

STORIES FROM HOLY WRIT. By Helen Waddell. (Constable; 8s.6d.)

In this little book the learned author of *Mediaeval Latin Lyrics* has essayed the far harder task of interesting young people in serious topics. She has succeeded right well, to judge by the reaction of some of the reviewer's younger hopefuls. The stories were first written for a small missionary magazine between the years 1914 and 1920 and the first few bear some slight traces of the style of writing or speaking considered suitable in those days for expounding the Scriptures to those of tender years. The greater part of the book, however, is written in a manner at once dignified, simple and attractive. Both those who teach religion and those who desire matter for prayer and meditation should read this book.

RICHARD BLUNDELL, S.J.

PAUL OF TARSUS. Compiled by John Arendzen, D.D., Ph.D. (Grail Publications.)

The compiler has succeeded in making St Paul speak for himself; however, the 'vivid directness of the story' is sometimes rather too manifest: thus 23 times do we read 'I' on the first page. At the foot of p. 7 read 'Antioch' for Derbe. For the rest, we can but welcome a publication of this sort. May it lead more Catholics to read Acts and Epistles for themselves, and savour the Word of God as given to the Church by God. So may they realise the treasures of doctrine bequeathed by him who was a traveller with a difference.

ROLAND POTTER, O.P.

DIE NEUE PSALMENÜBERSETZUNG. By Arthur Allgeier. (Herder, Freiburg, 1949; Dm. 9.80.)

It would ill become an English reviewer to do more than welcome this German translation of the new Latin psalter. The translation has been done in sections by Heinrich Schneider, Alfons Deissler, and Othmar Heggelbacher, with Dr Allgeier advising and editing, providing also an introduction and a list of new phrases in Latin and German side by side with the old expressions. It will undoubtedly be of the greatest value to students, but—in spite of its handsome appearance—one could wish that it had been cheaper.

E.Q.

DIE RELIGIONEN DER MENSCHHEIT. By Anton Anwander. (Herder, Freiburg, 1949; Dm. 16.)

This is an excellent introduction to the comparative study of religion for the general reader. Finely produced, it gives within inevitably limited space a very detailed account of the great religions of the world, adding a wide selection of illustrative texts, a ten-page critical bibliography, as well as numerous pictures and a map.

E.Q.

FAIR AS THE MOON. By Father M. Oliver, O.Cist.R. (Gill, Dublin.)

I'm afraid this book is to me just another instance of the truth of what I have already said about another book on the subject of

Our Blessed Lady. Quite obviously it is the outpouring of an abundant heart, and for that one can forgive the author almost anything. Possibly it will have an appeal to popular tastes, and as there is such a demand because of the popular enthusiasm for Our Lady having reached such a pitch, any book is better than no book. So in spite of its over-rhetorical and over-dramatic style which only succeeds in reducing it to a pedestrian effort, one must not miss the sincere personal devotion to Our Lady, and the genuineness of its author's purpose to bring something of what he apparently feels to others. Still, when one has seen and felt something of the almost stark simplicity of Fatima, and the striking naturalness in the devotion of the peasant pilgrims who predominate there, one does become critical, perhaps over critical, of the educated writers who seem to miss (how can they help it, alas!) that simple direct quality in the faith of those who belong to the class ('*rudes*' they are called, somewhat smugly, one feels, by theologians) who are always the recipients of Our Lady's own personal manifestations.

E. P. KLIMECK.

DOMINICAN PIONEERS IN NEW SOUTH WALES. BY Sister Mary Assumpta O'Hanlon, O.P. (The Australasian Publishing Coy, Sydney.)

This is a book not only about pioneers but is as far as I know itself a pioneer in the history of the Dominicans in Australia. Because of the lack of any such literature on the subject, the fact of the great part, as it is now revealed which the Dominicans have played in the religious history of Australia in its earliest days, is something almost quite unknown even to those of us who come from the adjacent land of New Zealand. The history of the Dominican Nuns, pioneers of education in both countries, is better known. The details of their coming and their spread in this new world given by the author are however not only most informative but most interesting. Still, valuable as this may be it is for bringing to light for the first time the fact that such a number of Dominican priests, and such outstanding ones, gave their lives to work, first amongst the penal and then the pioneering colonies of New South Wales, that we owe a debt of gratitude to this Dominican Sister for her book.

E.L.K.

THE PAIN OF CHRIST. BY Gerald Vann, O.P. (Blackfriars; 5s.)

'This history of mankind is a love-story.' So Fr Gerald Vann begins this little book, which is an attempt to explain how God may be said to share in his creatures' pain and sorrow. God becoming man through the Incarnation, took upon him man's griefs and sufferings; and since time, past, present and future, is non-existent for God, what he suffered in his life on earth, is not a far-off past, but an eternal 'Now'. The reader will be gripped by Fr Vann's working out of this difficult problem, and welcome his solution of