Divisions, Diversions

By Father John S. Kennedy

Thomas and Margaret Melady, in their book "House Divided" (Sheed and Ward, 64 University Place, New York, N.Y. 10003. \$5.50), ask us to consider the sad spectacle of the peoples of the world separated by great gaps: in varieties of belief and unbelief, in race, and in resources. These divisions keep men at odds just when it is vital that they come together and work together for the solution of critical problems common to all.

The authors contend that believers and non-believers, in fact all men of good will, could agree in support of certain principles having to do with the inherent dignity of man, responsibility for the international common good, and the elimina-tion of illiteracy, disease, and poverty.

Among believers, they propose that those of one religion acquaint themselves with the tenets of other religions, which. in most cases, would lead to mutual respect and a much higher degree of cooperation.

In particular, they consider religion in Africa and Asia. Africa, they point out, is "a world filled with religion," and they take up the character of native religions and the question of whether, with the end of colonialism, the Christian churches are finished in Africa.

Moving on to the racial gap, the authors give special notice to that phenomenon in the United States. But it has its counterparts elsewhere: in Asia and Africa, for example, where one might not think that such discrimination could exist in the absence of whites. It does.

Knowledge of the other and contact with the other are recommended as means of overcoming racial division. Here, and in some other parts of the book, the authors' prescriptions seem a bit simplistic and overoptimistic. Not all racial antagonism, by any means, is based on lack of knowledge or contact.

Turning to poverty, the authors remind us that two-thirds of the world is said to go to bed hungry every night. Miserable want is all too prevalent, in shameful contrast with the affluence of the relatively few. And the spreading of radio receivers in the have-not areas has begun to acquaint the destitute with the far superior standards prevailing elsewhere, thus arousing expectations and demands which mean trouble unless there is a better distribution of property and goods.

Robert Townsend, who was largely responsible for the success of Avis Rent a Car, has written a breezy and irreverent book called "Up the Organization" (Knopf. \$5.95), which, ac-

St. Anthony's Day

Religious ceremonies, a parade and fireworks will mark the 58th annual St. Anthony's Day celebration in the community of Charlotte on Saturday, June 13.

The festival will open at 9 a.m. at Holy Cross Church, 4492 Lake Avenue. More than 60 units are expected to parade at 6:45 p.m. from St. John's Park to Ontario Meach. The program will conclude with a huge fireworks display over the beach at 10 p.m.

COURIER 2

cording to the jacket, tells "how to stop the corporation from stifling people and strangling profits."

It is not a conventional text in any sense. For one thing, it consists of a series of surgical jottings on many subjects, all alphabetically arranged. It does not take one long to read this book. Forgetting it may be something else again.

For another, Townsend does not subscribe to the received wisdom of the organizational sages. His approaches and methods, proven hugely successful in practice, are in many respects revolutionary.

Take, for example, meetings. "Generally speaking," he says, "the fewer the better. Both as to the number of meetings and the number of participants." Or secretaries to executives: he did away with the position, with

great results. Or secrecy, which, according to him, implies either: "1. What I'm doing is so horrible I don't dare tell you, or 2. I don't trust you (any more)."

He evidently had keen regard for people, giving them opportunity and scope, not breathing constantly down their necks, rewarding them for accomplishment, and even saying "Thank you" to them now and then.

On the other hand, his advice is to get rid of personnel departments and public relations experts, and even to avoid Harvard Business School graduates, which, especially the last, may seem pretty drastic to most people.

You don't have to be an executive to get pleasure from the book, or profit either. It is highly opinionated, but full of iconoclastic common sense.

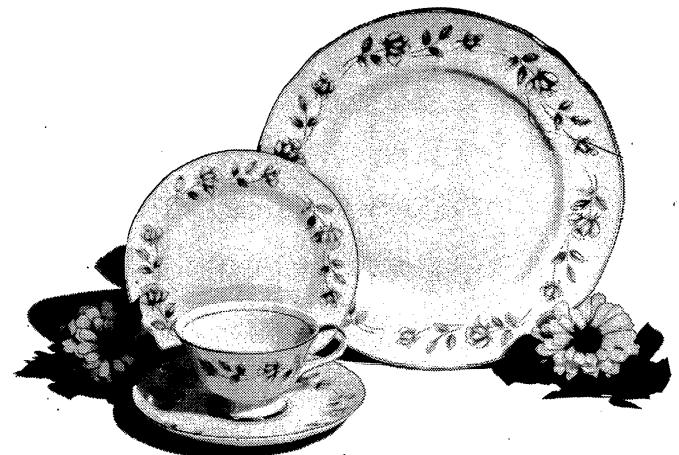
INSTRUCTIONS: Mini-Math is worked like a crossword puzzle. Use numbers 1 through 5 only. For example: (A) Horizontal may call for +3 in two squares, which may be (+4 and -1), (+5 and -2), (+1 and +2), (-2 and +2)+5), etc. The same with Verticals.

(Answer on Page 10B)

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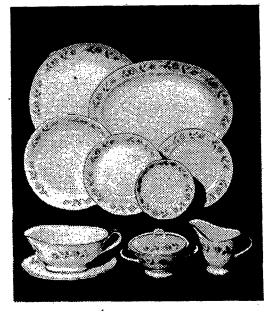
HORIZONTAL \mathbf{C} \mathbf{K} +1L +3VERTICAL +3

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