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## What About Sterilization?

NO. 8—THE CHURCH AND STERILIZATION  
By  
Rev. Ignatius W. Cox, S.J.

This is the concluding article of a group written by Father Cox, of Fordham University, dealing with sterilization from the moral standpoint. It follows a series of five by Dr. James J. Walsh written from the scientific point of view.

An article appeared in the Scientific American for September, 1934, entitled "The Sterilization Law in Germany." This article was written by C. Thomalla, M. D., and was secured from the German Embassy at Washington. In it the author declares: "It is, by the way, a historical fact that up to the middle of the nineteenth century the choir boys of the Sistine Chapel were submitted to castration, in order to preserve the quality of the high throat voices of the boys." Doctor Thomalla has evidently been reading the British Encyclopedia wherein this is stated. If he had searched in the Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics, edited by James Hastings, he would have found the following in the article entitled, "Eunuch": "The whole practice (of castration) was definitely condemned by Benedict XIV. (It is presumed that the writer does not mean 'definitely' in the sense of 'infallibly.' It would not be true in the latter sense.—I. W. C.)

Since that time there have been no castration in the service of the Church although the utterly indefensible custom of having male sopranos on the Italian operatic stage lingered on until late in the nineteenth century." It has often been asserted that the Church in the past sanctioned the sterilization of choir boys. The facts are these. Though some moral theologians held it as a probable opinion that such sterilization was lawful, the Popes never approved of this practice, never declared it legitimate, and moreover, declared as irregular those who through their own fault were thus sterilized.

Benedict XIV (1758-1768) declares the mind of the Church as follows: "The law of the Church is not changed; it punishes by irregularity he who, without necessity of saving his life, consents to his castration. Neither is a man free from sin, according to the aforesaid common opinion, who, without the aforesaid necessity, performs it (castration) to preserve the sweetness of his voice, that he may be a fit church singer."

Eugenic sterilization was condemned in the following words by His Holiness Pope Pius XI in the Encyclical, "Caste Vedlock": "Finally, that pernicious practice must be condemned which closely touches upon the natural right of man to enter matrimony but affects also in a real way the welfare of the offspring. For there are some who, over-solicitous for the cause of eugenics, not only give salutary counsel for more certainly procuring the strength and health of the future child—which, indeed, is not contrary to right reason—but put eugenics before aims of a higher order, and by public authority wish to prevent from marrying all those who, even though naturally fit for marriage, they consider, according to the norms and conjectures of their investigations, would, through heredi-

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## Prominent Lay Men, Women To Seek 2000 Members for Columbus Center in Drive

Will Stress Character Building, Recreational Facilities Of Center

Recreational facilities and character building features of Columbus Civic Center will be emphasized by more than 300 volunteer workers, who will launch its city-wide campaign for 2,000 members, with a dinner at 6:30 o'clock, Friday evening, November 16.

The ten-day drive, scheduled to close Monday evening, November 26, is expected to insure support for the Center's program for the next year, especially that for underprivileged boys and girls to whom its facilities are made available.

**Slogan 'Keep Alert'**  
With "Keep Alert" as their slogan, organization meetings of enrolled workers have been held during the past week and chairmen, division leaders, captains of men's and women's teams have mapped out a detailed plan of action which will be presented at the first general gathering Friday evening.

Special committee of the city's business men with Commissioner of Public Safety, Walter Cox, chairman, has a very important part in the ultimate success of the drive, according to word received from campaign headquarters this morning. This group met at noon today to discuss the facilities and program of the Columbus Civic Center for utilizing of the time of the young men and women, unemployed.

**Aids Boys and Girls**  
Commissioner Cox said: "I am vitally interested in the Center's drive for memberships and I will do my part as chairman of the Special Committee to bring its recreational activities and training in character building to the underprivileged children—hundreds of boys and girls who need healthful recreation, but who are not in a position to pay for it."

"With the co-operation of the workers already enlisted, we are confident of attaining our goal of 2,000 members, Harry B. Crowley, general chairman of the drive stated. "The work of the Center has been expanded each year and during the recent period of economic strain has been especially important. Memberships have been made available not only to men, women and children able to pay for memberships, but also to many

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## Auxiliary Of Manila Is En Route To U. S.

Techny, Ill. — (NCWC) — The Most Rev. William T. Finnetmann, S.V.D., Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Manila, and one of the prelates from the Far East who attended the Eucharistic Congress at Buenos Aires, is now on his way to the United States, it is announced at the motherhouse here of the Fathers of the Divine Word. He sailed on the S. S. "Northern Prince" and landed in New York on November 14.

