

SANTIAGO AND OTHER POEMS. By Elizabeth Belloc. (Macmillan; 6s.)

The book of poems by Elizabeth Belloc published in 1937 is now out of print. The re-publication of these poems, with the addition of some new ones is, therefore, very welcome. Miss Belloc's verse reflects three moods: one inspired by Ancient Greece; one inspired by deep Catholic feeling; one lighter, and whimsical. To say that, reading the poems of the first mood (such as *The Maiden of Artemis, Pelion*), one is reminded of Gilbert Murray's translations of choruses of Euripides; that, reading those of the second mood, one is reminded sometimes (as in *St Anthony, Adveniat regnum tuum*), of Hilaire Belloc, sometimes (as in *Tenebrae factae sunt*), of Ernest Dowson; and that those of the third mood (as *The Windmill creature*) recall Rose Macaulay's too rare verses, is no disparagement of Miss Belloc's art. On the contrary, it is merely to range her, according to her mood, with writers of some of the most lovely things in modern traditional poetry. It is not to suggest that she is imitative. The thought and language are profoundly personal and distinctive, and the note of tenderness that runs through most of the poems is individual and rare. Especially worthy of note are the two 'Improvisations from Sappho' (p. 76) and the noble 'Santiago' (p. 37).

W.H.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of BLACKFRIARS.

Sir,—After studying with interest your November number, I should be glad, as a former Anglican, to make one further point with regard to the present situation in the Church of England. 'Anglo-Catholics though unhappy at what has been done do not yet feel themselves entirely compromised'. I believe this is true. But it is clear from the Lambeth Report that the S. Indian union is the start of a widespread movement to unite Anglicans and Free Churchmen on a basis, as Fr St John says, 'of formulae which conceal . . . radical differences'. I know that many Anglo-Catholics view this with dismay. We Catholics, therefore, should extend to them our prayers and sympathy; a sympathy founded on knowledge and increased by personal and friendly contact. We must not think they are lightly to be won to the full faith. While they cherish many Catholic doctrines, they have been bred in the Anglican tradition and in aversion for Rome. We have the opportune but difficult task of making clear to them the present issue. It is plain that the Church of England, as represented by the majority of its Bishops, has turned its back on the Catholic Church, and embarked on a series of approaches to reunion with Protestant bodies at home and abroad. For this, it is prepared to slur over matters of disagreement and to jettison Catholic teaching, notably as regards the Priesthood. This policy seems to spring from the nature of the Anglican Church: its actions speak even more loudly than its words. And it follows that Anglo-Catholics, in so far as they are