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woman but exploded from the head of God the Thunderer, Hitler, a giant with a great blond beard, is worshipped in thousands of Swastika churches all oriented towards the Sacred Aeroplane in Munich in which he lead the flight against Moscow. A few Christians remain, small wandering bands like gypsies, despised yet despising, expiating their sin in forgetting the dying Christ's words, *forgive them for they know not what they do*, by persecuting the Jews, who have entirely disappeared. Women are no longer human persons, they live segregated in pens as child-bearing animals and their male children are taken from them eighteen months after birth. All records relating to religion and culture before Hitler have been systematically destroyed.

Yet the Empire is beginning to crumble, for the women, acquiescing in the denial of their proper value, are ceasing to bear females, and the men, denied the outlet of the essential ethic of pride and violence and ruthlessness, are losing their nerve. There is nobody left to go to war with. The beginning of the disintegration is told in this story, how the obliteration of Memory is not complete, for a precious book of gleanings from the wisdom of pre-Hitlerian times together with a photograph of an almost tubby dark-moustached little man smiling pleasantly at a maiden fall into the hands of an outwardly casual, protestant-minded Englishman, the sceptic who is looking for something; the type that Totalitarianism finds so difficult to assimilate.

Catholics will note their substantial agreement with this Gollancz book in its criticism of the nightmare it describes. For the argument is based on the two fundamental principles, first that men are not necessarily inferior for being different; second that they cannot live in a closed system. The principles are those of St. Augustine and St. Thomas in their treatment of man as the *imago Dei*.

THOMAS GILBY, O.P.

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THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD: Conferences on the Two Precepts of Charity and on the Ten Commandments. By St. Thomas Aquinas. (Burns Oates; 2/6.)

THE THREE GREATEST PRAYERS: Commentaries on the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Apostles' Creed. By St. Thomas Aquinas. (Burns Oates; 2/6.)

Father Laurence Shapcote, O.P., has once more put us all in his debt. Not content with translating the whole of the *Summa Theologica*, the *Summa contra Gentiles*, and portions of the *Quaestiones Disputatae* as well as some of the *Commentaries on the Epistles of St. Paul*, he has now given us translations of these minor treatises of St. Thomas which should prove a boon to the preacher. A brief but admirable Introduction by Fr. Thomas

BLACKFRIARS

Gilby is prefixed to each volume. The Conferences on the Commandments should be particularly useful. They were delivered at Naples during the Lent of 1273, the year before the Saint's death. One feature of both treatises is the amazing wealth of quotation from Holy Scripture; the Saint had a marvellous gift for using texts as levers to pass from one point to another.

H. P.

FONTES VITAE S. THOMAE AQUINATIS, VI. DOCUMENTA. Cura et labore P.M.-H. Laurent, O.P. (Revue Thomiste, Saint-Maximin, Var; n.p.)

This latest fascicule of documents relating to the life of St. Thomas is of special interest to English students since it includes several letters of Archbishop Peckham. These show something of the persecution which St. Thomas' disciples at Oxford suffered from censures and other manifestations of ecclesiastical wrath. It is true that all these letters are to be found in Wilkins' *Concilia*, but here they are more accessible to the student of St. Thomas' life. The other documents include many things concerning his relatives, his troubles in Paris together with early lists of his works. It is interesting to see from some of these sources how his influence and reputation were not limited to the scientific world.

C. P.

WE BEHELD HIS GLORY. The Primitive Christian Message and Present-Day Religious Trends. By Nicholas Arseniev, D.D. Translated by M. A. Ewer, Ph.D. (S.P.C.K.; 5/-.)

