

Chant. Unless this becomes an integral part of our education and outlook even from our childhood, all the Liturgical revival with the fostering of what was formerly the prayer song of the people (Gregorian Chant) will be, if not fiddling while Rome is burning, at least making art for art's sake *interfere* with art for souls starving for grace! The greatest enemies of the Liturgy and the Chant are some of its enthusiasts.

Notwithstanding the criticisms, Marie Pierik's 'Song of the Church' is an admirable contribution to popular English literature on the subject and its careful perusal is well worth while. The format of the book is attractive.

JUSTIN FIELD, O.P.

PAPAL LEGATE AT THE COUNCIL OF TRENT. By Rt Rev. Hubert Jedin.
Translated by F. C. Eckhoff. (Herder; n.p.)

Seripando is a romantic name and when linked with the stirring history of the sixteenth-century Church it might spell almost anything from a pirate to a papal legate. And in fact it is the name of one of the most sturdy and perhaps least romantic of the high ecclesiastics of the Reformation period. A Neapolitan, he tried to join the Dominican friars where St Thomas had preceded him, but unlike St Thomas his parents dissuaded him, and when he returned to his religious vocation it was to become an Observantine Augustinian in the same city. He was only fifteen then, but that did not prevent his having a wide classical education as well as a thorough grounding in theology at the university of Bologna and from his acquaintance with such men as Cardinal Cajetan. He was from the first a favourite of the General of his Order, and was very early given posts of responsibility. He found himself eventually General of his Order, a staunch upholder of reform in those turbulent days, and therefore without much chance of increasing his theological wisdom. But being already General in 1545 he necessarily took part in the first gatherings of the Council of Trent. This was to be the crowning work of his life. In the first period of the Council he worked hard and played a leading part in all the major discussions on Justification, the Scriptures, Original Sin. In the interim before the second convention of the Council he was made Archbishop of Salerno and was able to do a great work of reform there. Pius IV then elevated Seripando to the college of cardinals and in view of his great experience in the first sessions at Trent he was sent as papal representative to work with the two other legates on the momentous questions of the Mass, Communion and Papal Primacy. He died before the Council was concluded but it will be seen what a central part he played in the most important activity of the counter-reformation. His sturdy unromanticism stood him in good stead here, and it was because of such men of strong purpose that the Council was able to triumph over the ceaseless political intrigue which made it in some ways more like an arena than a council chamber.

The present massive biography has all the requirements of a work of scholarship. It covers seven hundred large pages and is well documented throughout. If there is not much advance in any detailed knowledge of the inner workings of the Council itself it is at least partly on account of the extraordinary paucity of material for the later history of Trent. Trent needs to be studied in greater detail in these days in order to discover the theological implications of its decrees, some of which are only now beginning to become vital in the Church. This biography will be of great value to all students of the Reformation period and in particular of Trent; and it will be of interest too to the general reader. The production of the book is most pleasing and refreshing in these days of parsimony of paper and press.

JOHN HUNSTER.

A TORCHBEARER. *Memoirs of Emily C. Fortey*. Edited by F. P. Armitage. (Blackfriars; 2s.)

On the cover of this small collection of memoirs, Emily Fortey is described as a torchbearer, but it must not be inferred from this title that she was a firebrand. It is true that her active participation in social services, rescue work, and in the Leicester City Council and on the Education Committee, brought her into prominence, but her exertions were prompted by tremendous enthusiasm for the cause of justice and truth and never by a desire to shine in the public eye. She had many qualities which endeared her to those who came in contact with her, but above all, it was her love for all sorts of people, and her downright frankness about them, coupled with the trust she placed in them which compelled the admiration of many who differed from her in matters of religion and politics. Diversified though the contributors to these memoirs are, there is a wonderful unanimity among them when speaking of Emily Fortey's conspicuous virtues and characteristics. Unconsciously and without effort she impressed them by her vigorous tenacity of purpose and unbounded charity, though possibly only a small minority realised that her enthusiasm and her vivacious way of setting about things were rooted in her devotion to the Catholic Church and her loyal obedience to its precepts. Intimate friends and chance acquaintances will read with pleasure the memoirs of one who gave freely of her best and asked for no reward in return.

FABIAN DIX, O.P.