

find that the source of the river is grace. It is a much more tangled world than that, but the Superior's words at the end are a clue. "We all analyse motives too much. . . . You remember what Pascal said, that a man who starts looking for God has already found him. The same may be true of love—when we look for it, perhaps we've already found it." The unbelieving doctor is not satisfied. "How persistent you are, father. You never let anyone go, do you? You'd like to claim even Querry for your own." And the Superior's answer is simple, "I haven't noticed that you relax much before a patient dies".

Can implicit charity be the beginning of faith? Certainly faith without love is dead and destructive. Mr Greene's novel must be welcomed for what it is, not for what the apologete might want it to be.

PEREGRINE WALKER

ESSAYS PRESENTED TO C. M. GIRDLESTONE. (University of Durham.)

Collections of essays presented to a retiring master and colleague have become a tradition, and a very proper one too. This book, produced by off-set in King's College (Newcastle)'s Printing Section, makes no exception to the rule of variety which characterizes this *genre*. From Statius to Ortega y Gasset contributions run through topics of philology, musicology and various criticism. But it is the more appropriate as a reflection of the dedicatee's own various interests which led him from an essay on Mistral's poetry to the study of Church Architecture in his adopted region through a lasting love for music and literature. Bound to be unfair and *cavalier*, the reviewer can only hurriedly point out *en passant* at some names of contributors: Professor Lough, Professor Lawton, Dr Delacourcelle, Dr Suckling, etc., and draw attention to some details of this scholarly landscape: Professor Bisson's study of Proust's conception of friendship, Professor Boase's survey of French poetical anthologies, Dr Mossop's revaluation of the theme of Beauty in *Les Fleurs du Mal*, Dr Weightman's reinterpretation of *Candide*, Dr Scarfe's comments on a letter to Chénier, etc. These, amongst many others, may give an idea of the field covered and should, one hopes, bring reward to Professor Girdlestone, though no cause for giddiness.

J.B.B.

NOTICES

SAIGON JOURNEY (Campion Press, 9s. 6d.) is the account of Ann Stafford's visit to the Far East in connection with the United Nations Seminar on the participation of South East Asian women in public life, of which she has already given some account in *BLACKFRIARS* for June 1958. A vivid and sympathetic interest in people and places underlies this glance at the national awakening of Siam, Viet-Nam and Cambodia. She has much to say that is perceptive about the work of the Church in these lands, and her training both as a social worker and as a novelist gives an unusual precision to what might have been merely another traveller's tale.