

BOOK NOTICES

Catholic Principles for Present Day Needs, by Very Rev. T. Walsh, M.A., C.S.S.R. Dwyer, Sydney.

The learned Provincial of the Redemptorist Fathers is so well known in New Zealand that it is almost superfluous for us to point out his qualifications to write such a book as we have before us. He understands the needs of the present day; his long experience and his ability have peculiarly fitted him to deal with them; and the traditions of patience and kindness of his Congregation, together with his native broadmindedness and charity contribute to make his treatment of the thorny subjects of controversy acceptable to all. It is a book to be read by Catholics and non-Catholics with profit, and we augur for it a large sale.

Piggy in the Looking Glass, or Doggeral Doses for Delicious Doodles. Burns and Oates. Price: One shilling.

A delightful book for the very little ones.

A Great Mystery of Inheritance, by Constance M. Symonds. Burns, Oates, Washbourne. Price: 2/- net.

Here is a delightfully written treatise on the Incarnation and the Virgin Birth, by an author who has the happy gift of combining the union of piety with true scientific education.

A Short Life of Pope Pius X, by F. A. Forbes. Burns, Oates, Washbourne. Price: One shilling net.

Now that there is such a universal demand for the promotion of the cause of canonisation of Pius X, this biography of the Pope of the Blessed Eucharist is timely indeed. It is an extremely interesting life, and we recommend it to our readers who want to know more about the saintly Pontiff.

Back to Morality, by T. Slater, S.J. Burns, Oates, Washbourne. Price: 5/- net.

In this, the latest publication from the pen of the learned Jesuit theologian, we have set before us the Catholic teaching on topics of actual interest and importance. The chapters on Communist Sunday Schools, Justice, Prices Moralised, Catholicism and Anglo-Catholicism, Freemasonry, and the Catholic Family are all worthy of study. The unifying idea underlying the series is that the greatest danger of our time is the lack of morality, and the author's aim is to lead people back to the moral principles of Jesus Christ.

Manual of the Children of Mary. Burns, Oates, Washbourne, Ltd. Price: 2/-.

A new edition of this well known manual. It contains everything that was in the older editions, but is only one-fourth the size. This should be a consideration with the young ladies at the present time who seem to have to carry everything with them in their hands.

Honor Thy Mother. By Father Alexander, O.F.M. Burns, Oates, Washbourne, Ltd. Price: 1/6.

Commences with some beautiful thoughts on Motherhood, and on our obligations to our mothers, and proceeds to treat of the Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin, first, as the Mother of Christ, and secondly as the Mother of Men.

The Life and Work of Blessed Michael Garicoits. By John F. Makepeace, M.A. Burns, Oates, Washbourne, Ltd., London. Price: 2/-.

A small volume of seventy-odd pages written, as the author says, for ordinary people, and as an attempt to portray a modern Saint in such a way that we too may know him and love him as his companions knew and loved him.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

READER.—A neighboring priest who happens to have the book informs us that *Geraldine* was written by A. E. Agnew. If it is still in print, Burns and Oates, Pater Noster Row, London, would be able to find it for you.

CRITIC.—Your remarks, and the style in which they are couched recall the schoolmaster who told his pupils that "a preposition was a bad thing to end a sentence with."

HOXI SORT.—The novel you are thinking of must be *David Harum*, best and kindest of all American stories. As well as we can remember the saying was that "fleas are good for a dog because they prevent him from remembering that he is a dog." It was an old negro who was reported as saying that the same delightful creatures reminded him of arithmetic, because "they added to his worries, subtracted from his comfort, divided his attention, and multiplied like—well!"

F. P. M.—The rule is that before receiving Communion we must be fasting from midnight. Fast here means abstinence from anything taken as food or drink. Do not be scrupulous about washing your teeth or rinsing your mouth. Take ordinary care, and then if it is unavoidable that minute drops of water be swallowed you must consider that they are not taken as food or drink but as part of the saliva. There is a danger of tepidity for persons who receive daily in a spirit of routine. This might even cause serious spiritual harm. But the difficulty is met with if left to the advice of a prudent director, who will forbid daily Communion unless proper dispositions are present.

PERPLEXED.—A public oratory is one to which the public have free access. A private oratory is a chapel in a private house in which Mass may be said by a Papal privilege. Semi-public oratories are chapels in convents, colleges, pious institutions, hospitals, and prisons. One does not satisfy the precept of hearing Mass by attending a private oratory unless he be the master of the house, a relative dwelling there, or a guest or a domestic.

(2) With regard to your second point, either physical or moral presence is required. It is sufficient that a person be so united with the congregation that he can, by hearing, or by seeing, or by following the actions of others present, attend to the principal actions of the Mass. He may be a long way from the altar but there may not be a long distance between him and the other members of the congregation.

Bucceroni (3rd edition, vol. 1, page 263) says that a person who, although he does not see the priest nor hear his words, can distinguish the parts of the Mass from the sound of the bell, the singing of the Choir, or the movements of the congregation, with which he is morally united, hears Mass even though the crowd be so large that he is outside the Church.

But, needless to say, the good Catholic will endeavor to be close to the altar and to follow the actions of the priest devoutly.

(3) The answer to your third query is clear from the following words of the author quoted: "It is not lawful to sell things which are instituted or used for evil ends, unless in the particular case you know there can be no abuse. In the sale of the objects you mention the abuse is to be presumed."

CARNIVAL AT WINTON

The carnival in connection with St. Thomas's church, was continued on Thursday and Friday evenings and was well patronised both nights (says the *Winton Record* for November 24). It was a great success and all credit is due those, who, with Mrs. D. O'Malley (secretary), and Mrs. O'Reilly (treasurer), worked so assiduously to that end. On Thursday night, Rev. Father Hunt took the opportunity of thanking the public for their liberal patronage and made special reference to the performances of the children. He expressed his keen desire to see children well trained and well brought up. The success of the Carnival was principally due to the training of the children by the Sisters of Mercy, great crowds being attracted during the week to hear the singing and see the marching of the little ones.

During the evening the Orchestra played several very pleasing selections. The children's marches and choruses were much enjoyed and it was quite evident that they had been carefully trained. Other items which were much appreciated were.—Dances by Misses I. Deegan, E. McDermott, Master R. Heller; recitations, Miss A. Murphy, Masters R. Scully and J. Conley; songs, Masters W. Geary, J. Matheson, W. Murphy, P. Corcoran, V. Driscoll and S. Butler. The accompaniments were played by Misses M. Deegan and E. Kerr. A song was also rendered by Mr. Geo. Lindsay, his accompanist being his little daughter Isabel.

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