

sociology's keeping close to concrete reality; where the former fail is in the presentation and the proper use of the facts. Not so Don Sturzo.

With a generous charity, but also with great precision, he outlines the character of the world as a society of the redeemed (potentially or actually); the whole man, supernaturalised as well as natural, is the subject-matter of sociology. Its descriptions will be incomplete—if not false—its analysis defective, unless it is aware of the presence and the effects of grace in the world. These things cannot be observed by the methods proper to any other science than theology, and theology must therefore be part of the sociologist's equipment. Perhaps there is too much pure theology in this book, but its importance—even its relevance—has been so long ignored that the author may be allowed to express his point forcefully and at some length. How much that passes for Catholic sociology is content to proceed on the basis of natural law alone, with an occasional appeal to faith—justifiable indeed, but inadequately developed from the theological viewpoint! It is not surprising that this half-hearted acceptance of reality leads some of its exponents to share the outlook of the amiable progressives and others to despair of a society which has long forgotten the way to the confessional.

A deeper acquaintance with this 'sociology of the supernatural' will not make any more attractive the picture of a world seated in sin—indeed, it will help us to appreciate something of the 'awful vision' of Christ when he was urged to look on and see for himself the miserable and tormented kingdoms of the world—but it will give us confidence in natural powers which know the limits of their efficacy and enable us to see with greater clarity the true end of society, which is to be transformed into the elect.

EDWARD QUINN

ATOMIC CHALLENGE. (Winchester Publications; 8s. 6d.)

This volume presents the collected recent B.B.C. talks on atomic energy, interspersed with a series of 'commentaries by students of different nationalities'. Rounding off the collection is a short article by Mr Henry Wallace, which might well have been left out, as it says nothing that has not been said earlier on in the book and is unsound on the general physical principles of atomic energy.

Science (in its popular garb) is well looked after by Professors Cockcroft, Oliphant, Blackett and Sir Henry Dale in a series of bright and intelligent articles on the technical problems. The general conclusion reached by the experts and, in particular, by Professor Blackett, whose theme is 'Towards Peace', is that it will be many years before atomic energy is a factor to be reckoned with in the economics of any country. Moreover, the impossibility of separating atomic power piles from atomic bombs is clearly seen, since the former inevitably produce the material needed for the latter.

The student contribution is interesting, in showing how acutely the younger generation appreciates the problem. Running through all these commentaries is a note of pessimism. Most feel that world government is the only solution, that atomic weapons must either be outlawed or carefully controlled by a central authority.

One of these essays contains a particularly valuable idea. Miss Helga Wolpert (a London University student) puts forward a thesis which, on developing, reads like this. (1) There have been many equally fundamental technical advances before: the steam-engine, electricity (particularly from water power), etc.; (2) In every case such achievements have been used only for the benefit of a few, comparatively speaking, and have never been developed as much as they might have been; (3) It would hence be more sensible to cease development of atomic power and to concentrate industrial scientific effort on these earlier methods of producing and utilising power, so that all may benefit. It is quite certain that we have, in fact, neglected earlier methods and our economists might well consider this.

Bertrand Russell contributes a well-reasoned talk, discussing the problems of international control—also dealt with by Sir George Thomson—and the alternative to control, that the atomic ‘secret’ should be held by one strong nation. But the increasing realisation that it is, in fact, no longer a secret detracts considerably from any theories based on the idea that it is.

Finally it must be added that this volume suffers acutely from an evil common to all collections of radio talks and is extremely disconnected, hence difficult to read.

P. W. ALLEN

THE PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL APPROACH TO JUVENILE DELINQUENCY. By Kate Friedlander. (Kegan Paul; 18s.)

This work falls into two distinct parts: the first setting out the theory behind the psycho-analytical approach to juvenile delinquency and the second giving case histories and their treatment and subsequent development. The book as a whole is an excellent example of the merciful difference which exists between theory and practice.

Those who can read the crude statement of the Freudian interpretation of life contained in the first section will be amply rewarded by the studies of individual children, in family situations that are all too familiar, in the second part. There is a way, however, in which the theory can be more easily read and tolerated, and that is to regard its statement as being itself symbolic: to see the growth and development of the child, which is stated in terms of attitude towards parents and brothers and sisters, as being the inner experience of a being seeking its fulfilment in a social group.

If the reader can obtain this degree of detachment, which calls for the further interpretation of every statement, there is still a grave criticism which it is more difficult to surmount. The picture as por-