

What you think about some men are giving in this conflict, giving a part of your blood isn't very much. It's not as much as that with the Red Cross men.

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Books on Trial

By JOHN C. TULLY



Fewer books than usual were released during recent weeks because the government wouldn't allow 1944 paper to be turned over to the printers until 1945, and as I lay in bed recently with a throat infection I wondered where I'd find material worth writing about. After a while my thoughts turned to now and I have too much. I'd like to fill a page on just two recent books.

One of these is by Bernardini Rumi: *Yesterday's Business*, (1944). Remember the Rumi plan, which was going to forgive you a year's income tax?

Mr. Rumi was a psychologist before he was a business man. Treasurer of Macy's in New York, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, etc. As we now know, and may have suspected, the "forgiveness" plan was to get people on a pay-while-you-have-it basis—or perhaps, pay-before-you-get-it. Anyway, it worked. Mr. Rumi believes that the free enterprise and profit system is the only one that will ever work in America—short of totalitarian control and the loss of our liberties.

Naturally, he's pro-business, but he does a good job of it. He looks on business as a government, which must make its own rules, must encourage initiative, and protect the public against excesses. In extolling the simple virtues and showing how standards of behavior become dependent on habit and conscience he's something of a philosopher.

One reason I think this book is important is because so many of our supposedly social-minded writers harp on the evils of profit as a business motivator without being able to offer any workable substitute. What substitute is there? asks Mr. Rumi.

Mr. Rumi believes there should be no limits on profits—the greater the profits, the greater the service. He says that under present conditions a new business can't be started on a business basis. He believes in paying men high salaries, and kicking them out if they don't produce, and he says that the inadequate salaries paid to un-

skilled laborers toward "that I generally know as the 'left.' He's near to the opposite end from Bernardini Rumi, and yet in some ways they both the same objectives. Rumi presents the enlightened big business view which he thinks will best serve the national interest. Chase looks toward where's the money coming from, and whether democracy is going to be smothered by the Pressure Groups who are set to get their first.

Mr. Chase, a lecturer as well as a writer, has great facility in exposition. He pulls no punches and plays no favorites among the pressure groups who expect Congressmen to obey orders like trained seals. He castigates the Farm Bureau Federation, which is supported by many to represent the farmer, but which Chase says is dominated by the purely profit-seeking commercial land-owners who are not at all interested in farming as a way of life. He thinks it will take a man as tough as Henry Wallace to stand up against them, whereas most people think Wallace is with them.

Chase ridicules the idea of a back-the-land movement as a solution for post-war unemployment. In 1944 we produced — on less acres — 99% more than in 1944, when we had more farmers. After the war, new processes will make three blades grow where only one grew before. Even now, with a man-power shortage, if we had the food which is being sent abroad, every American could have a balanced diet.

Factories, however, will produce more per man. What will happen when 12,000,000 are demobilized from the armed forces, and 25,000,000 more from war industries? Private enterprise will shy away from responsibility because the chances of profit are non-existent. Government-created employment seems to be the only way to keep communists from stepping dead in their tracks, as in Japan — and if we don't control the pressure groups they will control the government.

Every voter should read this book.

Catholic Club 'First in Rome'

VATICAN CITY (AP) — High tribute is paid to the American Catholic Club for the Allied Forces in Rome, an affiliate of the National Catholic Community Service, in an article on the British Catholic soldier in Rome, appearing in *Illustrated*, organ of the Vatican Office of Information.

"The American Catholic Club certainly deserves first place," the article says. "It was the first to open and it has always offered British soldiers hospitality. During the autumn months, day after day hundreds of them called at the Club, where they received not only a welcome but most comfortable free meals."

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Al Smith—Story on Fame

One of the best Al Smith stories has not yet appeared in print, so far as we know. The late Cardinal Hayes told it, one summer afternoon, in the community room at St. Columbian, N.Y.

Some weeks earlier Governor Smith had been nominated as the Democratic Presidential candidate. His name was an everybody's lip and his forceful picturesque personality was fascinating friends and opponents alike. Naturally, the Cardinal if he thought that being in the ungodly hour would change the plan of the interview of New York.

"The Cardinal called. He had thought of me for a while, and had even mentioned it to Governor Smith, meeting him at some affair. 'Governor,' he had said in his kindly paternal way, 'now that you are in the public eye from coast to coast and chosen for the highest honor, I hope that you will still keep your feet on the ground.' 'Don't worry, Your Eminence,' I answered. 'I've been in the public eye for a long time. I never forget what old Tom Paine told me years ago when I was a young man: 'The only way to stay in the public eye is to stay in the public eye.'"

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Priests Help Organize Dutch Protestant Schools

Members of the Dutch Protestant Church in the city of New York have organized a series of Dutch Protestant schools in the city of New York. The schools will be organized in the city of New York.

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