

PSYCHOANALYSIS AND PERSONALITY. By Joseph Nuttin. (Sheed and Ward; 16s.)

When this book by the Professor of Psychology at Louvain first appeared in French it was rightly welcomed as an attempt to lift psychoanalysis from the level of pathology to that of what one has to describe as the 'normal'. We in England have reason to be grateful to George Lamb for giving us a very smooth translation of the book that will doubtless have as much success as the original.

The first part of Nuttin's work is a straightforward and clear account of Freud's psychoanalytical theories. The author does not, however, confine himself simply to Freud's own writings but also takes account of modifications and discoveries made by followers of Freud such as Karen Henrey, and the American schools. As each key-concept is introduced we are given an assessment of its validity, especially in the light of experimental psychology, which has too long been divorced from depth-psychology.

But it is the second part of the book that is most valuable rather than the first (where the treatment of sublimation, to give one instance, is nothing like so illuminating as Fr Plé's paper in *Dominican Studies*, 1952). This second part is entitled *A Dynamic Theory of Normal Personality*, and in it Nuttin shows how to transfer Freud's ideas from their pathological context into a normal context when they can be still more fruitful. One example of how he does this will suffice: 'According to psychoanalysis, the adult continues to carry in him the longing after the infantile state of being "secure" and protected by the warm sphere of motherly care. In our opinion, however, the fact that infantile elements are found to exist in the adult longing for security does not justify the explanation that this adult need is a derivation of infantile needs in man. . . . The desire for protection in the normal adult is by no means longing for the infantile state; it is the need of the mature personality for "integration" and "nourishing" contact—a need rooted in the very way of being of man.'

An appendix on Adler and a judiciously selected bibliography add to the value of the book.

DONALD NICHOLL

PSYCHIATRY FOR PRIESTS. By Dr H. Dobbelstein. Translated by Meyrick Booth. (Mercier Press; 6s.)

The Mercier Press are to be congratulated on publishing yet another valuable work on the problems confronting Catholics in the realm of psychology. When Dr Dobbelstein's work first appeared in Germany during 1952 it was warmly welcomed by Catholics as a useful guide for priests who find themselves dealing with the mentally ill—even