

Armaments and Conscience

Now that Germany is rearming, the while the other signatories to the Treaty of Versailles have refused to live up to their promise to disarm and have, instead, increased armaments and armaments, His Holiness, Pius XI, in his Allocution of April 1st, condemned the international crime perpetrated by those members of the family of nations so assiduously engaged at present in equipping for warfare more horrible than any the world has yet seen. The Pontiff did not accuse any particular nation, nor exempt any from the fratricidal intention to prepare for the worst. The Holy Father speaks of "this nefarious crime," "this enormous crime," namely that of "peoples once more taking up arms against each other. This crime must be condemned and it must be condemned more the blood of brothers were spilled and if destruction and ruin were spread up on the earth and in the sea and the sky."

When the news was flashed to the world on November 11, 1918, that an armistice had been declared, few people would have dared to assert the lessons of the terrible war would be so quickly kind so quickly. Even the worldwide Depression, unparalleled as to extent in the history of mankind, is impotent and can not stay human folly. Even in the "Economic Crisis" of October 2, 1929, Pius XI points to the economic results of the "unbridled race for armaments." "Five Holy Fathers," at a time when most thought that the world was on the verge of a new era of peace, spoke of the "enormous expenditures from the public resources," wasted on armaments, as "not the least factor in the present crisis." Similarly, the London Economist expressed the belief: "The economic crisis cannot be surmounted without a restoration of financial credit; financial credit cannot be restored without the establishment of political security; and political security cannot be established without a reduction of armaments."

However, the Economist did not say that lacking the influence of religion and moral authority, this argument would avail little or nothing. The Holy Father, on the other hand, exhorted particularly those to whom the Christian faith was addressed, to seek, by "all the means of preaching and the press at their disposal, to enlighten men's minds and to dispose their hearts according to the dictates of right reason, and still more of the Christian law." Truly, the last and strongest arguments for disarmament must be sought in the conscience of men, enlightened by the doctrine of the Christian religion. Out of a broadened concept of love for our neighbor, the true morality of our love for God, must come like peace in society, a peace among nations, which will be with armaments now considered indispensable.

Because this, the most important factor for the creation of good will among nations, is not included in the considerations of statesmen, it has been possible to distort even the economic argument into one favoring armaments. For the same reason, science, has moral responsibility to the horrors of war. A few months ago, 78 scientific workers and teachers in Cambridge University put their names to a statement expressing their "fundamental opposition to the use of scientific research in war and in preparation for war," adding "It is the duty of those scientists who refuse to be party to the frustration and misapplication of science, to use every effort to dissuade their colleagues from betraying in this way the best interest of humanity." But even should a number of scientists be guided by this admonition, their action will avail little or nothing; Kant's treatise on "Eternal Peace" has not prevented one war since the end of the eighteenth century. What the scoffer Voltair said of the philosophers of Athens, that not one of them had been able to change the morals even of those living around the corner from him, holds good today. It is to be feared, few men will imitate the distinguished English writer E. M. Foster, who recently told the readers of "Time" and "Tide": "A revolution came on me last week, when I was considering the imminence of war. I looked through my investments and found one which shocked me. It was Imperial Chemicals, Ltd. I had often wondered why I had not sold this concern, which manufactures poison gas, or whether its amiable tale of scents and dyes was the whole tale. Now I realized that it certainly would manufacture poison gas if a war threatened, and that chlorine, though requisite for bleaching, can be put to other uses. So I have sold out (70 ordinary and 50 deferred shares), and that's that."

Noble as this sentiment is, it cannot be made general, unless it is fortified by convictions of a religious and moral nature. And in this regard, Pius XI, in his recent Allocution, emphasizes the importance of prayer and Christian virtue for the cause of peace. Commending especially the proposed great Pilgrimage to the Shrine at Lourdes, and urging upon the world at large, the Apostolic prayer: "Lord, save us, lest we perish."—C. V. Service.

Dr. Craugh To Address Blessed Sacrament Holy Name Society

At the regular monthly meeting of the Holy Name Society of the Blessed Sacrament Church called for Monday evening, April 15 at 8:15 p. m. in the Auditorium, the members will listen to an address by Rev. Dr. William Craugh, Professor at St. Bernard's Seminary on "Holy Week in Rome." This is expected to be of great interest to the members of the Society.

Dr. Craugh spent considerable time in Rome and personally witnessed the solemn ceremonies of Holy Week. Reports will be heard on the recent Lending Library campaign. Several other important matters will be discussed upon which action should be taken by the Society. Sunday morning, April 14 at the seven o'clock Mass the members will receive Holy Communion in a body. More than four hundred attended last month, due largely to the recent membership campaign and a further increase is anticipated this month. The officers are gratified at the revival of interest manifested by the members in the Society's doings during the past winter season.

Bishop Attends Retreat Closing at Seminary

Archbishop Mooney is scheduled to close the annual retreat of St. Andrew's Seminary, Friday of this week in Our Lady Chapel at the early Mass. The Archbishop will give a short talk to the students.

Support the CATHOLIC COURIER.

Plan National Eucharistic Congress



Nine bishops were photographed at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Eucharistic Congress in the office of the Most Rev. Joseph S. Hrenko, Bishop of Cleveland, President and Promoter of Eucharistic Congresses in the United States. Plans were outlined for the seventh National Eucharistic Congress, to be held in Cleveland, September 23-26. Seated, left to right: Bishop Noll of Fort-Wayne, Bishop Gannon of Erie, Bishop Schrembs, Bishop Gallagher of Detroit, Bishop Swinn of Wheeling, Standing, Rev. Vincent R. Balmat and Very Rev. Mgr. Floyd L. Begin, secretaries; Rev. Alphons Pelletier, S. S., Bishop McFadden, Auxiliary of Cleveland, Bishop Alter of Toledo, Bishop Abert, Auxiliary of Cincinnati and Bishop Ritter of Indianapolis.

