

WASHINGTON

Pope's U. S. Visit? Nazi Collapse Delayed MacArthur in November

By TOM ROGERS

WASHINGTON. — Radio station sales involving \$7,500,000 are now in progress. Buyer of two of these stations is Marshall Field, publisher of PM. The other bidder for a third station is the United Automobile Workers of the CIO.

Wait until you receive official confirmation of any projected trips by the Pope to this country. News dispatches stating he would possibly come here a year or two or three after the war are far from fiction . . . but they have not been confirmed. The Vatican has never given such an indication, although it might be confirmed by the time this is in print.

Our favorite scholar's worst fears were realized last week. He predicted the Nazi collapse would not come until the end of the year. Latest Scripps-Howard news letters states that, barring the unforeseen, this is gradually becoming accepted in brass hats circles here in Washington.

Exclusive: chalk up one for this corner! We might have been wrong on Turkey entering on the side of the Allies, but we called the shots on rationing being lifted on canned processed foods before any column. Thank you, housewives!

Late October and early November are the fateful months for the Japs in the Philippines. Also: the Nips will someday feel the weight of American rockets as London never felt the weight of Nazi robots. Tokio papers please copy!

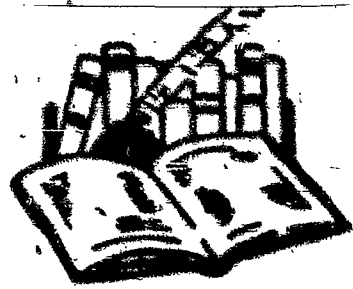
Harry Hopkins is back at the White House—and very much in the saddle, replacing Jimmy Byrnes, who will soon "get away from it all."

It is also thought that the Germans may have a chance to get terms at less than unconditional surrender. The realistic Russians have never mentioned such extreme terms—and it is doubted if Churchill is really for it. His chief problem is going to be the old "balance of power" on the continent, England's old game for centuries.

In an attempt to raise the standards in Congress, look for a bill to raise Congressmen's salaries to \$25,000 per year. The theory is it will be more attractive to brainier men and make public service more attractive. Also: these Congressmen may have a civil service pool of experts and engineers to draw upon occasionally when expert advice is needed. If we have a budget running close to 20 billion a year for a while, such a raise would be a mere drop in the bucket, coming to 1/25 of 1 per cent.

Notes to you: It was the Catholic press—and the Catholic press alone that stymied the "VD" campaign in which large firms were asked to sponsor ads on venereal disease . . . American liquor dealers who boarded champagne stocks have taken a nice little beating for their cozy attitude; Pattons' men, in the course of winning the war, managed to have some 30,000,000 bottles of the best French vintages at Metz. The French wine merchants frankly hope it will be used as a

BOOKS ON TRIAL



By John C. Tully

I regret that I cannot give any sweeping recommendation of The Book of Margery Kempe, \$3.75—Catholic Book Club selection—the chief claims for which are that it would seem to be the first autobiography written in English.

It is a book of memoirs, written at 68 by a rampaging Englishwoman who relates how, after the birth of her first child, she had lost her mind, but later recovered, and how she was ordered by Our Lord to meditate. This was in the 15th century, but she then proceeds to tell how she took care of Our Lady until she was twelve, accompanied her to Egypt with Joseph, etc.

She felt she was called upon to live apart from her husband—although agreeing to outside temptations—(she had fourteen children)—and that her vocation was to preach and to reproach others with their faults. On her constant pilgrimages, she was continually in trouble with both civil and ecclesiastical authorities because of the disturbances created, and whether all this is mysticism or aberration will be just about impossible to decide.

She relates how the Archbishop of York, at a hearing, said: "I would fain be delivered of thee." It is not impossible that readers—except those interested in the angle of curiosity—will feel the same way—and the price of \$3.75 will not assuage their feelings.

Writing in The Sign (which is constantly improving), John S. Kennedy gives high praise to Freedom Road (\$2.75), a historical novel of South Carolina in 1867, depicting an unsuccessful experiment in democracy and inter-racial cooperation.

Father Kennedy, in our opinion, is just about the best book-reviewer in this country. The Sign for September, by the way, has a very enlightening story on Westbrook Pegler—written by another Kennedy—

Pens New Book



MICHAEL DE LA BEDOYERE, editor of "The Catholic Herald," one of Britain's three Catholic weeklies, is the author of "Christianity in the Market Place," recently released in an American edition by Bruce-Milwaukee.

