

type of artist: '*ses ailes de géant l'empêchent de marcher*'. Collaboration, which had been the strength of the workshop tradition, spells disaster when the conception is confined to one mind and its appreciation to an *élite*. We have passed instantaneously from an integrated culture to intellectual anarchy, from a society of artisans, strong in an inherited tradition knowing in what and in whom they believed, to the fluctuations of an unpredictable protestantism of taste.

OBITER

ETIENNE GILSON, in a letter to the Editor of *Esprit*, gives a full—and most people will say, a final—answer to the critics who have accused him of 'abandoning' France for America. He is, he explains, 'a hardened recidivist in this matter of flight to America', for academic commitments there have led him to make twenty-two journeys to America in twenty-six years. His decision to devote three whole years to the Medieval Institute of Toronto, after a career of forty-three years of teaching in France, is a personal one, but 'France is present wherever a Frenchman continues his work . . . and the most obscure French professor abroad is incomparably more important for France than twenty academicians from all the Parisian academies whatsoever'.

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THE FURROW devotes its April issue to the question of Preaching. The Editor rightly insists that 'nowhere is the need for adaptation so great as here, where there is ever the temptation to canonise the style and forms of yesterday'. The number opens significantly with 'A Layman's view of Preaching', and Fr Drinkwater's analysis of the discipline and dignity of words is itself a model of their use.

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PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY CHURCHES, Dual Purpose Church Halls, Church Furniture and Arrangement, Maintenance Problems, Stained Glass of Today, the Parish Church Organ—such are a few of the subjects dealt with by experts in the eleventh Report of the Central Council for the Care of Churches, entitled *The Problem of England's Historic Churches* (Mowbray; 6s.). Although written mainly for members of the Church of England, this Report deserves careful study by any Catholic bishop, priest or layman who is responsible for, or interested in, the care and furnishing of churches. The excellent photographs add to the value of this book, especially those of altars. The survey of books devoted to church building and furnishing published between 1947 and 1950 is another valuable feature of this Report.

WHEN the World Council of Churches was meeting at Edinburgh one speaker said that Mary is at the heart of the Occumenical Movement. It is a great joy, therefore, and an auspicious sign, that the Chairman for the Second Commission of the 1952 Council is to be Hans Asmussen. This notable Lutheran theologian has recently written a book on Mary (*Maria, die Mutter Gottes*—Evangelisches Verlagswerk, Stuttgart), which should go far to bring Lutherans and others back to their own devotion to our Lady. Trying to comment on such a book would be like describing a man saying his prayers, so much is Asmussen's devotion to Mary expressed in these pages. We commend them to anyone interested in the Occumenical Movement.

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ONE can scarcely believe that readers of BLACKFRIARS need to be warned that hatred for the Jews is un-Christian and, like all hatred, spells death to the soul. But such people are, perhaps, the ones likely to say some much-needed prayers when they discover that forty to sixty per cent of Germans openly admit their hatred for the Jews, that a larger percentage of Protestants than of Catholics harbour this hatred, *but* that regular church-goers in both Confessions are more affected by it than the irregular attendants at Church. A comprehensive survey of this anti-Semitism now rife in Germany, and the Christian battle against it, will be found in *Beitrage zur Christlichen Betrachtung der Judentrage*, and *Rundbrief*, January 1951. Each of them contains striking essays by Karl Thieme; his basic concern, the interdependence of Christian and Jew within the economy of salvation, is also developed in a novel and profound manner by Eugen Rosenstock in a recent number of the *Frankfurter Hefte*.

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A WORLD CONGRESS FOR THE LAY APOSTOLATE is announced to take place in Rome from October 7th to 14th this year. Among the subjects to be discussed are the doctrinal foundations of the lay vocation, the establishment of a Christian social order, and the responsibilities of Catholics in international affairs.

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CATHOLIC PEOPLE'S WEEKS, to be held at Stonyhurst from August 11th to 26th, are to be devoted to 'England's Vocation' and 'Christian Work'. The lecturers include Mgr Francis Davis, Dom Ralph Russell, Fr Illtud Evans, O.P., Professors Thomas Bodkin and Hilary Armstrong, Donald Attwater, R. F. Trevett, John Todd, Donald Nicholl, and R. P. Walsh. The aim of these weeks is to provide the setting of a Catholic community at work and prayer and play, and those who wish to attend should apply to the Secretary, 21 Linkmead, Stratton-on-the-Fosse, Bath.

ALDATE.