

# The Pope's Appeal on Russia, Was Purely Spiritual, Says Father Walsh; Cites Martyrs

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Washington, Feb. 23.—The Rev. Edmund A. Walsh, S. J., Vice-President of Georgetown University here, who was the representative of the Holy Father in Russia in 1922-23 in the distribution of Papal relief and who is no doubt the best informed man in America today on Soviet Russian activities, has sent to the N. C. W. C. News Service a statement refuting certain insinuations against the Holy See which have followed the call of Pope Pius XI to the Christian world to pray on March 19 for alleviation of religious persecution in Russia.

Father Walsh protests against the insinuation advanced by Mr. Walter Duranty, in a recent article, that the Holy See is actuated, in its condemnation of Soviet persecution, by the motives attributed to capitalist countries—fear at the economic progress of the Soviet Union. The insinuation is wholly unwarranted, Father Walsh points out, showing that the Holy See's appeal was of a purely spiritual character. He also presents overwhelming data on religious persecution in Russia to show that the Holy See's call is justified, despite Soviet denials.

Father Walsh's statement says: "There have been several major reactions to the recent pronouncement of Pope Pius XI in which the Sovereign Pontiff raised his voice in protest at the renewal of religious persecution in Russia, and invited the Christian World to join with him in supplicating prayer to God on March 19th. The appeal of the Pope was purely of a spiritual character, and by its tone and origin excludes both political and economic implications. It has been answered from Moscow by a clearly inspired and tendentious interview, released by the Russian authorities, who alone control the channels of communication, and in which the customary sweeping denial of persecution is repeated and complete liberty of conscience vindicated.

"The Moscow despatch was to be expected, as denial and counter-charge have formed the order of the day in every attack on religion. The Russian News Agency, and its imitators by outlying Christians and non-masochistic Christians, not precisely because of their religious beliefs, but for illegally refusing to offer a few grains of incense to the pagan deities.

**Purpose to Drive Out Religion**  
"The modern world, however, is better informed. The official pronouncements of the Soviet Government itself render superfluous any laborious demonstration of their intent to extirpate all religion in Russia as a consequent element of the five-year program. Fortunately, we have a complete and accurate documentation of some six thousand words furnished by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to the New York Times on Sunday, February 16, 1930, setting forth the legal pretexts under cover of which the attack on religion is to be conducted and God liquidated. No student of Russian affairs, no competent observer can now doubt what the Soviet Government is the first to admit. The Moscow Commissars frankly and cheerfully propose as their ideal, what Gladstone so well described in his succinct phrase 'The negation of God erected into a system of Government.'

"The present writer heard with his own ears the Prosecuting Attorney of the Soviet State put the question to men on trial for their lives in Moscow in 1923: 'Will you stop teaching the Christian religion?'"  
"We cannot," came the answer, "it is the law of God."  
"That law does not exist on Soviet Territory," replied Krylenko, "you must obey us."  
"The basic issue was clear cut and as clearly faced. The victims went unflinchingly to death or to exile in 1923, and are facing the same alternative—old as Christianity itself—with equal fortitude in 1930. To elaborate further on the self-confessed intention of the Soviet Government in that respect would indeed be painting the lily or gilding the rod.

"The plans, however, do not stop there but are their activities bounded by the frontiers of Soviet Russia. The world is their arena and the United States of America a particularly attractive field, even for anti-religious propaganda. Thus the notorious journal, 'The Anti-Religionist,' one of the many subsidized organs of Alibekov, extends in its issue of September 19th, 1929 (pages 108-109), warm congratulations to the Russian section of the Atheist League of America for its commendable zeal in attacking the bases of Christianity in the United States. The efforts of this league at the early stage of the Bolshevik attack, directed from foreign capitals, have already been felt in elementary and high schools, as well as in colleges and universities.

**Little Flower Helped Convert English Writer**  
(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
London, Feb. 23.—Sheila Kaye-Smith, noted authoress whose conversion to the Church a few weeks ago created a sensation, has disclosed that, like "Father Vernon"—another notable Anglican convert—she was influenced in her decision by the "Little Flower." The Dublin Review story of her conversion, under the interesting title "Drooping the Hyphen," the hyphen being that in "Anglo-Catholic."  
Sheila Kaye-Smith had been an Anglican for eleven years when, in 1925, an Anglican friend went to Lisieux and brought her back a medal and a secondary relic. From that day the course of her religious life was troubled.

"It is difficult," she says, "to describe the impression this young saint made upon me. It was not only the beauty of her life, the charm, wit, and sweetness of her recorded words, or the simple, unadorned life she led, but the realization of that sublime love, being offered to the modern world. Here was a saint who, if she had been alive today, would scarcely have been old—a saint of our times, whose features and expression have been given us, not only by the painter and ecclesiastical image-maker, but by the photographer.

"In Lisieux are still living men and women who knew her and spoke to her, including her own sisters; her canonization miracles were not found in documents or in tradition, but on the lips of living witnesses. And when I looked at her I saw not merely herself, but the living, un-fading fountain of sanctity which is the Church that made her what she was."

science with his life. He was shot in 1928.  
Dominick Ivanov, about the same age, former Vicar of St. Catherine, Petrograd, banished to the unpeopled horrid of Solovetsky Island in the White Sea, succumbed in the freezing darkness of that island prison during the same year. It was from this Siberia that 18 prisoners, worn to skeletons, escaped, as if by a miracle, a few months ago and reached the shores of England. "Kill us here," they begged the astonished Finnish guards between Martakule and Kiolearvi, "but don't send us back where they will kill us by inches."

**Agony of Slow Execution**  
"And still the list continues: Cesar Fedorovitch, Victor Kriventchouk, Basil Stylo, Paul Ascheberg, Joseph Kolch and John Puroh, the last of whom was sent into exile for the crime of having warned his parishioners against certain immoral moving picture films then being shown at the local cinema.

"The last named which we have is that of Father Chitchepanouk, a priest of the Oriental Rite from Kiev. The complete roster of the e undergoing a similar agony for conscience sake in distant points, such as Siberia, Turkestan and the Caucasus, is known only to God. But among them stand out the venerable Apostolic Administrator of Kiev, Mgr. Theophile Skalski, 52 years of age, and Father John Deubner, 47, the first of whom has been imprisoned for three and one-half years; the latter for more than eight years. Canon Anton Wasilevsky sealed his faith with his life during the first week of October, 1929, dying in South Caucasus, in absolute isolation, a veritable Confessor of the Faith.

"Many of these martyrs and confessors of the faith I knew personally, and can testify that their only crime is the daily crime of Cardinal Hayes of New York—City, of Bishop Manning and of Rabbi Stephen Wise. They believed in God and taught His revelation and the moral law as God gave them the light to see it. Peace to their souls and honor to their names.

**Catholic Bowling League**  
The St. Boniface team in the Catholic Bowling League, hearing the thunder of the Holy Redeemer Athletic Association team on its heels, promptly widened the distance from the three games at the top of the league. The standing, as of February 21st, placed St. Boniface three full games in the lead. St. Ambrose is but one game behind the C.Y.M.A. In third place, while the Knights of St. George and St. Francis are tied for fifth place. The league standing:

Team	W.	L.	PC
St. Boniface	46	17	730
H. R. A. A.	43	20	682
C. Y. M. A.	37	26	687
St. Ambrose	36	27	671
Kts. of St. George	28	35	444
St. Francis	28	35	444
St. Andrew	20	43	317
St. Salome	14	49	222

**Crucifix From Cathedral Beam 1,000 Years Old**  
Berlin, Feb. 23.—A crucifix on display in Mainz now is carved from a beam of fir that for a thousand years formed part of the foundation of Mainz Cathedral.

