

charity, prayer, obedience to the Church, etc.; and the second being as it were the collection of the chapter talks of a prior to his brethren on the major themes of their life. In the second volume there are over a hundred of these addresses, mostly just a couple of pages long, written in all parts of the world between 1949 and 1960.

Reading these letters is a living experience, for not only are they the outcome of Père Voillaume's thought on the ideals of the congregation but they have been produced in response to the particular needs of the time, and consequently, through the binding of the ideal to the immediate and practical, one is presented with a very real sense of urgency and vitality. However, though these letters are often related to particular needs they have a permanent relevance and it is for this reason that they are now being published for use in the fraternities.

Similarly the reader can easily transpose the thought of Père Voillaume from the particular context of the Little Brothers to his own. To the religious these letters are bound to be of value; perhaps though it is to the layman who is trying to live a full Christian life in the world that will be most helpful. Whereas many religious institutions have particular ends the fulfilling of which is always before them, the Little Brother deliberately undertakes work which is not directly organized for the needs of the Church or the active apostolate. Thus the layman whose job so often seems sterile and remote from his faith should find what Père Voillaume writes for his brethren most helpful to himself. It is a shame that as yet they have not appeared in English. S.C.

FUNDAMENTAL MARRIAGE COUNSELING: A Catholic viewpoint. By

John R. Cavanagh, M.D., and others. (Mercier Press; 30s.)

THE CATHOLIC MARRIAGE MANUAL. By George A. Kelly. (Robert Hale; 21s.)

Mgr Kelly and Dr Cavanagh have both done important work in America towards putting the findings and techniques of modern empirical psychology and sociology at the service of the pastoral work of the Church. It is good to see their books being made more easily available here by publication in England or Ireland. (Mercier Press have done a particularly good job in producing a book of 568 pages for thirty shillings.) But both books would have benefited from a little revision of the text. The bibliographies and references, for example, are entirely American, even books originally published in Britain being referred to in the American edition.

Fundamental Marriage Counseling is designed to provide reliable and easily accessible information for the counsellor about fields in which he is not professionally qualified. More than half the book is devoted to the physical factors in marriage, the remainder to 'social aspects' (divorce, canon and civil law, economic problems, mixed

marriages and alcoholism) and to the religious aspects (four chapters out of thirty-four). The work is very well done, so far as it goes: the material facts about marriage are presented clearly, by competent specialists. But there is hardly anything about the specifically human, *personal* relationships involved—between husband and wife, between parents and children, with relatives and friends—or about the counselling process itself. Dr Cavanagh says in his Introduction, 'In this book we do not attempt to cover all the aspects. . . . We hope to review other relationships in a later volume.' It is a pity this is not indicated in the title, nor in the Foreword, which claims that '*Fundamental Marriage Counseling* represents a balanced, whole, integrated volume'.

The Catholic Marriage Manual is a more 'popular' work: 'sixteen easy-to-read, fact-filled chapters', says the dust-cover. Mgr Kelly, who is the author of the important study *Catholics and the Practice of the Faith*, occasionally makes telling use of statistics to point the dangers of alcoholism, divorce, or mixed marriages, but for the most part he relies here on the techniques of the journalist. ('A veteran divorce court judge, John A. Sharbaro of Chicago, was asked by a newspaper reporter what, in his experience, was the most frequent cause of broken marriages. Without hesitation, Judge Sharbaro answered, "Drink".') But this is a comprehensive, frank and practical book, and should be useful to many. A.G.

NO PIOUS PERSON: Herbert Kelly, S.S.M. (autobiographical recollections). Ed. George Every, S.S.M. (Faith Press; 15s. od.)

Some time or other Anglicans had to come to grips with Herbert Kelly: he was that sort of person—nagging, provocative, irritating, interesting. A biographer would be struggling the whole time not to lose his temper, not to be too enthusiastic, not to lose his grip on this Proteus as he becomes now an exciting visionary, now an indifferent philosopher, sometimes professedly the humblest of men, and so often a self-conscious showman. Obviously it was the duty of the order he founded, the Society of the Sacred Mission, to choose the time for exhibition: he would have been a hundred this year and the celebrations have already begun. There has been a special service from Kelham on TV, Roger Lloyd spread his enthusiasm over the best part of one of the *Guardian's* (Manchester) pages. *Prism*, a new and lively Anglican magazine, carried an excellent article by Gordon Phillips, and now we have this collection of Fr Kelly's writings arranged neatly into a kind of autobiography by George Every.

It was a wise decision to let the man speak for himself; assessing him is no easy task. Nobody who has seen Kelham could feel convinced by Roger Lloyd's article. David Paton's introduction to this book is much more interesting, but necessarily one-sided. It will be