

A SMALL HOUSEHOLD OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY. By K. L. Wood-Legh. (Manchester University Press; 18s.)

In 1951 Dr Wood-Legh found a fifteenth-century account book among the corporation archives at Bridport in Dorset. It consisted of the weekly accounts of two priests, William Savernak, and John Trewen, who were chaplains at a local chantry, and covers their expenses between 1453 and 1460. It is a fascinating document for any student of the pre-Reformation church.

There is nothing to suggest that the two priests failed to lead lives of real respectability and decorum. As chantry priests they had no parochial obligations, there is no reference to any expenditure upon books, more surprisingly I could find no reference to any expenditure on alms. They frequently entertained John Bettiscombe, who was probably the local squire from Bettiscombe Manor, and on occasion the Bridport bailiffs. Though they often had wine, their staple drink was ale, of which they purchased about six or seven gallons a week. Although living close to the Devon border there is no reference to wood cider or perry; perhaps these were considered poor men's drink. They bought quantities of beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork; since these were bought weekly it is probable that they had fresh meat all the year save Lent. They had of course oysters and many varieties of fish. Their table delicacies came from long distances; once they bought 24 pounds of figs, they had raisins and dates. They liked their food highly seasoned and bought ginger, cinammon and pepper.

The text is edited with all the skill that one would expect from Dr Wood-Legh. In a short foreword Dr G. M. Trevelyan describes the priest's household as 'lower middle class'. But theirs was surely not a lower middle class scale of living and there was nothing in it to remind the two priests of the rough fare of the peasantry from which possibly both were sprung.

GERVASE MATHEW, O.P.

THE THIRD REVOLUTION: A Study of Psychiatry and Religion. By Karl Stern. (Michael Joseph; 15s.)

The theme of *The Third Revolution* is Freud's psychoanalysis and its impact on psychiatry and cultural life. An examination of the effect of this impact is important since Freud's influence is no less revolutionary in these fields than those of Marx and Darwin in the social and biological spheres. The author is familiar with the cultural life of the continent and sets out the philosophical and cultural background in which Freud's ideas arose and achieved importance and vitality. Dr Stern is a faithful disciple of Freud's, but as a Catholic he is obviously in conflict with the master's philosophical and religious ideas. This leads the