

A LITTLE LEARNING (*Chapman and Hall, 30s.*) is the first volume of Evelyn Waugh's autobiography, and marvellously evokes the exact texture of a time that already seems remote. A Hampstead childhood, stark schooldays at Lancing, the charmed irresponsibility of Oxford and an inglorious career as a prep school-master: all are evoked with a sharpness of vision and the sort of inevitably apt language that only a truly creative writer can achieve. It is a record of an age, and a faithful account of a young man's response to its hectic unrealities; but even more it is a beautifully organized example, however unfashionable that may be today, of English prose at its best.

THE LEGACY OF CHINA (*Oxford: Clarendon Press, 30s.*) is the latest volume in a celebrated series. Edited by Raymond Dawson, it includes authoritative essays on Chinese philosophy, literature, art and science, as well as an estimate of the intellectual and artistic influences of China on the world. An excellent selection of plates completes the value of an essential book and that especially at a time when China is emerging to a new stature in world affairs.

WITH D. H. LAWRENCE IN NEW MEXICO (*Routledge, 35s.*) is a reprint of Knud Merrild's memoir, originally called *A Poet and Two Painters*. Aldous Huxley described it as the most objective and disinterested of the many biographies of Lawrence, and a painter's close observation over a limited time and in a particular place gives concreteness and brilliance to a subject that has too often inspired a vague apocalyptic – or mere malevolence.

TO ANY CHRISTIAN (*Burns and Oates, 35s.*) is an anthology of letters from the saints, selected and arranged by a Benedictine nun of Stanbrook.

The editor's unfailing perception (and indeed her sense of humour, as the brilliant introduction so clearly reveals) has ensured a truly catholic choice, ranging from St Frances Xavier Cabrini describing Eskimos and Indians to St Teresa of Avila recommending the virtues of sleep. There is a particularly rich selection of letters from Blessed Robert Southwell (seeming, with other English Jesuit martyrs, the editor says, 'to have been turned out from the O.T.C. of some celestial Stonyhurst'), and the claim that these letters enable us 'to open up new horizons in the Communion of Saints' is surely justified. It would be hard to think of a happier gift, nor for that matter of one more elegantly presented or more wholly in keeping with the scholarly and typographical traditions of Stanbrook.

SPIRITUALITY THROUGH THE AGES (*Burns and Oates, 25s.*), is a collection of essays on ascetics and mystics of the Western Church, edited by James Walsh, S.J. The book well illustrates the variety of human experience which the Spirit has informed, from such early Fathers as Origen and Gregory of Nyssa to comparative moderns such as de Caussade. This is an especially valuable book of reference for those who have not easy access to writers of earlier eras. Presented here in contemporary form, they prove that many of our modern dilemmas are very old ones indeed.

THE CHURCH IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (*Dent, 45s*) is the seventh volume of Daniel-Rops' *History of the Church of Christ*. With his customary grasp of the main historical themes, M. Daniel-Rops begins with a section on 'The Intellectual Revolt' exemplified by Descartes, Rousseau and Voltaire, treats of the decline of the Church's mission outside Europe, gives a sympathetic account of 'Churches outside the

Church', and, after a section on the Revolution and its effects, reminds us of the continuing stream of sanctity (St Benedict Joseph Labre, St Alphonsus de Liguori) that throws light on a dark story.

THE ASTRONOMERS (*Evans Brothers, 25s.*), by Colin A. Ronan, covers two thousand years of astronomical history – from Pythagoras to Einstein. In easily digestible form, Mr Ronan gives an informed account of the principal theories and discoveries and of the men who made them.

MARRIAGE AND CANON LAW (*Burns and Oates, 30s.*) is 'a concise and complete account' by A. H. Van Vliet and C. G. Breed of the complexities of the Church's matrimonial laws. In question-and-answer form it provides the essential information.

HOW THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WORKS (*Geoffrey Chapman, 5s.*) is a useful description (by Jean Cadet) of ecclesiastical organization, from papacy to parish, with a healthy regard for the laity's proper place in the life of the Church.

---

**THE WORLD'S GREATEST BOOKSHOP**

**BIG DEPARTMENT FOR**  
**CATHOLIC BOOKS**

And 21 other departments including Music, Foreign Books, Rare Books,  
Fine Bindings, Paperbacks and Records. Dependable postal service.  
We despatch to all parts of the world.

JOIN THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB!

Members buy Books published at 12s. 6d, 15s, 21s.  
and more, for ONLY 4s. 6d. Write for details.

OPEN ALL DAY SATURDAY

**FOYLES**  
★ ★ FOR BOOKS ★ ★

119-125 CHARING CROSS ROAD LONDON WC2

GERrard 3660 (20 lines)

Open 9—6 (Thurs. 9—7)

*All books reviewed in this issue obtainable BY RETURN POST*

---