

NOTICES

FR MARTIN HARRISON, O.P., has had success with his *Everyday Catholic* (Blackfriars; 18s. 6d.). It has appeared again in a phototype edition to remind us of our original amazement that no one had ever thought of the title or the treatment before. He treats in a short popular way of everything from God to original sin, with glances at 'leadership' and 'success' in seventy-six short and pithy chapters. Many priests have already used it for the foundation of their sermons, though it is primarily intended for the easy reading of the laity.

MORAL AND PASTORAL THEOLOGY, too, will always be popular and in big demand. Fr Henry Davis, S.J., produced four large volumes on this subject twenty years ago, and there can be scarcely a volume then printed which has not been thumbed and peered at by the enquirer. So now Sheed and Ward have published a SUMMARY (30s.) in one volume of five hundred pages. The author, for whom this volume stands as a living monument as he was gathered to his fathers soon after completing the work, is careful to point out that it is not meant for beginners, who cannot learn from a summary, but as a useful *vade mecum* for the priest busily engaged in pastoral work. It has been brought up to date and includes such things as the morality of atomic warfare.

THE HOUSE AND TABLE OF GOD, by W. Roche, S.J., is another favourite which appeared originally in 1912 but has been reprinted constantly until this latest phototyped edition (Longmans; 8s. 6d.). It was intended for growing children to introduce them to the mysteries of God, but it has been found that all ages read it with pleasure and fruit. The author begins well by showing how we are fed not by grocers but by God in nature, a very good chapter. It is a pity he identifies self with soul.

THE PLATONIC HERITAGE OF THOMISM (Golden Eagle Books, Dublin; 18s.) provided Fr Arthur Little, S.J., with an interesting theme, full of possible elucidations of the relation between platonic thought and Christian life. The author may inspire others to discover the secret of nearly all Christian mystical writers who have in fact derived something from the platonic heritage; but it will be necessary to make clearer than the author does in this book the different meanings of such words as 'participation'. Here lies a field open to the theologians of 'spirituality', a field that will well repay surveying.

ANGLICAN religious communities began to appear about a hundred years ago, as one of the beneficial effects of the Oxford Movement. The Community of St John the Baptist, Clewer, celebrates its centenary in a book, *The Founders of Clewer* (Mowbray; 4s. 6d.), with a foreword by the Bishop of Oxford. It is of interest to notice that the first movements of this kind were inspired by the example of the Sisters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul.