LOCHESTER, N. Y.

See It

By DAN PATRICK ---

This is National Newspaper Week and its primary purpose is to focus public attention on a free press which we in America have come to accept as our inherent birthright.

Freedom of the press is guaranteed us in the Constitution's Bill of Rights. Now and then, in the course of our history, attempts have been made to curb that freedom but today-theoretically speaking at least -- there are no binding restrictions on our press.

Warthnie censorship has largely been lifted and the American people are probably the bestinformed in the world due to the dreedom our press enjoys.

Whether we realize it or not, this freedom of the press is the best possible guarantee against the inroads of totalitarianism. No nation in the world with a functioning free press ever has lost its democracy.

We use the word "function" advisedly because some countries claim a free press whereas in reality this vital furnel of public information is controlled solely by the state i.e. Russia.

State control of the press not only fosters a totalitarian state but guarantees its continuance. In Germany, for instance, the Nazis stifled the press as a vital step towards seizure of guvernment control. And in their attacks on Catholicism, these same Nazis selzed the powerful Catholie press to choke off one of the last effective means of protest against diabolical persecutions. The case of Germany offers ample evidence of the importance of a free press to the freedom of religion.

The freedom which the press enjoys in this country can and is abused by certain periodicals which shield their real aims behind such freedom.

Publishers are only human and naturally have



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their likes and dislikes. To the credit of the For a few hours last week, as beads, piling p prayers, it is in many ways. American press, the great majority of these pub- this review was taking shape, true, but doine only that. To The Bosson propie had relebrated liboration lishers print the news as it happens and not as the present was swept away. For realize the measures while pray- from Fascism when Mussolini had fallon. But brief time fifteen access of the ing - at former at church, on Holy Land, of Mary and of the bus optimilie or even while Christ became alive and, impreg-nating themselves on the walls immeasurably to the apprecia-of memory, will never die. Use of the mysteries of the Aided by the paintings of Fra Faith and the prosence of the Angelico and the poetry of such entire story of the Redemption writers as Coventry Patmore, G. independent of space and time. K. Chesterton — and most par-ticularly by Caryll Houselander minel and look down on those —Maisie Ward had turned in the wild don't. Others know their finest book on the Rosary to livingy -- that highest of forms date. (The Spiendor of the Rosaaverage worship ... Ind lake ry by Malsie Ward. Sheed and The attitude of auperiority over those who don't. I have pro-Ward (22.50). It is not a book of meditations lessor in mind as I write is have It is the story of the Hosary and often heard him speak smooring-the development of the Rosary by of the "Catholics who more through space and time to fur by attend Mass and avoid meat own day. After touching on the on Friday." I agree there are historical, Mrs. Sheed then mins such - but very often some of to each of the mysteries and ex-plains their background, bring-ing in a fow selections of postry exactly mited to each chapter -and always leaving a desire Mrs. Sheet's book will open up for more and steep. for more and more. per sorizons for you; spiritual This in Hould be ones, warm ones, eternal ones, enough. But there is more. As she writes:

Under Berlin Rule

builds Bonne with the Gormann, by Jame Schriteener. Macmillan, 32:50.

The papers kept as posted on the Allied campaigns as they moved barward to each important enemy city. Soldiers have told us the seme story more fully now that cen-

sorship is hired. Har theirs was only one viewpoint. What was the viewpoint of the cities themselves as their liberation approached? Their stories will energe only gradually; but they need to be known if those rities are to be dealt with justby and without prejudice in the occupation and in the treaties. Jane Schrievener gives wa

the first account in English (I believe) of warlife in one of the great Axis capitals, Rome. Inside Name With the Germanns is her diary from September R. 1943, to June 5, 1944. There is every reason to believe that it is authentic. Jane Scrievener is the penname of a very American pun of broad education and sound judgment, who has lived long in Rome and during the war been in an excellent position, by reason of public activities, private connections, and perroual experience, to note correctly the events and atmosphere of post Mussolini Rome during the German and neo-faucial occupation. Her narro-Hye rings true. And if that is not enough, we have the word of Professor Carlton J. H. Hayes, our recent Ambassador to Spain, who directed its publication and wrote its foreword, that it is authentic. That assurance from our leading American Catholic lay historian means much.

When the Allies entered Rome and found the cillaens looking better off than those of the little blasted cities to the South, they were pericapa inclined to think that these had been let off easily from the horrors of war. That was simply not the case. They had suffered lans, periases than some other cities, and for that they were grateful; but they had atill authored much, and

they would like to see it happen.

Newspapers of course, have a right to their own opinions as long as such opinions a t confined to the editorial pages and not disguised as news stories. And that has happened more than once in the history of American journalism.

There are few who will disagree that the New York Times represents the peak of journalistic i perfection in the United States. True to its front page slogan. The Times contains "All-the News That's Fit to Print."

The Times confines its opinions toolts editorial nage and packs its news columns solid with the widest conceivable coverage. During the war, for instance, the Times printed available texts of speeches by Hitler and Mussolini on its news pages and then proceeded to tear them apart in its editorials. It also recorded every war communique issued by friend and for from start to finish.

Unfortunately not all of our newspapers follow the very laudable lead of the Times.

Some of them slant their news to suit their views. Of course, these publishers like to regardo their views as for the public good. They seem to forget that. In a democracy, the public should be able to think for itself and decide on right and wrong.

When a cub reporter starts on the job, he is inclined to ring in some of his own conclusions in the course of a story. That is poor journalism as any editor will point out. To mend his ways. the cub reporter must learn to present the facts and let the reader draw the conclusions.

If such a rule applies to a cuo reporter, how much more does it concern a publisher?

The Oatholic Press is in a position to appreciate its freedom.

The best evidence of the effectivening of the Catholic pross all over the world is found in the callber of its esemies. In Germany, it was Hitler, In Italy, it was Mussolins, in Reason, It is Pravda By virtue of freedom of the press in the United States." Catholic newspapers in this country have been in a position during the critical years of the war to present a factual account of the happenings the world over as they effect the lives of all Catholics.

At the present time, the Catholic press is performing an even more important lunction serving as a watchdog for Christianity as the pations of the world try to selvage a lasting peace from the wreckage of war.

Paulty prayer is the returdy for wreshe it. linquency. Javenile delinquency is in Iruth purental delinquency.-Bisloo Alexander J. McCavich, La Crosse, Wis-

A state of the second

mystery nather than depend on yy," my own words. Only a fool roots in the stubble when the

me when I state that the sixteen Ontario. paintings of Fra Angelico which | Much of the ground has been

any movements a bank on the should

Caryll Houselander, the has dis- "The Resary ensuet take the tinguished herself by writing place of the Liturgy -- not even some of the finest phritual work of the Psalms of Vesper and in our time, has written a short Compline, far less of the Mass poem after each systery of the prayers. But it should not be rosary. And were I a pastor forgotten that the Liturgy can-they would be read before each not take the place of the Rosa-

BRIEFLY NOTED: The F marvest is laid up. Mrs. Sloced's have of the Church by Theodore writing is good throughou! and Maynard (Longmans). In this is the work of Mas, Houseland third of Mr. Maynard's. Sour or there is a tremendous amount baoks in the last year, one putted of compression and thought. For I feel sure that the veri-ous authors noted in the book; these are lectures given at Am the author, will agree with minption College up in Window,

are reproduced here will constil covered by the author in other jute the greatest single source blographies and essays. It hap of inspiration for many. Mrs. pens that eleven of his pillars Shoed Okhisis Ward) has done of the Church are severiable And the second s these reproducements mucht source be write name filter to write

THE SHORE ST. Man. I. LANS It second to me that the point mans! Father Gerald Vann, the

the celebration was premature; their appreciates was now only beginning. The Germans took over in the City, assisted by the neolascist groups, whom the Germans themselves hated almost as much as their fellow-Italians. They asserted constantly that Rome was an open city. But they still used it for many military purposes, so it was inevitable that it would be bombed. The nine months during which the City proper was bombed were months of groat terror for the populace: for although the Allies sought out military objectives, accident and imprecise bombing took its toll of five thousand lives and eleven thousand wounded from among the non-combat-INU.

This was the most bloody trial, but there were many other more abiding griefs. The lood shortage grew increasingly greater, and the galeral black-market operations of the German efficials contributed little towards solving the iroblems. Military commanderring was breadly interpreted to justify all sorts of edicial and unofficial stand-Ing. 🖉

Measurable the underground where well organized and helped many a pairlet and measured alles prisoner. Princes alles the birder one point alles Mortaini run mertal rules to make point and all to the personated. Name did mand good bad and many a fugitive from the "awais" of the occupying forces found shelter within their walls. As the suburban cities were bounded out and the homeless to the number of 200,000 streamed into the city with the family cow and any other articles they could salvage, almost gravy house in Rone opens: to this them is and or doublest shared their crumbs without with free the word still works of the between all and of course the gravitation in the second is from ing the hearing a sider of the second is from between a second is the second is from the between the gravitation of the second is for the between the second is the second is for the between the second is the between the second is And the second s

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