

## NOTICES

PORTRAIT OF PIUS XII by Nazareno Padellaro (Dent, 25s.) is the latest and in some respects the best of the many biographies of the present Pope. Signor Padellaro is well informed, makes a proper distinction between gossip and current opinion and avoids unnecessary superlatives. Michael Derrick's translation reads easily, and sixteen excellent photographs add to the documentary value of this useful book.

OUR FAITH (Nelson, 12s. 6d.) by Mgr Heenan, Bishop of Leeds, is a clearly written introduction to Catholic teaching, addressed primarily to children leaving school. It has a real understanding of their needs and sympathy for the difficulties they actually experience. In addition to the exposition of the material covered by the usual catechism, there are chapters on Church history and in particular on the English Reformation. The emphasis on the Catholic faith in terms of a life to be lived, and not simply in terms of intellectual assent, is particularly valuable. There are numerous illustrations, many of them original and some, it must be admitted, rather inept. Sir William Hole's illustrations of biblical scenes (and six of them are here reproduced) somehow confirm the striped dressing-gown and cotton-wool beard view of the Bible which the Bishop's text triumphantly avoids.

The French system of dealing with juvenile delinquents differs from the British in two main respects: justice is meted out by special (stipendiary) magistrates and probation officers are assisted by voluntary workers. In *DES TERRE-NEUVE POUR LA JUSTICE* (Les Editions Ouvrières, 345 fr.) M. Jacques Mipe gives a fictionalized account of how the system works. The 'Newfoundlands' of the title are canine, not geographical, for the author finds that the qualities required by good voluntary probationer workers are very like those ascribed by Larousse to these brave and devoted dogs.

With the establishment of political democracy and the slow growth of economic democracy it is obvious that worker education becomes more and more important. If the workers are not to become the dupes of demagogues and propagandists they need something more than slogans and counter-propaganda. The problem is particularly pressing in France and by publishing the symposium *CULTURE OUVRIERE ET ACTION SYNDICALE* (Les Editions du Cerf, 990 fr.) the French Dominicans have made a valuable contribution to the discussion. Apart from sections on the French situation a third of the book is devoted to what is happening in other countries, in Great Britain, the U.S.A., Germany, Italy and Scandinavia, as well as the contributions being made by U.N.E.S.C.O. to worker education.