

# Book Reviews

## FAMOUS TYPHOONS

THE HURRICANE HUNTERS. By Ivan Ray Tannehill.  
New York: Dodd, Mead & Company. 1956. Pp. xii-271.

Before the first Pan American Clippers were flying between Manila and San Francisco, Reverend Bernard F. Doucette, S.J., the Weather Forecaster for the Philippine Weather Bureau used to send his monthly report about the course of all typhoons to Dr. Ivan Ray Tannehill. Dr. Tannehill was then in an important post of the United States Weather Bureau. For many years previously he had been studying typhoons and hurricanes. Now after long years of association with the U.S. Weather Bureau in various capacities—as chief of the marine division, chief of all forecasting and reporting and assistant chief in charge of the technical operations of the Bureau—he has given us an extremely readable story of tropical storms: typhoons in the North Pacific Ocean and hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean. The title of the book gives the nature of its story, for the hurricane hunters are the weather observers who get the clues and the experts who put them together" (p. 6). Towards the end of the book (p. 250) he corrects his use of the title but the reader will have no quarrel either with the original use or with its modification.

To lack respect for the havoc-wreaking powers of atomic and hydrogen bombs is extremely foolhardy and no one who has heard even distant reports of these bombs wants their explosive violence within thousands of miles. But in the Philippines there has grown familiar by repetition a fearsome thing more expansive, more destructive, more powerful than many nuclear bombs at once. Typhoons and hurricanes, too, are just that. And the