a town located a few miles from his native Stridon, that Jerome decided to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and then go to spend the remainder of his life in the desert doing penance. His pilgrim journey so sapped his physical strength that he was forced, upon his arrival at Antioch, to discontinue indefinitely progress toward Jerusalem. After much delay, due to the delights of life at Antioch for a scholar such as himself, Jerome was somewhat less than twenty-eight when he entered the Syrian desert.

Paul Monceaux's exposition of the hermit's life ends with Jerome's abandonment of the desert. The author's exposé of the incongruity of most of the canvasses representing Jerome in his desert retreat is a noteworthy addition to this valuable biography. J. B.

Theonas. *Conversations of a Sage.* By Jacques Maritain. Translated by F. J. Sheed. 200 pp. New York: Sheed & Ward. \$2.00.

M. Maritain is most fortunate in having Mr. F. J. Sheed as the translator of this important little book, which in its English dress loses none of the sparkling qualities of the original French. The volume contains eleven conversations covering a wide range of philosophical subjects, all of current interest. Never is Maritain more stimulating than in these bright informal talks which beneath their appealing exterior are shot through with the unpedantic wisdom that comes from piercing to the depths the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas. Professedly polemic, the conversations are never critical, and their sound evaluation of new thought in the light of the old is sufficient proof that Maritain is not an "incurable reactionary," but a lover of true progress. Those who enjoy the thrill of contact with superior thinking will revel in these pages.

G. C. R.

The Inner Life of the Catholic. By Archbishop Alban Goodier, S.J. xv-173 pp.. New York: Longmans Green & Co.

Archbishop Goodier has not written a theological nor an apologetical work but simply a statement of the belief of a true Catholic. He exposes the inmost beliefs in regard to the things of God and man. The book is an explanation of what Catholic teaching and its practice has been in the soul of the writer, how he reacted to it, and how it affected his way of thinking and acting in ordinary life.

The author starts with the assumption of some knowledge of the Church's doctrine, and that his readers are believers in Christ and the supernatural. He treats of the relations of the creature to the Creator, the Catholic's life in the God of Love and Mercy. There is related the significance of the Incarnation and the Redeemer, Who is portrayed as the great high priest of the good things to come. In an inspiring chapter, the author explains the Mystical Body and shows the application in a Catholic's life. The Mass, Sacraments, prayer, the virtues, perfection are all dealt with, but not defended. The purpose of the Archbishop is to give the beliefs of the Catholic without any attempt at apologetics. The well written explanation which has resulted makes an excellent volume, not only for Catholics but for those who know little or nothing of what Catholicism is. It is an unusually practical book to give to non-Catholics seeking information.

P. W.

A Watch in the Night. By Helen C. White. 445 pp. New York: The Macmillan Co. \$2.00.

Centering her story around the life of Jacopone da Todi, or rather that phase of his life which is bound up with the struggles between the Spirituals and Conventuals in the first century of the Franciscan Order, Miss White has evolved an unusual and beautiful story. After the death of his young wife, Jacopone becomes a Franciscan Tertiary, entering the Order later. He then becomes involved in the struggles of the Spirituals to retain their ancient traditions. He goes to Rome, but when the rebellion and defeat of his patron, the great Colonna, brings disillusionment, he retires to his austere community. There is a sudden outbreak of the plague, and in serving the plague-stricken people, Jacopone makes the supreme sacrifice.

Throughout the entire course of the story, Miss White shows a keen insight into the spirit of the times, giving a vivid and moving picture of the 13th Century. Her treatment of the spiritual life of the times is far beyond the ordinary. Historical inaccuracies appear,

but one must remember that it is a story—that is it fiction, and, as such, it need not conform to the norms of historical accuracy.

A. S.

With Hearts Courageous. By Edna Kenton; illustrations by Raphael Doktor. Liveright, Inc., N. Y. 313 pp. \$2.50.

With Hearts Courageous by Edna Kenton is typical of the spirit with which the French Jesuit missionaries embarked on their arduous and gigantic task of converting the North American Indian to Catholicism. The story is well told. It is gripping. One marvels at the almost superhuman courage, fortitude and faith of these saintly men. St. Isaac Jogues and his well known companions are intimately written in this work, as well as many other familiar characters such as Pere Marquette. The sufferings, tortures and death as well as the accomplishments of these men are vividly portrayed. This book promises to be a real treat for boys and girls and also for their elders. It should reenkindle the missionary spirit within all its readers. The author has written an excellent volume. A few of the repetitions could have been omitted. The seventy-odd illustrations by Raphael Doktor are splendid and illuminating and add to the interest of this well written book.

