

## NOTICES

NEW PENGUIN AND PELICAN BOOKS include a translation of Caesar's *Conquest of Gaul* by S. A. Handford (2s.) and a lively version of Maupassant's *Miss Harriet and other stories* (2s.) by H. N. P. Sloman. Mr Christmas Humphreys' *Buddhism* (1s. 6d.) provides exceptional value, with its 250 pages of text and excellent illustrations. It provides a life of the Buddha, chapters on the various schools of Buddhism, and a good general account of the growth of its ideals and of its influence today. Full bibliographies add to the value of an excellent guide. Mr Roger Manvell, editor of *The Cinema*, 1951 (2s. 6d.), assembles some excellent material, including a symposium on the Cinema Programme, the script of an informative radio feature on the making of films, and a thoughtful discussion by Maurice Gorham on the claims of Television as a medium in its own right. A comprehensive selection of stills from films of the year is included.

POLICY FOR THE WEST (Allen and Unwin; 12s. 6d.) is a careful and attractively written analysis by Barbara Ward of what must be the positive features of a 'Western' policy confronted by the fact of Russian claims. She argues for 'effective containment' of Russia, not merely by military and economic means but by a constructive faith, for 'men must believe that what they have undertaken can be carried through'.

THE QUEENMAKER, by Philip Lindsay (Williams and Norgate; 15s.) is, appropriately, a biography of an Earl of Warwick, for John Dudley, its subject, held the former kingmaker's title until he became Duke of Northumberland and ruler of England in Edward's name. Mr Lindsay sees him as one of the great men of the English Renaissance, an English Cesare Borgia. And with good reason, for this son of Henry VII's Minister, though a faithful husband, was a man without scruple, his political ambitions unbounded, his religious loyalty opportunist. His daring attempt to alter the succession ended disastrously for himself and left to posterity the tragic spectacle of his daughter-in-law, the Lady Jane Grey, on the execution scaffold. Mr Lindsay, using his novelist's skill, tells the story well and only occasionally might one question some observation. His criticism of Henry VII is too severe and it is unusual to find him blamed for the murder of the Princes in the Tower.

WESTERN MYSTICISM, Dom Cuthbert Butler's classic exposition of the teaching of SS. Augustine, Gregory and Bernard on Contemplation and the Contemplative Life, has been reissued (Constable, 25s.). The valuable 'Afterthoughts' which appeared in the second edition are

included, but the continued lack of an index to so authoritative a work is to be regretted.

*APOLOGETICS FOR THE PULPIT* is a reissue in one volume of Fr Aloysius Roche's original three volumes (Burns Oates; 18s.). The three sections are devoted to 'The Grounds of Belief', 'The Church' and 'The Sacramental System', and together form a useful compendium for anyone who wants an accurate and clearly argued summary of Catholic teaching.

*FOR GOODNESS' SAKE* (Sheed and Ward; 8s. 6d.), reminds us that St James the Apostle hits hard, and batters us with applications of the faith that we profess fully but only practise in part. 'When you have read him a number of times you may still be an imperfect Christian, but complacency will not be one of your faults.' Nor, we may add, if you read Father Lawson, who neither minces his words nor dilutes his medicine. A timely and salutary book.

*AQUINAS PAPER 16* (*Nature as the Ethical Norm*, by D. J. B. Hawkins: Blackfriars Publications; 1s. 6d.) contains half a page of Wodehouse; but, more valuable, it contains fifteen pages of Fr Hawkins. Discussing the divorce between Kantian ethics and happiness, he remarks that 'H. A. Pritchard seems to find something almost obscene in the thought that right action might entail a reward'.

*IN THE SERVICE OF YOUTH* (Sands; 10s. 6d.) is an excellent translation of Paula Hoesl's life of St Jeanne de Lestonnac. After a childhood rendered unhappy by her mother's apostasy to Calvinism, Jeanne experienced twenty-four years of peace and deep happiness in companionship with a devoted husband, but on his death in 1597 she turned from the world and entered the convent of the Feuillantines in Toulouse. Here, however, the austerities of the nuns proved beyond her strength, and after months of illness she left. But from apparent failure sprang success, and her new foundation, the congregation of the Daughters of Notre Dame dedicated to the instruction of young girls, soon spread to other cities and districts of France. And on May 15th, 1949, the holy foundress was canonised.

*MEDICAL ASPECTS OF MARRIAGE*, by Dr John Ryan (Burns Oates; 1s. 6d.), is a brief synopsis of a series of lectures, which contains so much useful information set out in an interesting way that it leads one to hope that the author will publish the full text of the lectures themselves.