

acquaintance) are briefly and cleverly sketched, and then a selection of representative books is examined in closer detail. The ten 'areas' are (1) translation (Weymouth, Moffatt, Goodspeed and the Revised Standard Version in detail: the Westminster and Knox are named, among others); (2) text (Westcott and Hort, and briefly what followed); (3) Aramaic origins (Dalman, Torrey, Black); (4) Synoptics (outline of the usual critical position, with a section on 'form criticism', and 'present day' dates, Mk 65-70, Lk 80, Mt 85); (5) the Life of Christ (ten authors: Sanday, Denney, Schweitzer, Glover, Klausner the Jew, Bultmann, Middleton Murry, Manson, Goguel, Otto); (6) St Paul (chiefly the various solutions to Pauline problems); (7) Fourth Gospel (the various critical views); (8) Johannine Epistles and Revelation (especially the arrival at 'preterist' interpretation); (9) Other apostolic writings (e.g. I Peter, on which the Petrine authorship is upheld by Selwyn, the problem of Hebrews discussed); (10) New Testament theology (six books: Barth, Hoskyns and Davey, Kittel's *Wörterbuch*, Nygren, Hebert's *Throne of David*, Cullmann). All this is explained with great clarity and in a delightful, readable and even sometimes merry style, in 140 pages. The authors cited above are nearly all Protestant, and mostly British, with a handful of German, Swiss and French. The views of Catholic scholarship are represented (after ch. 9) by a paragraph giving the dates assigned to the books of the N.T. in Mgr Knox's edition.

How one wishes that something on this same plan, with some additional areas on, for instance, typology, N.T. chronology, origins of dogma in the N.T., the Church in the N.T., the Greek of the N.T., could be written with wider horizons in view, and preferably viewed from the rock of orthodoxy whence the maelstrom of many currents may be distinguished so much more easily than when one is in the maelstrom itself. If ever such a huge task, truly implementing the title, is attempted, the author would be wise to work on Professor Hunter's lines and recognise a debt to a remarkable book. For the chief pre-occupation that appears on every page of Professor Hunter's book is a desire that Jesus Christ should be better known and loved.

SEBASTIAN BULLOUGH, O.P.

PRAYERS OF PURPOSE. By Hubert McEvoy, S.J. (Oliver and Boyd; 6s.)

This is an excellent prayer book. The prayers are all from liturgical books, mostly from the Roman missal, and cover every aspect of the Christian life. There is a short introduction in which McEvoy explains our need for prayer and shows that it is something we should do with and for the whole Church. Hence these official prayers of the Church presented for our personal use. The book is divided into sections, each

with a few words of explanation and short extracts from the Scriptures. It could be well used for meditations.

It fits easily into a pocket, has good clear print, is amply indexed and handsomely bound.

HUGH NASH, O.P.



NOTICES

Beneath the rather specialised title *CATHOLIC POLITICAL THOUGHT, 1789-1848*, by Béla Menczer (Burns Oates; 18s.) there lies a wealth of interest for the general reader. The author has selected texts from de Maistre, de Balzac, Cortès, etc., to show how the few outstanding writers of those days not only foresaw our own political plights, but also understood the part the Catholic Church must play in the political as well as social life of the world. An important contribution to Christian thought today.

GIVING A HOLY HOUR, by J. B. Stephenson, S.J. (Gill, Dublin; 7s. 6d.) is designed to provide a manual primarily for the priests who have to conduct this devotion throughout the year. It provides a complete 'Holy Hour' for each first-Friday in the year, so that the faithful may use it also for their prayers and meditations.

THE CONSECRATION to our Lady as advocated by St Grignion de Montfort needs much explanation before it can be properly understood. For this reason the translation of Père Poupon's work on this may be welcomed. It appears in an abridged version as *TO JESUS THROUGH MARY* by R. P. Poupon (Mercier; 12s. 6d.).

LIFE OF THE SPIRIT for May, 1950, contained Maria Winowski's moving account of the life and death of the Franciscan printer-apostle and modern martyr in a German concentration camp—Fr Maximilian Kolbe. Now a longer work under the same title—*OUR LADY'S FOOL*—appears from Mercier Press (12s. 6d.), a book to inspire enthusiasm in the most sluggish heart.

An Anglican Religious to whom we are already indebted for several good works of translation from spiritual classics has now given us St Anselm's *PRAYERS AND MEDITATIONS* (Mowbray; 3s.), which reveal the simplicity of a saint. He begins: 'The following prayers and meditations were written down in order that they might move their reader to the love or fear of God, or to the searching out of their own hearts.' A constructive and traditional book.