W. J. V.

The Figure of Eight. By Cecil Waye. New York: H. C. Kinsey. \$2.00.

The story starts on an ordinary omnibus in the heart of London with the discovery of the silent and mysterious murder of one of its passengers and the solution of which threatens to jeopardize the peace of all Europe if not of the entire world. For one who takes pleasure in a story involving international complications, Mr. Waye's book offers a few hours of interesting reading. The plot is handled quite cleverly and there are many exciting incidents. The story however is the thing; the characters are rather weak and do not impress one as being at all real. However the implications in the solution of the murders are sufficient to sustain interest even with the pervading atmosphere of unreality.

A. H.

Sea Air. By Isabel C. Clarke. Longmans Green & Co., N. Y. 336 pp. \$2.50.

Sea air is naturally refreshing. *Sea Air*, the latest addition to the large list of novels of Isabel C. Clarke, is also refreshing. Miss Clarke cleverly depicts the activities of those fortunates to bound on a pleasure cruise in the Mediterranean. Gossip, intrigue and love all form part of this engaging story. The budding romance between

Francis Cowden, of an old Catholic family, and pretty Yvonne Pearson is beset by many obstacles not the least of which is Yvonne's mysterious mother. This alliance is nearly blighted, but fortunately the tangled situation unfolds itself in the nick of time. Vivid descriptions of the Mediterranean stop-overs and the fine Catholic quality of the story greatly enhance this splendid novel. J. V. W.

DIGEST OF RECENT BOOKS

To priests who cannot find the necessary time for preparing special sermons has come a book of great value. In **Sermons for Special Occasions** Father Phelan offers a work containing thirty-five sermons in a book of two hundred and forty pages. Behind these sermons is the experience of thirty-five years of priesthood. Few are the priests who never have been or who never will be called on for a special sermon. The doctrine of the Church is ever the same. There are times though when circumstances necessitate a slight departure from the usual Sunday sermon in order to present the doctrine in a manner befitting the occasion. The purpose of the author in offering this work is not that his brother priests may find the easy way out but to stimulate new ideas and offer handy information which will enable even the busy pastor to prepare rightly his own sermon. (P. J. Kenedy & Sons, New York. \$2.50).

Talks for Girls, by the Rev. A. Roche, is a compilation of twenty-six five minutes talks to English Convent school girls of high school age on subjects of very practical value—On Doing Your Duty; On Putting Up With Things; On Being Polite, etc, etc. Written very simply and sympathetically, not from a height, with a very telling appeal to girls' common sense; skillful but never condescending or "pious" in friendly exposition of common faults and foibles of girls—indeed of human nature in general, this little book is highly recommended for girls, but full of the best possible teaching for both men and women of mature years. The very frequent examples from history, literary allusions and bits of personal experience enrich the matter. (P. J. Kenedy & Sons, New York. \$0.85).

THEOLOGY: Although the doctrine of the Assumption has never been formally defined, yet it would be rash to deny it. In **Assumptio B. Mariae Virginis** the Reverend Paul Renaudin gathers practically all that has been said on the subject. Written in extremely simple Latin, it recommends itself to all, even those least familiar with reading such works. His approach to the question is extremely fair. In the very beginning it is stated that history offers no direct proof, that we have to rely solely on Tradition and whatever conclusions may be drawn from defined dogma. An arresting array of Church Fathers and theologians is presented in favour of the doctrine; and Scripture, though quite silent on the question, offers numerous applicable texts. The author has written a clear, concise and unbiased book. (Marietti. Turin).

In a handy compact booklet of one hundred and seventy pages Fr. Cohauz, S.J., has presented the Catholic teaching on Christian marriage as embodied in Pius XI's encyclicals. In a clear exposition such subjects as the Origin and Purpose of Marriage, the Guardians of Marriage, Divorce, Birth Prevention, Abortion and Sterilization are handled with skill and clarity. For people looking for an understandable presentation of Catholic teaching on such subjects the book will prove valuable. Priests and teach-

ers will also find this work highly practical. **Pius XI's Latest Word On Marriage.** (Benziger Brothers, New York. \$0.50).

Every parish priest has frequently been confronted with the problem of mixed marriages. That there lurks a danger, a very real one, in such unions is too widely known to need comment, but the ordinary parish priest is all too frequently somewhat at a loss as how to handle such cases. In **Mixed Marriages and their Remedies** Father Ter Haar, C.S.S.R., speaks with a thoroughness, calmness and judiciousness that will be enlightening to any seeking information. The question is one of vital importance and must be faced with a dauntless spirit. All perhaps may not agree with the author's views on certain points, but no one can fail to approve the dominant plea of the work for a more vigorous opposition to mixed marriages. Statistics are quoted to show the baneful effects of such unions; methods of handling such cases by the pastor are discussed; the necessary conditions for a dispensation are treated; and the principal reasons for the Church's stringent prohibitions are explained. This book deserves a wide audience and no parish priest confronted with the question need be embarrassed for lack of authoritative information. (F. Pustet Co., New York. \$1.75).

