

cases in which elderly couples have been knocked down by hooligans, where officials have been seriously injured as a result of robbery, and where widows—of men shot and killed whilst going about their lawful duty—have been left without any financial provision. While Dr Schafer reveals that England is not behind other countries, it is still hoped that we may grasp the opportunity of leading the way in providing effective legislation for seeing that justice is done in this sphere.

F. H. MCCLINTOCK

## Notices

PEREGRINE BOOKS have just published THE SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY BACKGROUND, by Basil Willey (8s. 6d.); SEVEN TYPES OF AMBIGUITY, by William Empson (7s. 6d.); THE NOVEL IN FRANCE, by Martin Turnell (10s. 6d.); THE COMMON PURSUIT, by F. R. Leavis (7s. 6d.).

Students will not be the only ones to applaud the publication in paperback of these standard editions; librarians also and teachers, who are scarcely less impecunious than their charges, are glad to make use of them. Professor Willey's famous 'Background' series began nearly thirty years ago; Professor Empson's work is of the same period, and many of us who would have liked to possess both books for reference and annotation had to make our choice. Now a young man can have both his Willey *and* his Empson for a shilling more than the price we had to pay for one volume. *The Novel in France* is, quite simply, a standard work. And nothing that Dr Leavis writes can be given less than the most scrupulous examination by anyone who claims to take literature seriously. *The Common Pursuit* is a collection of essays which Dr Leavis gathered together in 1952 and published as a rallying standard for all those engaged in the common pursuit of true judgment. The critic's 'perceptions and judgments', he wrote, 'are his or they are nothing'. In a thousand different ways Dr Leavis has repeated this call to integrity of mind. Sometimes, maybe, we feel that the specimens of literature he chooses for demolition are hardly worthy of his immensely keen perception; and then we turn from Leavis the demolisher and recall the tenderness and warmth of his approval. So much is heard of his destructive power that we forget the quality of his praise.

THE MEDIAEVAL MYSTICS OF ENGLAND (Murray 25s.) is an anthology, drawn from St Aelred, St Edmund Rich, Richard Rolle, *The Cloud of Unknowing*, Hilton, Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe, which should provide an admirable introduction to an achievement, alike of literature and of spiritual

theology, that is still too little realized. A long and scholarly introduction by Eric Colledge adds to the value of a very welcome book.

CHAUCER, by G. K. Chesterton (9s. 6d.) and PASSION AND SOCIETY, by Denis de Rougemont (10s. 6d.) are two recent additions to the Faber Paper Covered Editions. Norman Cohn's PURSUIT OF THE MILLENNIUM (18s.) has appeared in Heinemann's Mercury series. This study of apocalyptic fanaticism, and of its effects on medieval society and its meaning for the modern world, is a work of scholarship of the first importance and should reach many new readers as a paper-back.

QUEST FOR INNOCENCE (Heinemann, 18s.) is a novel by an American writer, C. B. Gilford, and is an adult and intensely perceptive study of the impact of inherited faith on an Irish-American family in a small town in the Mid West.

SCENES FROM AN ARMENIAN CHILDHOOD (Oxford University Press, 15s.), is a collection of charming episodes of a vanished world by Vahan Totovents, a distinguished Armenian writer who died between the wars and whose work now appears for the first time in English.

MEMENTOES OF THE MARTYRS AND CONFESSORS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, a day-by-day menology by Fr Sebastian Bowden, first appeared in 1910. A new edition, edited and revised by Donald Attwater (Burns Oates, 16s.), is most opportune.

ROZANOV, by Renato Poggioli, is the latest title in the series of 'Studies in Modern European Literature and Thought' (Bowes and Bowes, 10s. 6d). Rozanov was a nineteenth century Russian, little known nowadays, and Professor Poggioli's study is concerned to rehabilitate a writer and thinker who has been compared with Pascal, Dostoevski and Freud.

UNAMUNO is the subject of a study by Jose Ferrater Mora (University of California Press, 12s. 6d.) in which the Spanish philosopher's recurring theme of tragedy as the substance of life and reality is critically examined.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE, by Gustave Thibon, with an introduction by Gerald Vann, O.P., is a new 'Universe Book' (Burns Oates, 3s. 6d.). Its robust and original approach will please many who might be put off by its mere title.