John B. He says "Peg" carries a rosary, but it's not very well worn.

In U. S. War Atlas, Walter Lippman—who probably has the most intelligent following of any current newspaper columnist—largely ignores morality as a basis for a new world order, perhaps because he believes that moral standards have been practically disregarded as a basis for anything.

Lippman believes that "communities of interest" must be developed—that entire races cannot be held accountable for aggressions—that the war parties of Germany and Japan must be wiped out—and that the matter of Russia's honesty will determine whether there must be a third world war. As to the latter point, Lippman, once Socialistic, remains skeptical.

The chief character of The Way, by J. M. Hartley (\$2.50), another of the growing crop of time-of-Christ novels, is a Roman centurion sent by Caesar Augustus to Jerusalem to spy on the Wise Men who were searching for a leader of their "secret order." The centurion meets "Yerua," son of "Yusuf," and is somewhat moved. Nothing in particular comes of the acquaintanceship, and after the Jews are crushed "the young man" is presumably taken to Egypt by the Wise Men.

Father Murphy of New Orleans, whose novel on Mary Magdalen—The Scarlet Lily—won the Bruce-Extension fiction contest, will have more to say on this book next

month. I find nothing in it to get excited about.

We Stood Alone by Dorothy Adams, another CBC selection, appears to be more of an expanded diary than anything else. Supposedly a book on Poland, the author, writing as though she were the subject, takes most of the space to report inconsequential conversations and insignificant details of no particular interest, and the

over-all result is tedious and uninteresting.

FORTY HOURS

Devotions of the Forty Hours are scheduled in the following churches of the Rochester diocese: Friday, Sept. 22—Holy Redeemer, Rochester; St. Mary, Hansville; Sunday, Sept. 24—Groton; Orange; Fenfield; Watkins Glen.



Learn from a timely book what the annihilation of Vatican City would have meant . . . what treasures lie within its walls . . . what manner of man the Pope is . . . a book to help you appreciate what it means to the whole world that Rome and Vatican City have been spared the ravages of war.

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When a Catholic Dies--

By REV. RICHARD GINDER

Have you ever been present at a Catholic deathbed, and seen the crucifix, the lighted candles, and sensed the quiet self-assurance of the priest as he ministers to the patient, the feeling of peace and well-being in the room?

The dying man knows through faith that the priest is bringing him the sacraments, that the Holy

Spirit is strengthening his soul. Of all the treasures left us by our Merciful Redeemer, the sacraments require the least of those receiving them. Given the slightest help on the part of the patient, the Holy Spirit enters and pours out His help and grace in plenty.

The priest, then, first of all, hears the confession of the dying man. For the last time in his life the patient throws himself on God's mercy. He admits his faults and clears the books, acknowledging his debt to God. Then the priest raises his hand and, making the Sign of the Cross, imparts forgiveness. "Whose sins ye shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained" (John 20:23).

GREATEST TREASURES

Next, the priest gives the dying man Holy Communion. The patient receives as his closest Friend, the One who will be his Judge and Savior in the next world.

Then comes the last of the seven sacraments. The priest takes a wisp of cotton, saturates it in consecrated oil which he has brought with him, and anoints the patient on his eyes, ears, nostrils, mouth, hands and feet, saying: "Through this holy anointing and His most loving mercy, may the Lord forgive thee whatever sins thou hast committed by sight, by hearing, by smelling, by speech, by touch, by walking." . . . It is a sacrament with the real power of pardoning sin, increasing the love of God in the patient, appeasing divine justice, and giving help to the body.

The Church has expended her greatest treasures. She has delivered her Lord's bequest. Now, standing at the side of her dying child, she pleads with God and tells Him that if, on earth, His Son gave her any power at all, she wants to use its full measure in behalf of this Christian, ready now to pass beyond her jurisdiction.

She takes all of her influence with God and drops it into the balance in favor of the dying man. Is it any wonder that there is peace in our death-chambers?—that we have this life in confident joy?

return credit in business to pay off any lend-lease . . . We still think the Soviet will attack Japan from the land. And don't forget, we said MacArthur in the Philippines by November. He's lost less men in two years' campaigning than we lost at the Anzio beach-head operation. And eliminated Japs into the 100,000's!

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