DEVOTIONAL: Father Lasance celebrates his Golden Jubilee of ordination this year with the publication of another of his books of devotion. **The Road to Happiness** is similar to other works of the author. It comprises thoughts on: the Way of Salvation; the Last Things; the Following of Christ; Patronage of the Angels, etc., but all are united by the purpose of showing the road to happiness. All who have found Father Lasance's books useful will see in this present volume the culmination of fifty years of pious living and spiritual reading. (Benziger Brothers, New York. \$3.00; De Luxe Edition, \$4.75).

A book of the Holy Hour comprising extracts from Papal encyclicals, Mass collects, poems can well be recommended to all who wish to make the Holy Hour profitably. **One Hour** is a book of meditations on the Sacred Heart. The author has included devotions which will appeal to all and nothing has been included which would not have an interest for the majority. (P. J. Kenedy & Sons, New York. \$1.25).

For man to live the supernatural life it is essential for him to coöperate with grace. This grace comes principally through the Sacraments. In order that many more may better understand, know and appreciate these means of grace Bishop Busch has written **The Art of Living with God.** Each sacrament is taken up separately and its relation to grace explained. Supplementary chapters deal with the various states bound up with the sacraments. The Right Reverend author has brought to bear in his expositions a theology that is deep and thorough. However, the book is not a scholarly presentation of the abstruse subject of grace but a successful endeavor to present a practical, working explanation of grace and man's union through grace with God. (Benziger Brothers, New York. \$1.50).

There is rarely compiled an anthology whose total content can be defended. It usually is the general rule that much could have been left out. However, in the **Book of Christian Classics** the editors have gathered together highly representative examples of Christian literature. "The design of the book is traced by the intention to provide insight into the traditional Christian concept, method and personal experience of the spiritual life." Besides offering much for personal devotion, the book can be made to present a history of a viewpoint. That Christianity has played, and still plays, a prominent part in the affairs of Western civilization is a fact unfortunately being forgotten. A reading of this book will repay with

a broad knowledge of those ideas and ideals of charity, sacramentalism, symbolism, obedience to a higher authority and supernaturalism which are at the base of whatever good is still left in our culture. The extracts are from Spanish, French, German, Italian and English writers and in them one can discern the unanimous espousal of those fundamental principles upon which the real brotherhood of man must be founded. ((Liveright-Inc., New York).

Archbishop Goodier takes up where he left off in the life of Christ. **The Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ** is the history of the Passion written with the purpose of presenting Christ the Man. As in his previous work Archbishop Goodier lets the tale tell itself from the Gospels. The four accounts are brought together and woven into one story. No one would dare present such a book had he not read the Scriptures wisely, known the Eastern mind and idiom and above all meditated deeply on the events. The author is widely known to be well qualified for such a task, and those who have already read his previous volumes will welcome this completion of the life of Christ. The evangelists are strangely reticent about the person of Christ during this tremendous time. They tell much of the Roman governor and Herod, of the high priest and the mob, but of Christ little. What was done to Christ is described, but of Christ and His emotions little is told. Archbishop Goodier endeavors to present Christ during His Passion, and despite the great obstacles to such an aim the author succeeds extremely well. (P. J. Kenedy & Sons, New York. \$3.00).

BOOKS RECEIVED: **Priest of a Doubting Flock**, by Thomas B. Chetwood, S. J. **Our Precious Freedom**, by Daniel A. Lord, S. J. (The Queen's Work, St. Louis, Mo. \$0.10). **Is Life Worth Living?** by Adolph D. Frenay, O.P. (Paulist Press). **Chant At The Altar**, by John Selner, S.S. (John Murphy Co., Baltimore, Md. \$0.60). From Samuel French, New York: **The Amazing Adventures of Wiffles and Felisa** by Trebor, (\$0.30). **The Area Door**, by Fuller; **Tim The Chimney Sweep**, by Maxey (\$0.50). **Irish Eyes**, by Rose; **Maytime In Erin**, by Rose; **Tom Sawyer**, by Kester; **The Warriar's Husband**, by Thompson; **The Blarney Stone**, by Rose; **The Spider**, by Oursler and Brentano; **Toad of Toad Hill**, by Milne. (each \$0.75).