Since the firwood was in the ground for such a long time, it has undergone a remarkable transformation. To carve wood with fibres warped by time and dampness required not only sharp tools but great patience and dexterity on the part of the young artist, Franz Knobloch. In his New Year's sermon, the pastor of St. Quentin's dwelt upon the events that had occurred during the thousand years that the beam lay under the cathedral—man's accomplishments, his sins, his joys and sorrows. Six times it saw the cathedral itself in flames; it heard the Reformers approach its portals; it heard the song of freedom during the revolution; it saw the passing of many wars; twice the cathedral itself served as a stable. It saw the very foundations of the cathedral rot. It saw Kaiser and King ride through its halls; it has lived through the ostentatious ceremonies of diets and archbishops.

**Three Prize Winners**  
John J., Ralph T. and Carlos Stoffa, Catholic youths of Ardmore, Okla., are perhaps the most successful young exhibitors of prize-winning poultry in America. Since 1926 they have won 227 premium ribbons and many cash awards at poultry shows. Their white Chinese gander, "Snowdrift," was the grand champion winner at one Madison Square Garden poultry show.

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## English People Build Churches In Several Places

London, Feb. 23.—Continuing the extraordinary development of church building which has marked the past few years in this country, five new churches have been opened recently—one in London, one in Nottingham and the Lord in Barrow-in-Furness. The first will hold a congregation of 400, the second 300 and the third 600. The new London church is in St. Agnes' parish, City of London. The Nottingham church, a Wesleyan Protestant League, who objected to the presence of the city's leading figure at Mass. The pastor of Nottingham announced that he had received an offer from an anonymous benefactor to erect a church in a poor parish in the mining town of Workington. Plans for the building of three more churches in the same diocese are well advanced.

In a few days Cardinal Bourne will open a new church at Hatfield, Hertfordshire. In the same diocese, Westminster, a chapel is to be opened next Sunday at Twickenham, Middlesex.

## Mrs. Alfred Noyes To Sell Rare Books In Weld Collection

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
London, Feb. 23.—More treasures from the famous library of the Welds, an Anglo-Catholic family, are to be offered for sale at Sotheby's here on March 3.  
Mrs Alfred Noyes, wife of the poet and granddaughter of Sir Frederick Weld, is disposing of the same in consequence of the fire which destroyed Lutworth Castle last year. The most interesting item to be sold is a rare book from the press of Caxton, the first English printer, Wynkyn de Worde—"Chastelung of God's Children," issued about the year 1492. Only two other copies are known to exist.

A sensation was caused last year by the disposal of the same library of the Luttrell Psalter. Collectors had assembled from many parts of the world to bid for the treasure, but during the sale it was announced that Mrs. Noyes had sold it, a few hours previously, to the British Museum for what was considered to be the comparatively low price of about \$157,000. It was explained that this had been made possible by the offer of an anonymous benefactor, believed to be Pierpont Morgan, to advance the purchase money free of interest for one year.

Another treasure, the Bedford Hours, was sold at the same time for \$165,000, and it was announced that it also would be held for twelve months on similar terms.

## Cardinal Dougherty Visits In India

Madras, India, Feb. 23.—His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, arrived at Madras, India, January 31, and thus takes to himself the distinction of being the first member of the sacred college to set foot in India. His Eminence Bonaventura Cardinal Cerretti, on his way to the Eucharistic Congress in Australia, stopped at Colombo on the island of Ceylon, but did not reach the mainland.

Cardinal Dougherty said Mass immediately on landing at the tomb of St. Thomas the Apostle. He left the same evening for Bombay, from which city it is understood that he plans a visit to northern India. He will then proceed to Japan and on across the Pacific to America.

## Pastoral Letter, Issued In Canada, Assails Divorce

Montreal, Feb. 23.—Opposition to the creation of a divorce court is pronounced in a pastoral letter signed by Cardinal Rouleau, Archbishop of Ottawa and Montreal and all the bishops of the ecclesiastical provinces of Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa, which was read in all churches in these provinces at all Masses Sunday.

