

## **Blackfriars**

which is certainly one of the most finished and efficient pieces of organisation we have in this country. Father Aidan Elrington by way of Introduction to this present Report gives his impressions of Besford and provides a very complete and lucid account of the whole establishment, its aims, the general routine, manner of government, and order of the day. Mgr. Newsome in his official Report takes us into the realms of Psychology, theoretical, experimental and very practical. He perhaps presumes in his readers a knowledge of the terms and jargon of the new Psychology which not all of them will possess; but it would be a pity if we were put off by the terrifying terminology. Fresh air, wholesome food, clean surroundings, human sympathy and Catholic charity are terms which we can grasp; and this Report eloquently attests that those factors are working the mental cures which Besford aims at and successfully achieves. Besford is a very courageous effort in education, because it deals with the very worst possible material and therefore it deserves all the support that Catholics can give.

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*Carmina* is the occasional magazine of the Catholic Poetry Society, ably edited by Mr. Maurice Leahy. To the present number the editor contributes a glowing article on the Poetry of Gilbert Chesterton—the poet not of the return to Nature, but of the return to God.

Father Bede Jarrett's lecture, here published, on '*The Hound of Heaven*' as a *Retreat Book* suggests that the forms of mysticism which constantly refer to the soul's search for God are cheap and harmful. Francis Thompson in his *Hound of Heaven* puts it the other way round and says it is rather God seeking the soul, but seeking only that He may compel the 'strange, piteous, futile thing' to arise, clasp His hand and come.

A short article on Oscar Wilde by Lord Alfred Douglas clears up a doubt which has often been expressed about Wilde's Catholic end. Lord Alfred Douglas declares that he is convinced that 'Wilde's reception was genuine and valid.'

The number contains poems by Wilfrid Meynell, Evan Morgan, Carmel Withers, Wilfred Childe, Alys Trotter and Sister Mary Benvenuta, O.P.