

go on to the next letter. This little book should be of the greatest use to anybody who is at all likely to have discussions with people infected by Communist propaganda. For them it will be a book which they can always refer to after a discussion, especially when they feel that have not been adequate in getting across the true way of life. They will at once feel their courage revived and their hand strengthened. The authors have tried hard to get across the other man's point of view and this should help the reader to understand the way the Communist thinks, which is more than half the battle in curing him of his errors.

D.O.F.

NOTICES

THE THREE AGES OF THE INTERIOR LIFE, Father Garrigou-Lagrangé's classic exposition of ascetical and mystical theology, is now available in an English translation, published by Herder (London: 33 Queen Square, W.C.1) in two volumes (35s. and 56s.). The extended notice so great a work deserves is to appear in *Life of the Spirit* but readers of **BLACKFRIARS** may be glad to know that the two volumes are now readily available in this country.

WORLD WITHOUT END (Sands; 7s. 6d.) brings together the thoughts of an anonymous Carmelite nun on a variety of subjects, from prayer to flowers in a garden, from suffering to the methods of a painter. All is seen from the fixed point of a contemplative view of God and the world, which is to say that here is a gracious and objective book, which, moreover, is written in an easy English wholly free from pretentiousness or the sugary sort of edification.

SIMPLICITY (Burns Oates; 6s.) is the latest volume to appear of the work of Father Raoul Plus, s.j. It has all his customary charm and directness of exposition, and he shows clearly how vital in the Christian life is a virtue too often forgotten.

A MANUAL OF SOCIAL SERMONS (Catholic Social Guild; 2s.) should be useful to priests who wish to instruct the faithful in the Church's social doctrine and who feel the need of outlines and reading lists to help them in their preparation.

EXISTENTIALISM AND CHRISTIAN THOUGHT (Dacre Press; 4s. 6d.) is an outline by Roger Troisfontaines, s.j. (translated by Martin Jarret-Kerr) of the main trends of existentialist thought and is the best short account available in English. **WHAT IS EXISTENTIALISM?** by Roland Bailey

(S.P.C.K.; 1s.) covers a similar field, but whereas Fr Troisfontaines emphasises the existentialist stress on 'communion rather than community', Dr Bailey is more concerned with 'the philosophy of conversion'. Both alike bring out the atheistic and nihilistic strands which are present in the thought of some existentialists.

VESSEL OF CLAY (Sheed and Ward; 7s. 6d.) is an account, by Father Leo Trese, of a day in the life of a parish priest. Its setting is American, but its significance is universal, for here is a candid record of a vocation from within; its achievements as well as its failures, written with charm and good humour. Few books of this kind are so honest or so rewarding.

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS NUMBER

LETITIA FAIRFIELD, C.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.; Barrister-at-law; Senior Medical Officer London County Council, 1911-1948; Lt.-Col. (retired) R.A.M.C.; late Woman Medical Director R.A.F. Medical Service; Associate Editor *Medico-Legal Journal*.

SIR LEO PAGE; Barrister-at-law; Chairman of the Faringdon Bench since 1945; High Sheriff of Berkshire 1937; served on many Home Office Committees, including those on Treatment of Delinquency and on Punishment in Prisons and Borstals; for many years active in prison work; author of *Justice of the Peace, Crime and the Community, The Sentence of the Court, The Young Lag*.

RALPH OWEN; in Prison Service since 1932 as Housemaster or Governor of Borstals; since 1945 an Assistant Prison Commissioner, assisting in the administration of Borstals.

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