

upheavels caused by the French Revolution, and the revival which took place towards the end of the nineteenth century.

Following the geographical surveys come alphabetical tables with the names of the convents and the year of their establishment. Finally an alphabetical list of the different provinces and congregations with the year of establishment and, where relevant, abolition.

The whole work is very nicely produced. Publication was made possible by a subsidy from the Dutch organisation for pure scientific research. The atlas can be seen as a supplement to the work of Augustinus Lubin O.E.S.A., geographer to the French king, who produced a work in 1659 entitled *Orbis Augustinianus*, of which a reprint was produced in 1972 by the *Augustijns Historisch Instituut* at Heverlee.

M. SCHRAMA O.S.A.

Odir J. DIAS, *I registri dei Priori Generali O.S.M. dal 1285-1625*. (Archiva Ordinis Servorum, subsidia 3.) Roma, Archivum Generale Ordinis Servorum, 1970, 430 pp.

This volume presents the content of the Registers of the Priors General of the Servite Order from 1285 until 1625, that is to say, of those Registers that have come down to the present day. The registers presented here belong to what is known as the *Florentine* series, so named because the twenty-seven codices of which it is today composed, came from the convent of the ss. *Annunziata*, Florence.

In an introductory part the registers of the Florentine series as a whole are presented. A very useful table is to be found on pp. 21-23, giving the names of the forty-eight Priors General from 1249 until 1625, the years of their terms of office, the dates of the registers in which their acts are to be found, and a reference to acts preserved outside of the registers, which are collected in an appendix to this volume.

The principal part of the work consists in a presentation of the content of each of the aforementioned registers. Firstly, along with the dates and title of the register, some biographical notes of the Prior General in question are given. When possible, the dates and circumstances of the beginning and the end of each particular generalate are indicated, as also the important commissions the General had held in the Order, some of the more striking facts of his term of office, and the date of his death. This is followed by an exhaustive description of the codices, indicating also any existing editions of some one or other register, and the studies in which it has been especially cited. In describing the content of the register, an effort has been made to outline the principal elements of every act or group of acts, and to specify, where the text will allow it, the author, the addressee, the issue at stake, the place and date.

After the presentation of the content of the individual registers, a lengthy appendix is added, giving, in chronological order, the titles or summaries of the acts of the Priors General before 1625, which are preserved in the Archivium generale o.s.m., but outside of their proper registers. This is followed by an analytical index of names, both of persons and places.

The importance of such a work lies in its instrumental value for students of church history, and particularly of Servite history. The first three registers analysed are the only ones that remain from the first century of the Order's existence. They belong to the few documents that throw any light on the extremely difficult period immediately preceding and following the definitive approbation in 1304. The most complete group of registers refers to the period of the Reformation and the Catholic counter-Reformation in which the religious orders played such a notable rôle. The assimilation of the Tridentine principles and norms into the legislation of the Order can be traced.

The work of Dias is serious, highly technical, and heavily documented.

R. CANNING O.S.A.

Gedenkboek Orde van Prémontré 1121-1971. Averbode, Abdij der Norbertijnen, 1971, 390 pp. geïllustreerd.

Het 850-jarig bestaan van de Orde van Prémontré heeft de Norbertijnen van Averbode tot bezinning gebracht, welke zij in een gedenkboek blijvende vorm hebben gegeven.

Het grafisch uitstekend verzorgde werk, dat met vele tekeningen en platen verlucht is, bevat in een eerste afdeling artikelen van schrijvers zowel uit Europa als uit de Verenigde Staten. Het zijn voornamelijk historische en spirituele beschouwingen : het ontstaan van de reguliere kanunniken; de persoon van de heilige Norbertus; de oorsprong van de praemonstratensers; de voortgang der orde, verscheidenheid en centralisatiepogingen; haar rol in de intellectuele wereld der 12^e en 13^e eeuw; de norbertinessen; de lekebroeders.

Uitvoerige aandacht is er besteed aan de invloed van Augustinus op de spiritualiteit van de orde. Door de Regel van deze kerkvader aan te nemen volgens de toenmalige *ordo novus* voegde de gemeenschap rond Norbertus zich niet alleen in woorden naar Augustinus' levenswijze, doch trachtte hem ook metterdaad na te volgen en beschouwde hem als *pater noster*. De Saksische provincie noemde zich zelfs *ordo sancti Augustini*. Ook in talrijke geestelijke geschriften van norbertijnse hand blijkt Augustinus een hogere plaats te bekleden, dan hij reeds in het middeleeuws denken innam.

Prof. T. van Bavel O.S.A. schrijft over de evangelische betekenis van Augustinus' Regel, die gestoeld werd op het ideaal van de christe-