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**Priest Killed as U. S. Sub Sinks Jap Prison Ship**

Indianapolis — Capt. Thomas Secina, Army chaplain and priest of the Indianapolis Archdiocese, lost his life when a Japanese prison ship was torpedoed in the South China Sea off the China coast on October 24, 1944, according to a report received from the War Department.

**BOOKS ON TRIAL**



By John C. Tully

Plus XII by Charles Hugo Doyle, \$3.00, is more than just a biography, since it brings in much of the history of Europe and the world during the lifetime of the present reigning Pontiff. This book, together with Christopher Dawson's Making of Europe, now republished at \$1.00, should be in every library.

Philip Riley of the Department of Spanish, University of Notre Dame, has just sent me a review giving high praise to the informative character of A Padre Views South America, \$2.50, written by Peter M. Dunne, S.J. Phil Riley's novel, The Scandal, will be published shortly.

My collaborator, Paul Phelan, of the New York Sun, author of With a Merry Heart, says that Edmund Gilligan's Voyage of the Golden Hind, \$2.00, ranks with the best sea stories of James Fenimore Cooper. He thinks Cooper's tales of the sea are better than his Indian stories.

One America, edited by Francis J. Brown and Joseph Roucek, \$5.00, a study of our racial and national minorities, is a revision of a similar book published in 1937. Thirty-three contributors present a great wealth of information on our various minority groups and their culture, political influence, religions etc etc, making a very useful reference volume.

From the number of letters I have received asking about William L. White's Report on The Russians I judge that there must be thousands of other Catholics wondering whether this book is another piece of propaganda, and whether the controversies it aroused were artificially provoked to secure free publicity, as has been done in so many other cases. I find no reason for believing that the publishers had any part in stirring up the storm of protests that has broken over their heads. The facts are that Mr. White

**Penn New Novel**



ROSIMARY BUCHANAN is author of "This Bread," theme of which is based on the Blessed Sacrament.

wrote a book which gave a vivid picture of Soviet conditions, and he at once became the target of numerous writers and newspaper men. The New York Times lists sixteen — including authors Quentin Reynolds and Edgar Snow. He was sniped at by Francis Hackett in the New York Times, Louis Gannett in the Herald Tribune, Spruce Bivens in the New Republic and Ralph Bates in PM.

It seems, however, that the chief bombing raid was concentrated on Mr. White's publishers. J. Donald Adams, Book Section Editor of the N. Y. Times, says that "No publishing house in history has been subjected to such insistent and heated pressure to remove a book from its list." He has seen many protesting letters from those who admit not having read the book. His comment should be a warning.

"Do the saints," he asks, "write similar letters when the Soviet press speaks its mind freely about ourselves? I doubt it very much. The liberty they prize is the liberty to express their own findings and opinions, never those of another who fail to agree with them."

"There is an attitude of mind against which, if this war is not to have been fought in vain, we must keep on unceasing vigilance. It is a minority attitude, but we have ample proof of what minority attitude, if held with sufficient vigor and determination, can accomplish."

I have previously praised Donald Adams for the common sense expressed in The Shape of Books to Come. I am happy to commend him again for his straightforward remarks on another book which deserves a wide audience. Report on the Russians, \$2.50.

Of Fride's Way, \$2.75, by Robert Molloy, Catholic staff member of the New York Sun, says Dr. Lelen:

"It is not my intention to review Fride's Way. To do so would be as unwise as to attempt the autopsy of a nightingale to find how and why he can sing. It would be as stupid as to send your own X-ray picture as a present to your lady-love to show how you look. But this I may and must say that in these days of war and worry Fride's Way is the best sample of escape literature that I know of."

"Wait a minute, I beg your pardon. Did I hear one of you whisper that this is no time to read escape literature? If so, the intruder is surely mistaken. Escape is surely legitimate when it only means a brief while to relax and forget before we return to our job. Of course, we must not fail to take a return ticket."

"Gossip at Best," says Dr. J. M. Lelen of The Catholic Span, \$2.50, by George Santayana. This book is a continuation of Persons and Places, the autobiography of the former Harvard professor.

"If there were no hereafter,

and if our immortal soul were mortal, a delightful task it would be to deal merely with the things of the mind, live only for art in a dilettantish way, and sip the nectar of existence while keeping aloof from the problems of the soul.

"But there is a hereafter. And whether one likes it or not, the human soul is destined to live the whole lifetime of God; it will endure eternally."

"George Santayana in the five monumental volumes of his Life of Reason has failed to find that the heart has reasons that reason knows nothing of. Pascal he ignores. Plato he follows."

**Again, Dr. Lelen:**

"Please do yourself a favor. Kindly read The Seamstress Robe by Sarah Creghon (\$2.00) which exclusively, charmingly, exquisitely deals with the Religion of Kindness. From it you will learn once and for all that our human lives are the separate threads of the vast robe of humanity. The strength of each is woven into the strength of all."

**Feast Days**

- Sunday, July 15 — EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- Monday, July 16 — OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
- Tuesday, July 17 — ST. ALEXANDER
- Wednesday, July 18 — ST. COLUMBUS DE LELLIS
- Thursday, July 19 — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
- Friday, July 20 — ST. JEROME
- Saturday, July 21 — ST. FRANCIS

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