

NOTICES

COLLINS have recently started a new venture in introducing religious books in their cheap 'Fontana Books' series. With J. B. Phillips's version of *The Epistles of the New Testament, Letters to Young Churches*, they have had the success of selling 100,000 copies in a few months. A similar success was met with C. S. Lewis's titles. Now they have added Father Gerald Vann's *THE DIVINE PITY* to the series. This already well-known 'study of the social implications of the Beatitudes' now joins the glossy backs of novels such as *Moulin Rouge*, and will doubtless achieve a circulation comparable with the other religious books in the series. (Fontana Books; Collins; 2s.).

GEORGE MACLEOD, leader of the Iona Community, in the Alex Wood Memorial lecture for 1956, gave a very individualistic and spirited explanation of the sudden appearance, particularly in America, of a movement to 'community' in various religious bodies. He holds that a united Christendom is an impossibility, but that religious men and women are realizing that individualism in the present era of secularism is not enough and that some at least must break away from the life of the day and enter into close co-operation together in some sort of 'retreat'. He considers that we may well be entering the Age of the Spirit. His lecture *CHURCH PROSPECT* is published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, price 1s. 6d.

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EXTRACTS

MOUNT CARMEL, the Carmelite Quarterly edited from Wincanton, Somerset, contains a helpful article in its Spring issue on illness as a type of religious life. The authoress discusses the various aspects of religious life, and in particular the vows as reflected in the life of the invalid. With regard to the second vow she writes:

It may be difficult for the invalid who is not bound by any vow of chastity to see any connection between his condition and the virtue of that state. There is no doubt, however, that God can use ill health as a means of calling a man or woman to keep their hearts for him alone. To many illness means curtailment of opportunities for close friendship and for love and marriage. To some this loss will be the greatest part of the burden of ill health and the suffering of their