

## COMMENTARY

MR BERNARD BERGONZI's article, 'Morals and the Novel', which appeared in the September number of BLACKFRIARS, provoked a 'Letter to the Editor' from Father Kenelm Foster, O.P., defending the validity of the concept of 'Christian literature'. This was printed in our October number. Since then there has been between Mr Bergonzi and Fr Foster a further exchange of letters which the happy accident of lack of space in November allows us to publish together as a whole in the present issue under the title, 'Correspondence on Christian Literature'. We fancy that our readers will find this a much more satisfactory—and even a suggestive—solution of the troublesome problem of correspondence in a monthly review.

In his last letter of the present group Mr Bergonzi says that he has been allowed a 'final word'. This, however, is simply a recognition on his part that the dire words, 'This correspondence is now closed', have been uttered, and that the present *form* of discussion is complete: neither he, nor Fr Foster—nor the Editor—are under the illusion that the discussion itself of this intriguing theme is ended. BLACKFRIARS, indeed, looks forward to publishing many more contributions on this subject, be they articles, or *symposia* on the Bergonzi-Foster pattern and reflecting in the same high degree the twin urbane qualities of rationality and courtesy which it possesses.

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BLACKFRIARS sometimes regrets that it cannot afford the luxury of a 'Christmas number'. But if the present issue, with two of the principal contributions concerned with two of the ugliest features of our times, can scarcely be described as suitable reading for Christmas Day, at least we beg our readers to accept the English translation of the sermon by St Augustine as our greeting card for a happy and holy Feast.