## ST. IGNATIUS PARISH STARTS NEW CHURCH

Excavation Begins This Week for Fr. Cameron's New Edifice in Hornell

(Special to Catholic Courier)  
Hornell—Ground will be broken, this week, at the corner of West Pine and Grand Streets for a new church edifice for St. Ignatius Loyola Parish to cost about \$32,000, it is announced by the Rev. Ignatius X. Cameron, pastor.

Plans call for a church and school, but the church alone will be built at this time and the school building in the near future.

The plans drawn some time ago for the church and school were defeated because of two bank failures and lack of employment on the railroad, Father Cameron said this week. The project is now being reassessed under the direction of the Most Rev. Archbishop Edward Mooney, Bishop of Rochester. The matter has been before the Board of Consultors and the Diocesan Building Commission and it is now felt safe to proceed with the building.

The building contract has been awarded to George Kircher and Sons, Rochester; electrical work, T. H. Green Company, Rochester; plumbing, M. G. Lippincott, Hornell. Frank M. Quinlan, Rochester is the architect.

St. Ignatius Loyola parish was established by Bishop O'Hern, July 30, 1881 and Father Cameron was appointed pastor at that time. The church services were started temporarily in a store building on Canisteo Street, December 6, 1931.

## New Departments At Catholic U. Are Set Up by Trustees

Washington, (NCWC)—The erection of two new Departments, the appointment of two new professors and the election of seven Deans for two-year terms were voted by the Board of Trustees of the Catholic University of America at its meeting here today.

The Board of Trustees also voted to establish three graduate fellowships at the Catholic University to be awarded on a competitive basis to graduates of Catholic women's colleges in the United States.

The two new Departments, erected in the University are the Department of Anthropology, with the Rev. Dr. John M. Cooper as its head, and the Department of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology, with Dr. George Sherman Lane as acting head.

The Rev. Dr. Cornelius J. Connelly was appointed Professor of Physical Anthropology in the newly-erected Department of Anthropology, and Dr. Thomas George Foran was appointed Professor of Education.

## BELIEVE IT . . . Not

By REV. OWEN B. McGUIRE, D.D.

COMPREHENDING ST. TERESA REFORM  
SIGNIFICANT STORIES OF CHILDHOOD  
MEETS OPPOSITION WITH PERSUASIVENESS

We were speaking about Saint Teresa's Reform: I had told you that it is our duty today to understand what it was and what it means for us at present here in America; and this duty, I had said, is made evident in the marvelous spread of devotion to the new Saint of Lisieux, a spiritual daughter of Saint Teresa. "A perfect type of the first Carmelites," a Saint of our own times who had come into every Catholic parish in the land, into every home, into practically all our prayer books. To understand her we must understand what Saint Teresa's Reform was and what she intended to accomplish by the Order of Discalced Carmelite Nuns.

If you think you can understand "The Little Flower" and her "Apostolate" without an understanding of Saint Teresa and her Reform, I would say to you: Don't believe it. For the present you can take this advice on faith. Later I hope to convince you that it is a sound advice. But I must first of all tell you something of St. Teresa herself.

Imprinted by Eternity  
Saint Teresa was born at Avila in

old Castile in 1515. She came of a very religious Catholic family of the aristocratic class. She was herself a precocious youngster, always the leader in the little band of children with whom she associated. But she was also very pious; and the great truths made a deep impression on her even while a child. She was especially impressed by the thought of eternity and the ephemeral character of this life. She tells us that while at play in the garden with a little brother, they would sit down to discuss these two great truths, repeating frequently: "para siempre para siempre!"—forever! forever! Eternity, Heaven, the possession and sight of God—these were the only things that really mattered to the little philosophers.

An incident which occurred when she was but six and a half years old, shows how deeply these truths had entered her mind. In the family circle there had been reading the lives of the martyrs, and martyrdom appeared to her a very short and rapid

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## MEXICO ISSUES ARREST ORDERS FOR PRELATES

Archbishop Ruiz, Papal Delegate, and Bishop Manrique in Exile, Named

By CHARLES BETICO

Mexico City, Nov. 11—(NCWC)—Orders have been issued for the arrest of the Most Rev. Leopoldo Ruiz y Flores, Apostolic Delegate to Mexico, and the Most Rev. Jose Manrique y Zarate, Bishop of Huejutla, neither of whom has been in Mexico for several years. Archbishop Ruiz was exiled in October, 1932, and Bishop Manrique in April, 1927.

The order also directs that the investigation continue against all those who are found liable.

Attorney General Portes Gil conferred with General Plutarco Elias Calles, before he prepared his opinion on the charges of sedition launched against certain members of the Mexican Hierarchy and went by plane on Thursday to Mexico to confer with President Rodriguez. His private secretary, Enrique Malanche Flores, announced to the press that the opinion of the Attorney General, once approved by the President, would be announced on Friday or Saturday.

The text of the opinion, as published today, reads:

"In consideration of the judicial proceedings prepared at the order of the President of the Republic—Official Document No. 1707 of October 30, this year—it appearing from the documents submitted that these included the requisites under Article 16 of the Constitution to ask for an order of arrest against Senores Jose de Jesus Manrique y Zarate, Bishop of Huejutla, and Leopoldo Ruiz y Flores, Apostolic Delegate to Mexico, for crimes premeditated and punishable under Article 135, Section 1, of the Penal Code and 8 and 10 of the Law of June 21, 1926, which amended the Penal Code for the Federal District and Territories on crimes of the common statute law and crimes against the Federation in matters of religious worship and external discipline, based on Articles 184 and 195 of the Federal Code of Penal Processes, let the facts be assigned to the District Judge of the Capital for penal action, with the request that immediately there be released an order for the apprehension of Jose de Jesus Manrique y Zarate and Leopoldo Ruiz y Flores; and that instructions be given to the Agent of the Public Ministry assigned to the District Court, in session that he shall take in this affair, the intervention legally his, with the understanding that investigation continue against all those who are found liable. As Senores Ruiz y Flores and Manrique y Zarate are actually abroad, instruction shall be given to the immigration officials in the Republic through the Ministry of Gobernacion so that in case the said Senores try to enter the national territory they shall be arrested and placed at the disposition of the authority that the law recognizes. Mexico, Nov. 7, 1934."

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## Missioner Employs Radiator Water To Baptize Dying Man

Nyeri, East Africa — (NCWC) — An Italian Concolata missionary traveling recently by motor car through a lonesome section of Kenya Colony came upon a native lying at the roadside, dying from fatigue and from wounds inflicted by vulture-ravens which tried to devour him as if he were already a corpse.

"When the priest reached the man, he was still able to speak. He explained that he was returning to his village after a fruitless search for work in a distant part of the country. Worn down by fatigue and lack of proper nourishment, he was resting on the ground when the ravens swooped down and attacked him. His strength was not sufficient to fight them off.

The priest saw that he had only a few moments to live and realizing the futility of trying to get him to his village before death should overtake him, spoke to him of God, of heaven, the principal mysteries of the faith and the graces of baptism. Finding no spring or other source of water at hand, he drew a few drops from the radiator of his automobile and administered the sacrament.

## LOGE PROTEST

Manila, P. I.—(NCWC)—Protest against the proposed provision of the Constitution which would limit certain rights of private educational institutions has been lodged by the Young Men's section of Philippine Catholic Action, following a meeting held here.

## ROCHESTER IN 1935 SELECTED BY RURAL LIFE CONFERENCE FOR FIRST MEETING IN EAST

Catholic Rural Life Group Progress In Year Related by Dr. Schmiedeler Director of NCWC Rural Life Bureau

St. Paul, Minn.—(NCWC)—The progress of the Catholic rural life movements in general and of the Catholic Rural Life Conference in particular in the course of the past year was cited by the Rev. Dr. Edgar Schmiedeler, O. S. B., Director of the Rural Life Bureau, National Catholic Welfare Conference, in an address delivered Nov. 7 at the banquet of the twelfth annual convention of the Rural Life Conference, held here last week.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE UNION PLAN OF FR. COUGHLIN

Bishop Gallagher of Detroit Gives Approval of Noted Speaker's Talks

Detroit—(NCWC)—A plan for "a national union for social justice" with groups in every county, city and town, enrollment in which would be by mail and without fees, and which would be sustained "by the voluntary offerings of those who can afford to support it," was outlined by the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower at Royal Oak and noted radio speaker, in his regular broadcast Sunday.

Preceding Father Coughlin's address, the Most Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, Bishop of Detroit, said that the noted priest's annual series of Sunday afternoon talks has his full approval.

Recalling that Sunday was the anniversary of Armistice Day, Father Coughlin said "it is almost with a cynical smile that we hope for peace when we recognize the feverish efforts of every great nation busy manufacturing cannons and shells, warships and lethal gases." Declaring that Armistice Day, 1918, saw "the birth of a new problem of distribution," he vigorously attacked "the philosophy of destruction or of sabotage." He said that "destructionism" which would take land out of cultivation and destroy commodities "is the philosophy which refuses to face the problem of distribution." "It is the philosophy which is attempting to hold us manacled to an obsolete system of finance and of production for a profit only."