The pastoral asserts that if it were the Federal Parliament could abolish the divorce courts already existing in Canada, it could dissolve all private divorce suits, or at least could limit their number.

The letter states that the Catholic hierarchy "has cause to fear, in view of the powerful influence bearing in an opposite direction, that the supreme effort is at hand, not to suppress an unwieldy and defective procedure, but to replace it by the creation of regularly constituted divorce courts."

## Alabama University Church Seminar

Birmingham, Ala. Feb. 23.—The University of Alabama has just closed a seminar on Jewish-Protestant-Catholic relations, similar to those held at Columbia University and by the Calvert Round Table.

The student body of the University, of which 350 are Catholics, is predominantly Protestant. Many Jews also are enrolled in the University, and consequently the seminar was of great interest to the students. The three keynote speeches were delivered by Father Hyland of the Holy Ghost Fathers, for the Catholics; Rabbi Morrison, for the Jews; and Dr. H. Edmonds for the Protestants.

Delegates later divided into two groups, for discussion of the causes and remedies for "community conflicts," and "misrepresentations of Religious Beliefs and Practices."

The Catholic Courier and Journal is the official Catholic paper of the Diocese of Rochester, published in Rochester by Rochester People.

# Lenten Regulations For The Diocese of Rochester Issued by Bishop O'Hern

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. The rules and regulations for Lent, just issued by the Bishop of the Diocese, the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D. D., will be read at all Masses in the churches of the Diocese on Sunday. They are the first issued by Bishop O'Hern since his consecration last March, and they should be read with care and attention by all Catholic people. They are as follows:

"The Holy Season of Lent and the Solemn Fast begin this year on Ash Wednesday, March 5; the Lenten fast and abstinence, end at noon on Holy Saturday. The weekdays of Lent are days of fasting on one meal with a moderate collation in the evening. The collation may, if so desired, be taken at noon and the full meal in the evening. Eggs, milk, butter and cheese are allowed at the full meal and at the collation. It is permitted to take a small piece of bread with a cup of tea, coffee, chocolate or the like in the morning. Flesh meat is allowed without restriction on Sundays, and once a day on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and by special indulgence also on Saturdays, except the Saturday of Ember Week. Flesh meat and fish may be taken at the same meal on days when meat is allowed. Lard and drippings may be used in preparing food.

"By special Indult of the Holy See workmen and their families are allowed flesh meat on all days in the year, except Fridays, Ash Wednesday, Holy Saturday mornings, and the eve of Christmas. This is a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence, not of fasting. Pastors have the power of dispensing from the general law of fast and abstinence for a just cause with individuals or families who are parishioners, and with transients within the parish. We exhort all who make use of the above dispensations to practice mortification in eating and drinking according to their ability, to attend daily Mass when possible, and to assist at the special Lenten devotions. Abstinence should also form part of their practice during this season of penance.

"The law of fasting binds from the 21st to the end of the 59th year, the law of abstinence, after the seventh year. The sick, nursing wo-

men, those doing hard labor, and not bound to fast, also all who through weakness cannot fast without prejudice to their health.

"Prayer and the spirit of penance should accompany penitential works. Upon your people a right observance of this holy season in accordance with the mind of the Church, exhort them to frequent reception of the sacraments and to assist at daily Mass. In churches having a resident pastor there will be a sermon and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on each Wednesday evening, and Stations of the Cross on Fridays. Pastors in charge of two parishes will give one sermon in each church during the week.

"The precept of Paschal Communion may be fulfilled on any day between the first Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday inclusive, according to an Indult of the Holy See."

**Priest Blacksmith Makes Implements For Mission College**  
London, Feb. 23.—In the smithy of the Cheshire village of Pott Shrigley, a priest is making implements for the missionary college which the Salesians will shortly open in the neighborhood.

The priest is Father Edward Coy, S. C., who became an expert blacksmith during five years of training in the Salesian Agricultural College at Warrington, Ireland.

