

## NOTICES

**BIBLIOTHEQUE EUROPEENNE** is a new collection of fundamental texts, translated into French and published by Desclée de Brouwer. The *Oeuvres Complètes* of St John of the Cross (360 francs belges), in a new version by the Carmelite Père Cyprien, and the *Correspondance* of St Teresa of Avila (330 francs belges), translated by Marcelle Auclair, well known for her biography of the saint, are two admirable additions to an important series. Beautifully printed on thin but opaque paper, these volumes are, apart from their meticulous scholarship and the intrinsic worth of a fresh translation of such classic texts, notable examples of the best continental book production. For those in England who know no Spanish but are familiar with French, they can be recommended as the best possible introduction to the two great Carmelite saints.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL** is the latest subject in the series of illustrated lives of saints (Desclée, 240 francs), in which the superb photography of Leonard von Matt gives, in 190 pictures, a rich background to the life and work of the apostle of charity, the tercentenary of whose death is celebrated this year.

**THE BENEDICTINE IDEA**, by Dom Hubert Van Zeller (Burns and Oates, 21s.), is a survey of Benedictine life, from its first beginnings to its present, and widely varying, manifestations. Dom van Zeller combines an acute sense of history with a loyal appreciation of the essential continuity of the Benedictine inspiration.

**BALZAC THE EUROPEAN**, by E. J. Oliver (Sheed and Ward, 15s.), is a study of the novelist, informed and perceptive, in terms of the Romantic world which Balzac symbolized.

**ST BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX** (Mowbray, 10s. 6d.) provides an English translation, by Geoffrey Webb and Adrian Walker, of the story of the saint's life as recorded by his friends and contemporaries.

**THE FAITH EXPLAINED** (Geoffrey Chapman, 27s. 6d.) is described as an encyclopaedia of the Catholic Faith, written by Leo Trese, an American priest. It is a useful and unambitious summary of the usual territory of religious instruction, written, so to say, with a transatlantic accent.

**WHY CHRIST**, by the Abbot of Downside, is one of the first titles issued by the new publishing house of Darton, Longman and Todd (10s. 6d.). With his customary clarity, the Abbot examines the need of modern man for religion and the claims of the Church to meet it.

**THE DOMINICANS**, by John Baptist Reeves, O.P. (Blackfriars Publications, 10s. 6d.), is a re-issue of a brilliant essay on the history and spirit of the Order of Preachers.

**THE OWL'S WATCHSONG**, by J. A. Cuddon (Barrie and Rockcliff, 25s.), is an oddly named study of Istanbul, fully illustrated, and providing an attractive guide to the varied wonders of the city.