Palace's Stage Bill Repeats Indecency, Says Drama Critic

After the Chamber's protest against the defiance of decency in Earl Carroll's Vanities exhibited on the Palace stage last week, it is interesting to note G. L. O's comment on the Palace's bill for this week, appearing in the Saturday, April 6, issue of the Democrat & Chronicle.

"A good part of the new Palace stage show is unobjectionable, but when Leslie Page comes forth last evening in the headline act, we thought Carroll's 'Vanities' of last week must have left her behind in a liberal costume convention, as she was, and of our notions of decency."

WAIT ACTION ON MEXICO IN CONGRESS

(Continued from Page One) now domiciled in Mexico, that it call upon the Government of Mexico in the name of humanity to cease denying fundamental and inalienable rights to those of our nationals who may be resident in Mexico regardless of religious convictions, and that the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to conduct hearings and receive evidence on conditions in Mexico. The Resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and there it remains. A letter was sent to the Committee from the State Department giving the Department's position with relation to the Mexican situation, and no action has been taken since.

The House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs last week had before it a Resolution by Representative Higgins of Massachusetts, by the terms of which the House would suggest the Senate to adopt the Borah Resolution and authorize its Committee on Foreign Relations to conduct hearings on the Mexican situation. The Committee failed to take action on the Higgins Resolution partly at least because it considered first the Resolution of Representative Fish of New York, by which Congress would express "its sympathy for all those who have been deprived of the free exercise of their religious faith" in Mexico and request the President of the United States to use his good offices with the Mexican Government and other nations "to permit the fullest freedom of religious worship and to put an end to religious persecution wherever it may exist and especially to protect the rights of American citizens of all creeds and faiths to the freedom of worship in Mexico and all other nations."

Clinton, Ia.—(NCWC)—Margaret Cahill, 17, senior at Our Lady of Angels Academy, here, has won the first prize in the essay contest sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary of Iowa.

St. Mary's Players Will Present 'Broken Dishes' In Corning, May 13, 14

"Broken Dishes," by Martin Flavin, the Spring production of St. Mary's Players, will be presented in St. Mary's Hall on May 13 and 14 in Corning. The play is a comedy, the hero of which is one of the class un-honored and unloved—the hen-pecked husband, Leo Schoeger, who has won great praise locally for his dramatic talents, will play the leading role. Miss Julia Cronin will play the role of the wife; Miss Catherine Lindley, the daughter; and Charles Nitsche, the role of the daughter's sweetheart. Others in the cast include Miss Eleanor Dowling, Miss Marian Burrell, Thomas Scheb, Francis Hanley, Christopher Cassidy and Norman Beck.

KOREA MISSIONER CITES JAPANESE GENEROUS AID TO CHARITY WORK

Peng Yang, Korea—(NCWC)—A young missioner in Korea, the Rev. Leo Steinbach, M. M. of Charlton, Iowa, claims that generosity is one of the outstanding traits of the Japanese.

For some months Father Steinbach has been harboring in a building near his chapel the blind, lame, crippled and aged Koreans who wander through the streets of Peng Yang begging for food and shelter. His charity at first met with opposition from the police, and it was a Japanese Buddhist who smoothed the way for him.

One day, as he was giving aid to a beggar he was observed by a Japanese woman and told her that she was running the risk of imprisonment. The woman, a non-Christian, was so indignant that she related the whole story to her Buddhist husband. He came at once to Father Steinbach, and gave him money for the support of the mission shelter.

Notre Dame, Ind.—(NCWC)—According to the best information available, about 94 per cent of all students receiving diplomas from the University of Notre Dame since 1931 have found employment.

Announcing... The New Shirley Temple Easter Dresses \$1.95

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McCurdy's THIRD FLOOR

HOLY WEEK EASTER RITES AT CATHEDRAL

(Continued from Page One) day, Thursday, Friday at 4 o'clock. Confessions afternoon and evening. Lenten Services—WEDNESDAY night, April 17 at 7:45 p. m. Rosary, Sermon on "Blessed Sacrament," Benediction. Holy Thursday—April 18; 10 a. m. Solemn Pontifical Mass—Solemn procession to Repository. Holy Thursday—10 p. m.—Nocturnal Adoration Society. Address to men by Archbishop Mooney. Beautiful Repository—Cathedral open all night—Guard of Honor, Nocturnal Adoration men. Good Friday—April 19; 9 a. m. Mass of the Presanctified by Archbishop Mooney—solemn procession from Repository—Adoration of the Cross—Offering this day for Holy Land. Good Friday—7 to 10 p. m.—"The Three Hours Agony" to be conducted by the Rev. Francis A. Meade, C. M., Ph. D.—Dean of Niagara University. Holy Saturday—April 20; 7:30 a. m.—Easter Saturday Holy Saturday—ceremonies—Solemn High Mass—Easter water, Confessions at 10:30 a. m.—Easter Vigil—Easter Sunday—April 21; Masses

6, 7:30, 8:30 and 9:30 with sermons at each Mass by Mgr. Shay, 10:30 a. m.—Solemn Pontifical Mass by Archbishop Mooney—Sermon by Archbishop Mooney—Adoration of the Cross—Blessing, 4 p. m.—Lady Chapel, Rosary, Christian Doctrine, Benediction.

NAMED KENTUCKY COACHMAN Louisville—(NCWC)—Patrick J. Xavier, captain of the national championship basketball team of Xavier's High School here, today was presented with a commission as a colonel on the staff of Governor Ruby Laffoon. The presentation was held in the chapel.

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