

## BLACKFRIARS

—from I Corinthians to St. Ephrem. Another on Our Lady from the Gospels to Ephesus. Finally, in a superb conclusion on 'The Christian City' he describes the relationship between the Church and the Empire, until the peace of Milan and the coming of Byzantism . . . It is a book that creates enthusiasm, and should be translated into English.

A.M.

DAS SEELENLEBEN DES MENSCHEN, Eine Einführung in die Psychologie. By Johannes Lindworsky. (Bonn: Peter Hanstein; RM. 2.30.)

A very useful survey, synthesizing traditional rational psychology with the latest data of experimentation. The author's name is a sufficient guarantee of its reliability. The volume constitutes the ninth of the important series of philosophical brochures edited by Dr. Theodor Steinbüchel. If less original than *Das Ethos der Gegenwart* and *Die Philosophie der Kunst*, already reviewed, the present volume fully maintains the standard of its predecessors. The series should not be missed by any who wish to keep in touch with the great advances in Christian philosophy which are being made in Central Europe.

V.W.

## DRAMA AND FICTION

THE ROCK. By T. S. Eliot. (Faber and Faber; 2/6.)

Mr. Eliot has come out of the Waste Land.

His sojourn in the desert was not, as his less intelligent disciples seem to have thought, an intellectual antic: it was a necessary asceticism, and an asceticism for poetry. Analogous renunciations are observable in other arts. All are stripping to structure in order to regain tradition. But the desert is a dangerous place: there are devils in it as well as God. *Surréalist* paintings suggest that it is the devil whom the painters have met in the desert.

Mr. Eliot has come out of the Waste Land a Christian. This play, which ran for a fortnight at Sadler's Wells, with crammed audiences (and was reported in BLACKFRIARS), is an explicitly Christian play, it is vulgar propaganda, it is to collect cash for Church extension. It is a phenomenon to be noted when the greatest living English poet finds it an honour for poetry to be an *ancilla Fidei*.

The play is built on several planes. In the foreground two Cockney bricklayers are trying to build a church in a swamp. On another plane are the appearances of great church-builders of the past who come to encourage the workmen—Rahere, Ne-