The primitive Christian message tells us that all things have been made new in Christ, that Christ has conquered evil, and that now His will is to fill all things with His fullness. The varying fortunes of this splendid theme can be seen in divers movements of contemporary Christianity in the various denominations concerned. It may be doubted whether sufficient stress is laid in this book on the more distinctive characteristics of these movements (we have in mind the exposition of Barth's thought); and so it comes about that elements so diverse as the *Bernechener Bewegung*, Barth's and M. W. Monod's theology are here all grouped together. Yet a breath of inspiration pervades the book from cover to cover and carries all before it: the spirit of that "Christian realism," the vision of the "unsearchable riches of Christ" which were manifest in the flesh in the Word Incarnate, and which are now at work in the Church.

M.-J. C.

A COLONIAL POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REMINISCENCES. By Alan Workman. (Grayson; 8/6.)

A book of pleasing contrasts. While dealing with the adventures of a life spent amidst postal intricacies in many parts of the

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Empire the author throws some interesting sidelights on Catholic missionary activity. Speaking of the White Fathers and Mill Hill Fathers in Uganda he says, ". . . without losing dignity as members of the European race (they) accommodated themselves to the life of the native" (p. 76). Changes are made "well suited to the genius of the native whatever his race" (p. 77).

Faith must build on the natural foundations and culture of the native; not on ones imported from Europe. Over-Westernization only leads to discontent and new temptations. The book is full of traveller's yarns—many of them quite unconnected with postage-stamps or missionaries.

G. A.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- ALLEN & UNWIN: *Germany's New Religion: The German Faith Movement*, Wilhelm Hauer, Karl Heim and Karl Adam (5/-).
- BLACKWELL: *Songs and Lyrics*, Ben Johnson (2/6); *The Phoenix and the Turtle*, Shakespeare, Marston, Chapman, Jonson, etc. (2/6.)
- BLOUD ET GAY (Paris): *Principes d'Action catholique*, Paul Dabin, S.J. (3 frs.)
- BURNS OATES: *Introduction to the Devout Life*, St. Francis de Sales, tr. Allan Ross (3/6); *The Catholic Student's "Aids" to the Study of the Bible*, Vol. V. *Acts, Epistles and Apocalypse* (2nd edn. fully revised), Hugh Pope, O.P., S.T.M., D.S.S. (10/6); *Christ and Womankind*, Peter Ketter, D.D. (18/-) *Plain Talks on the Catholic Religion*, H. A. Johnston, S.J. (5/-); *Seven Addresses on Social Justice*, F. H. Drinkwater (1/- and 2/6).
- COLDWELL: *The Last Romans (Ostatni Rzymianie)*, Theodore Jeske-Chinski (5/-).
- EDITIONS SALVATOR (Mulhouse): *A la source pure de la vie: Conseils à des mères chrétiennes sur l'initiation sexuelle des enfants*, R. P. Schmitz, S.V.D. (4 frs.); *Sainte Marguerite-Marie*, Jean Rime (15 frs.).
- FABER & FABER: *The Modern Mind*, Michael Roberts (8/6).
- GOLLANZ: *Towards the Christian Revolution* (symposium) (6/-); *Socialism and the Churches*, John Lewis (3d.).
- HEINEMANN: *Interval before Birth*, N. S. Leitch (7/6).
- HERDER (Freiburg i.B.): *Paulus: ein Heldenleben im Dienste Christi*, Dr. Josef Holzner (RM. 5.60 and 7.40).
- LONGMANS: *Evolution without Natural Selection*, J. C. McKerrow (pp. 63, n.p.).
- LOVAT DICKSON: *The Pope in Politics: the Life and Work of Pius XI*, William Teeling (7/6).
- MACMILLAN: *Civitas Dei* (Vol. II), Lionel Curtis (12/6); *General Psychology: An Interpretation of the Science of the Mind based on Thomas Aquinas*, Robert Edward Brennan, O.P., Ph.D. (12/6).
- SHEED & WARD: *Youth and Memory*, spoken at the Empire Youth Rally by Altrud Noyes (1/-).
- VRIN (Paris): *Kierkegaard et la Philosophie existentielle*, Léon Chestov (25 frs.).

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