The college building is being converted out of a mansion which formerly belonged to Colonel Lowther but has, in recent years, become derelict. Members of the community are busy with repairs, putting down abandoned walls and painting the rooms.

## Sincere Praise For Redemptorists From Roosevelt

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
New York, Feb. 23.—Bishop Aloysius Williger, of the Diocese of Porto Rico, and the Redemptorist Fathers, have received high commendation for their welfare activities on the island, from Governor Theodore Roosevelt. On the occasion of becoming Honorary President of the Catholic Porto Rican Child Welfare Association, an organization of Catholic laymen formed in the United States, to assure help for the thousands of undernourished children in Porto Rico, Governor Roosevelt paid tribute to the welfare services of Bishop Williger and the Redemptorists.

In his letter to Bishop Williger, Governor Roosevelt said: "I congratulate you most heartily on the splendid work you have done in starting the Catholic Porto Rican Child Welfare Association. Conditions are deplorable in this island, as you know so well yourself. Your work and that of the Redemptorist Fathers has taken you down among the mass of the people and you know by personal experience just how desperate the living conditions of our Porto Rican fellow-citizens are."

## Catholic Club Party On Monday And Other Events

To close its pre-Lenten season the Catholic Women's Club will give its final monthly evening card party Monday evening at the Club House. It will be under the chairmanship of Mrs. John P. Cullum, assisted by a capable committee of members. During the Lenten season, the Club program will be given over to lecturing and study.

Next Tuesday evening, at 8 o'clock, a Shakespearean Club will be organized by Mrs. Gertrude Haines Furlong, where members may read the plays aloud, for pleasure experienced in so doing. No fee will be charged, and lovers of Shakespeare are cordially invited to come. Subsequent meetings of the Shakespeare Club will be held at the convenience of those attending the first meeting.

Mrs. Furlong is also organizing a class in Public Speaking, of which Mrs. John J. Sobie will be the instructor and for which registration is now open at the Club House. Nominal fee will be charged for the class, the first meeting of which will be held Thursday evening, March 13th, at 7:30 P. M.

On Friday at 2 P. M. if the interest manifested is sufficient, a course for lessons in contract bridge will be formed, under the chairmanship of Mrs. James F. Sprout. The course will consist of six lessons, with M. S. MacMahon as instructor. Fee will be charged.

Beginning the first Tuesday Lent, March 11th, and for the first time preceding Holy Week, sets of talks on current topics, book reviews will be given at 2 o'clock at the Club House by Rev. Eugene Goding, Mrs. M. McMahon and Mrs. Mary MacCarthy. Mrs. D. E. Sullivan is chairman of the lectures. A nominal fee will be charged, and course tickets which are transferable, may be procured from Mrs. Sullivan and a committee of at the Club House. The talks may also be heard singly.

**90,850 Catholics In Omaha Diocese Census Show**  
Omaha, Nebr., Feb. 23.—Return from the first complete census ever taken in the diocese of Omaha, Neb., show that 90,850 Catholics reside at present in the 23 Nebraska counties, and 14,000 square miles of territory, embraced by the diocese according to John A. McKelown, New York City, director of the census.

This census was taken by an organization of 3,000 volunteer workers, men and women, starting Oct. 11 and was completed in two days. Tabulation of reports from the 23 parishes of the diocese was completed last week. No funds were solicited in connection with the census.

The recent census discloses that there are 21,202 Catholic families residing in the diocese. Previous estimates had indicated only 19,300 families. Of the total number of individuals, 56,312 are over 16 years of age.

The census also disclosed the one-fifth of the population of the city of Omaha is Catholic. There are 11,360 Catholic families or 44,630 Catholics among Omaha's 223,000 residents.

In the rural districts of the diocese, and outstate cities, there are 9,843 Catholic families and 46,220 individuals.

Statistics show that 58,395 Catholics resided in the Diocese of Omaha October 2, 1885, when the diocese which then included the entire state of Nebraska and Wyoming, was established.

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