

one another in very sympathetic attitudes.

Thank you for sending me a copy of *Evangelism and Pastoral Psychology*. I think it makes a fine volume. One of the unusual features of it is the wide spread of contributors. And it shows that we are sensing the unity of the Church's ministries. I have just given some lectures on that subject, and maybe this summer with a little more leisure, I can get something into shape for your journal.

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ERICH FROMM'S THE SANE SOCIETY

Now that it is known that cortisone, when administered to a patient in too large amounts over a long period, can produce a manic-depressive state, one would have thought that Erich Fromm, in discussing suicide in his book *The Sane Society*, would at least have considered the possibility that national groups, with a high incidence of suicide, have an inherited tendency under certain circumstances, to secrete too much cortisone or other hormones known to cause anxiety.

What a pity he went to the World Health Organization for his statistics! Though on the surface this looks like an up-to-date thing to do, actually it obscures important facts because, being under the United Nations, it deals with national groups, and so lumps together in the United States such diverse groups as Swedes, Germans, Italians, Irish, Negroes, Japanese, etc., making it impossible from these figures to tell whether they follow the same pattern as in the land of origin. Fortunately there have been previous studies of the subject that are far more illuminating.

In recent years, discussions of psychosomatic phenomena have usually placed emphasis on the effect of the psyche on the soma. Now that the pendulum has begun to swing in the other direction I hope that, in due time, you will publish one or more articles on recent discoveries of the effect of the soma on the psyche, and what they mean for pastoral psychology. May it not mean that some revisions may have to be made in basic assumptions and in techniques?

You are doing a good work. More power to you!

CHARLES H. CORBETT
New York, New York

*An essential book for
anyone who has to deal
with alcoholism*

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