CLOUDBUSTER

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By GEORGE J. GREWENOW Chaplain Corps, USNR

Thanksgiving 1621-1943

Starvation faced the little band of Pilgrims huddled together on the bleak New England hillside. Thirty-one graves were grim reminders of the winter past and the meagre stores of a scant harvest were grim forebodings of the winter ahead. It was proposed that a day be set aside for the giving of thanks. On the designated day a dish of clams and a glass of cold water were set before Elder Brewster. He lifted his eyes toward heaven and gave thanks.

This year-listing them at random-we have: the greatest production of material things our country has known; a New York department store recording profits five times that of any other year; a fur shop advertising: "We have sold more mink coats this year than in any previous year"; a 21% increase hog butchering; a 10% increase in the orange crop; etc., etc.

Was it the scarcity of things in 1621 and is it the abundance of things in 1943 that makes thanksgiving? Scarcely that. Rather it is the mercy of our God abundant in days of adversity as well as in days of prosperity. It is the eternal promise, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish."

Herein lies the thanksgiving of every year!

Book Reviews . . .

FROM THE LAND OF SILENT PEOPLE by Robert St. John. Halcyon House, Garden City, New York, 1943, 353 pp.

As a youngster in World War I, Robert St. John began his wandering career swabbing decks in the transport service of the U.S. Navy. During succeeding years, as a journalist, he has literally covered the world with particular emphasis on the international political scene. Few writers have his familiarity with the tangled skein of Balkan relationships. He was heard on this subject recently over the CBS University of Chicago round table. A realist, a keen observer with a deftness of description comparable to Richard Harding Davis, he unfolds his tale of the "Silent People" of southeastern Europe, a graphic "action picture" covering but a few weeks and detailing incidents from Belgrade to the Greek peninsula during the Nazi invasion.

St. John's diary begins at Belgrade in April 1941 as bombs rained on the doomed city. It continues through Sarajevo where nearly thirty years ago, the assassination of an Austrian Archduke ignited the flame of the other war; thence on to Budva on the Yugo-Slavian coast of the Adriatic and by small boat to

Corfu, Petras, Argos, Crete, eventually to respite at Alexandria, Egypt, where war seemed distant, unreal, almost non-existent in the splendor of the Majestic Hotel where women in organdy and men in white linen suits danced on roof gardens and leisurely sipped cocktails, with the sordid side of war among the "unmentionables."

In conclusion, he comments:

"I didn't make pleasant remarks in my narrative. . . . But I have told you now all that I saw and heard and smelled, and just a bit of what I thought, during a few weeks of war.

This book will not please you. Yet it will inspire the thinking process, and nearly every American who reads it will be inclined to tighten the belt with a determination that these things may not happen again.

-Reviewed by Lieut, Ray C. Witter, USNR Academic Department

Sunday Divine Services

1000 Memorial Hall 0615 Gerrard Hall 1000 Hill Music Hall 1000 Graham Memorial Protestant Roman Catholic Jewish

Chaplain's Office Hours: Daily, 0830-1700; Monday and Wednesday, 0830-1800.
Father Sullivan will be in Chaplain's Office on Tuesdays, 1845-1930.
Confessions: Saturdays in Gerrard Hall, 1900-2015.

Male Call **Heart Chart**

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

-(CNS)