In outlining his plan for "a national union for social justice," Father Coughlin set forth 16 items among the principles "toward the realization of which we must strive." These included nationalization of "those public necessities which by their very nature are too important to be held in the control of private individuals" and private ownership of all other property; belief not only the right of labor to organize in unions but also in the duty of government "to facilitate and protect these organizations"; recall of non-productive bonds to alleviate taxation and to direct "this corpse-capital into productive industry"; the conscription of wealth as well as conscription of men "in the event of a war for the defense of our nation and its liberties."

## Plans for Ceremonies Of Cardinal's Jubilee Rapidly Taking Shape

Chicago—(NCWC)—Plans for the formal celebration here of the silver jubilee of His Eminence George Cardinal-Desobry, Archbishop of Chicago, are rapidly taking shape.

The celebration will be climaxed by a Solemn Pontifical Votive Mass of Thanksgiving, celebrated by His Eminence on Tuesday, November 20, with His Eminence, Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, preaching the sermon.

The procession into the cathedral will consist of many members of the Hierarchy. His Excellency the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, will head the dignitaries. His Excellency the Most Rev. Andrea Casaroli, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, will also be present.

## BISHOP WARNS OF REDS' GAINS; CITES THEIR DEVOTION TO 'CAUSE'

Detroit—(NCWC)—Warning of the spread of bolshevism, communism and socialism, and pointing to them as examples of how apparent impossibilities can become realities, the Most Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, Bishop of Detroit, in an address before a meeting of the Detroit Council of Catholic Organizations, called upon Catholics to influence non-Catholics by taking an interest in their spiritual welfare and charity.

Bishop Gallagher declared that if each Catholic did this with regard to two non-Catholics, "in one generation we would rise from a total of 20,000,000 to 60,000,000."

Dr. Schmiedeler also described secular and governmental activities in the rural life field, declaring that "not the smallest accomplishment of the year is the fact that the general American public has had its brought to its attention, as perhaps never before, that there is such a thing as an American Farmer and that he is a decidedly hard row to hoe."

Local Programs Launched  
Pointing to "the further growth in the diocesan rural life bureau (and the launching of definite local programs of action in a number of dioceses)" as "one of the most encouraging developments in the Catholic field during the year," Dr. Schmiedeler reported that such bureaus have been formed in 22 dioceses and that at least two more are to be established. "In six other dioceses," he went on, "the Ordinaries have appointed priests to assist themselves with the rural activities fostered by the Conference. Here in some 40 dioceses definite and official action has now been taken to foster a program of Catholic rural activities in an organized way. In not a few instances a diocesan conference has been established to function in conjunction with the Bureau. In several cases, too, the work is being done on a particular diocese basis. Here and there special talks have very wisely been assigned to particular individuals."

Continuing his report, Dr. Schmiedeler declared that the rural life movement received "considerable impetus." He pointed to the fact that all three of the diocesan rural life bureaus in the State of Kentucky have been organized in the past year and that the Catholic Rural League in this diocese is being reorganized.

Dr. Schmiedeler declared that "we must win over the young folks in the rural areas." "Without interest on the part of the young people," he added, "no rural movement will have genuine vitality."

THE VAST FIELD  
"In spite of what has been done along this line," he continued, "there is still a vast field for effort lying

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## Number of Priests Religious Killed in Spain Yet Unknown

(Madrid Correspondence)  
Madrid—(V. S. S.) It has been possible for even the International Commission to furnish definite figures on the number of priests and monks who were killed by the revolutionaries. It is hoped that some of the missing are still in the mountains, especially in the Basque provinces. Every day more and more disclosures are being made by the Government and the International Commission. It is hoped that they will be able to furnish a complete list of the names of those who were killed.

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## SHOULD GET ATTENTION

LAZARS CARD PARTIES ENTERTAINMENT  
THE NEW...  
PARADE ANNOUNCEMENTS...  
WHEN...  
Catholic...

Join  
And Aid  
Others  
To Join  
Columbus  
Civic  
Centre  
1934 CAMPAIGN  
NOV. 17 to 26

## Conference Just Closed at St. Paul Elects Fr. Campbell

TWO THOUSAND PARTICIPATE

## Adult Education Full-Time Farmers Increase Strength

The thirteenth annual convention of the Catholic Rural Life Conference in St. Paul, Minn., closed last week. Two thousand participants were present. Adult education for full-time farmers has increased its strength.

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