

His epitaph reads simply: 'Lover of Christ and Man', and it is a sufficient explanation of his work, which transformed the lives of thousands of boys and, by its example, profoundly influenced the social conscience of America.

I.E.

SYNOPSIS TOTIUS SUMMAE THEOLOGICAE S. THOMAS. Edited by Gerard M. Paris, O.P. (Naples, d'Auria: 3 vols; 30s.)

This Latin synopsis contains the essential parts of each article of the Summa. The title of the article is given, and then the answer affirmative or negative as the case may be to the question put, together with the essential reasons for that answer. The requisite distinctions are embodied in the answer itself. Other points of interest culled from the answers to the objections are given in notanda at the end of the article. This method of summarising the *Summa* enables the editor to compress into one volume of 621 pages in a small convenient format the *Prima pars* and the *Prima secundae*. Two other volumes are to come to complete the work. How far such a book can serve those unacquainted with scholastic terminology and philosophical doctrine is open to question, but to those who know something of the *Summa*, it should serve as a handy and useful vade-mecum.

A.F.

THE ABBREVIATED CATECHISM WITH EXPLANATIONS. By F. H. Drinkwater. (Burns Oates; 2s. 6d.)

Another admirable book of catechetical instruction by Father Drinkwater. This is not a teacher's book but is for older children themselves; especially those, and there must be a greatly increasing number of them, in secondary-modern schools.

The scheme followed is the shortened Catechism used in the diocese of Birmingham. There is a section on liturgy and a good outline of Church history. It is attractively illustrated.

As to the explanatory matter; needless to say that it is excellent and exactly adapted to its purpose.

H. St J.

RED. LETTER DAYS. By Joseph Christie and William Lawson, S.J. (Burns Oates; 3s. 6d.)

Anybody who has had the luck to hear the Gorman-Christie dialogues at a weekend leadership course will want to read this book. In it Fr William Lawson, S.J. has taken Fr Gorman's place but the excitement is just as great: How is he going to answer that one? So although you meant to go and do something else you are forced to

go on to the next letter. This little book should be of the greatest use to anybody who is at all likely to have discussions with people infected by Communist propaganda. For them it will be a book which they can always refer to after a discussion, especially when they feel that have not been adequate in getting across the true way of life. They will at once feel their courage revived and their hand strengthened. The authors have tried hard to get across the other man's point of view and this should help the reader to understand the way the Communist thinks, which is more than half the battle in curing him of his errors.

D.O.F.

NOTICES

THE THREE AGES OF THE INTERIOR LIFE, Father Garrigou-Lagrangé's classic exposition of ascetical and mystical theology, is now available in an English translation, published by Herder (London: 33 Queen Square, W.C.1) in two volumes (35s. and 56s.). The extended notice so great a work deserves is to appear in *Life of the Spirit* but readers of **BLACKFRIARS** may be glad to know that the two volumes are now readily available in this country.

WORLD WITHOUT END (Sands; 7s. 6d.) brings together the thoughts of an anonymous Carmelite nun on a variety of subjects, from prayer to flowers in a garden, from suffering to the methods of a painter. All is seen from the fixed point of a contemplative view of God and the world, which is to say that here is a gracious and objective book, which, moreover, is written in an easy English wholly free from pretentiousness or the sugary sort of edification.

SIMPLICITY (Burns Oates; 6s.) is the latest volume to appear of the work of Father Raoul Plus, S.J. It has all his customary charm and directness of exposition, and he shows clearly how vital in the Christian life is a virtue too often forgotten.

A MANUAL OF SOCIAL SERMONS (Catholic Social Guild; 2s.) should be useful to priests who wish to instruct the faithful in the Church's social doctrine and who feel the need of outlines and reading lists to help them in their preparation.

EXISTENTIALISM AND CHRISTIAN THOUGHT (Dacre Press; 4s. 6d.) is an outline by Roger Troisfontaines, S.J. (translated by Martin Jarret-Kerr) of the main trends of existentialist thought and is the best short account available in English. **WHAT IS EXISTENTIALISM?** by Roland Bailey