

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

REVIEWING the world reveals a world in turmoil. Scarcely a spot on this whirling ball of mud but is blistered with hot conflict, or dented with the heels of marching hosts, or scorched with the searing winds of hate. In many crucial events the Catholic Church and its people are directly concerned; in almost every important event adherents of the faith are indirectly concerned. How disturbing, then, to note the general unawareness of the possible import of events near at hand in the light of events afar off! Already news of the sufferings of the Church in Mexico becomes less potent in arousing vigorous reactions among Catholic people here at home. The jagged edges of the civil war in Spain cut a clear message through the news-ways of the world, but its meanings are read with perception blurred by distance or an equanimity which approaches indifference. Subtle persecutions of Catholicism in Germany, the eviction of religious tenets from the Communist Russian realm, the rise of un-Christian powers and principalities, all point to dangers, pitfalls, engulfing upheavals that may come. The true Catholic will not turn his back on such warning signals. Nor will he quake at threats which appear in the disrupted world scene. But he will see more than warnings or threats. He will perceive the increasing number of encroachments upon personal and spiritual freedom as having particular significance for every Catholic. And, moreover, he will realize the trend of events is a challenging reminder that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

H. W. K.

