

Blackfriars

VARIA

REFLECTIONS BY SIGRID UNDSET ON CHRISTMAS AND TWELFTH NIGHT. (Sheed & Ward; 2/6.)

Sigrid Undset is a big woman, big in body, mind and heart, deep in voice and simple in Faith, the mother of three children. It is to this Catholic mother that we owe these reflections rather than to the author of *Kristin Lavransdatter*, most of which was written before her conversion seven years ago . . . and Catholic mothers will appreciate them nearly as much as her brothers and sisters of the Dominican family in which she is a Tertiary.

H.D.C.P.

THE SAINTS IN SILHOUETTE. ST. BENEDICT. Verses by Dom Pedro Subercaseaux, O.S.B. Script by a Benedictine of Stanbrook. (Burns, Oates & Washbourne, Ltd.; 1/-.)

TELLING BEADS. By Angela Verne. Illustrations by Wilfrid Pippet. (Burns, Oates & Washbourne, Ltd.; 2/-.)

We congratulate all concerned in the production of *The Saints in Silhouette*, a most attractive booklet. Both illustrations and script give sheer delight to the eye, whilst the verses, in which piety and humour are so skilfully, and so rightly, blended, will appeal to young and old alike.

We regret that we cannot bestow such unqualified praise on *Telling Beads*, a series of meditations in verse on the mysteries of the Rosary. The illustrations by Wilfrid Pippet are, needless to say, very well executed, but the text leaves much to be desired in the matter of rhyme and rhythm. 'End-stopped' verse is generally safer than 'run-on' verse when the rhyming couplet is used in simple narrative.

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Pamphlets recently issued by the C.T.S. include *The Mexican Persecution*, a translation of the Encyclical *Acerba Animi*, in an intelligent chocolate-and-cream cover; a sound instruction on *Training in Purity*, by the Rev. E. J. Mahoney; and an account of the four *Third Orders*, Carmelite, Dominican, Franciscan, and Servite, by Frs. Benedict Zimmerman, O.D.C., Fabian Dix, O.P., Dominic Devas, O.F.M., and Anselm M. Hislop, O.S.M. (Catholic Truth Society, Eccleston Square, S.W.1; 2d. each.)