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WILLIAM HOWELL  
MYRTA JOY IN  
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"The Girl Who"  
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## Hits Belief Persecution Is At End

**Tolerant Acts in Mexico Seen Offset by Repressive Laws**

By CHAUNCEY BETHCO (Mexico City Correspondent, N.Y. World-News Service)

MEXICO CITY.—Has religious persecution in Mexico ceased? Has the situation changed? These two questions are frequently asked as the result of certain facts which denote a certain tolerance on the part of the Mexican Government.

Certainly some tolerance is indicated by the following facts: In recent months the majority of the priests and nuns have been expelled from their dioceses and for this reason have fled to Mexico City. Some have returned to their respective dioceses, many of the priests who had been expelled from their dioceses have been allowed to return to their respective dioceses, many of the priests who had been expelled from their dioceses have been allowed to return to their respective dioceses.

## Dr. Curran Takes Issue With Catholic Worker

**Brands Group's Neutral Stand on Spanish Question As 'Cowardly' and 'Unreasonable'; Calls Attention to Father Ehmann's Statements**

The Rev. Dr. Edward Lodge Curran, president of the International Catholic Truth Society, this week takes issue with the Catholic Worker group for its stand on the Spanish question.

In a letter to the editor of the CATHOLIC COURIER, Dr. Curran who authored several articles on Communism for this paper last winter, "claims" that the "positive pacifist" stand of the Catholic Worker group is "cowardly" and "unreasonable."

He calls attention to a defense of the Catholic Worker position by one of the CATHOLIC COURIER writers. The letter and explanatory matter follow:

Editor, Catholic Courier  
Rochester, New York:

Dear Editor,

For the past several weeks, in the Rochester Forum of the Brothers Tablet, I have called the attention of our Catholic brethren to the fact that the attitude of the Catholic Worker Group and their publication, The Catholic Worker, is a serious detriment to the cause of harmony with the attitude of His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, towards the principles and practices of Communism.

The Catholic Worker Group has not denied my publicly written and published charges that its members believe in cooperating with Communism. It has simply been forthcoming when, quoting from the Holy Scriptures, I have called attention to the fact that the Catholic Worker Group and their publication, The Catholic Worker, is a serious detriment to the cause of harmony with the attitude of His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, towards the principles and practices of Communism.



DR. EDWARD L. CURRAN

## Sack More Churches In 'Red' Spain

**Sacred Images Reported Destroyed in Province of Santander**

BALAMANCA (NC)—New pillaging of churches in the Province of Santander has been reported. At Cuevas a parish church and a chapel have been ravaged. The image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, taken from the chapel, was smashed on the rocks. At Cisneros the church image of the Virgin and Child was smashed to bits in the public square. At Turon the church was destroyed after the bells had been removed and all furnishings carried off.

At Colfada and Llanes the churches have been burned. At Figadero the parish church has become a communist club and both altar and sacred vessels have been profaned. At Lunan and Barga the churches have been burned and the pastors shot. At Santilla del Mar all the convents have been sacked and the Carmelite and Benedictine monasteries destroyed. The red flag floats from the church tower at Bicalda.

All the church bells throughout the province have been sent to a foundry and all church furnishings—paintings, mosaics, etc.—thought to be of value have been placed at the disposition of the Santander War Committee.

## SPEAKS

**CARDINAL GOMA SEES SPANISH TILT A RELIGIOUS WAR**



Cardinal Goma y Tomas  
Archbishop of Toledo

(Continued from Page 1)  
...were searching for this correspondent, he saw bodies of priests with their arms bundled to the shoulder and they were taken to the bodies would not be washed up on the shore and the treatment to which they had been subjected revealed to the public.

Other Outrages Cited  
The profanation of graves, the outraging of virgins whose lives had been dedicated to God, the slaughter of innocent students and seminarians are evidence of the sacrilegious instinct which prevails among the lawless men toward the destruction of everything representative of our Christian religion, and especially venerated images of Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother.

Just as they destroyed thousands of churches, setting them afire or tearing them down to the ground, they did away with the pride of our Catholic art, the synthesis of our history, enriched with the precious gift of the piety which centuries of devotion had attributed to them.

## HOLY FATHER LAUDS K. C. WORK IN U.S.

VATICAN CITY (NC)—Cable: His Holiness Pope Pius XI again showed his deep paternal affection for America when he noted the presence of some 40 pilgrims from the United States among the persons whom he received in a general audience on Wednesday.

The pilgrims were members of a group organized by the Knights of Columbus and the Holy Father praised the Order for the services it renders the Church in the United States. Speaking in English, he told you with words you all clearly understand, Pope Pius informed the pilgrims that to each of them to your families, your relations and to all your great country, justly so dear to you and to Us, he imparted his "most affectionate paternal blessing" according to their intentions.

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## ATTEMPT TO BOMB EPISCOPAL HOUSE

MANILA, P. I.—Secret service men are continuing their watch of the Catholic Archbishop's residence here following an attempted bombing of the house.

While four persons have been questioned in connection with the bombing of a nearby house through the window of the Archbishop's house, the light has been thrown upon the incident. Secret service operatives have intensified their search for the men who fired a missile which failed to explode through the window of the Archbishop's house shattering glassware.

Meanwhile, the Most Rev. Michael J. O'Doherty, Archbishop of Manila, and his staff have been going about their tasks in the normal manner.

The authorities are working on two theories, that the culprit might be a person with a grudge against the Archbishop, or that the attempt is believed to have been made through the Archbishop's grounds through a back gate.

## REV. EDWARD LODGE CURRAN

President, International Catholic Truth Society

The CATHOLIC COURIER reader who wrote to Dr. Curran obliquely referred to the column written by the Rev. Benedict Ehmann which appeared in the issue of July 29.

In that column, which reflects the personal opinions of Father Ehmann and not necessarily the editorial stand of the COURIER, appeared the following statements:

"Take the Catholic Worker. This group of people is not expert in theology, the New York Chancellor has appointed a spiritual adviser to keep their lights but they are united with the church whole-heartedly in faith and morals where their opinion is different is again in those departments."

(Continued on Page 8)

## Memorial Services Held For Bilbao Martyrs On Cemetery Site of Savage Executions

(In the following story, the Rev. Manuel Grana, Special Correspondent of the N.Y. World-News Service, himself witnessing for almost a year and believed to have been slain by the Reds, tells of the memorial services for the "Martyrs of Bilbao" and relates some of the terrible events of the civil war to which he was an eye-witness.)

By REV. MANUEL GRANA

BILBAO.—A solemn memorial service for the "Martyrs of Bilbao"—those who were executed in the prisons and aboard prison ships in the harbor—has been held in the Deza cemetery, where 20 of these victims were shot.

Many of those who were commemorated at this service have no sepulchres on land. Their horribly mutilated bodies were thrown overboard from the Cabo Quintana and the Alhama Mench. Catholics and El Carmelo prisons, converted used by the Marjats for this infamous purpose, things were bad enough but the tortures and oppression endured by the prisoners on the ships were unbearable.

Some prepared for their deaths with saintly religious practices. Others defied the impious wrath of their killers. In the prisons a priest, likewise a prisoner, sometimes would be able to go from cell to cell, explaining his ministry in some fashion. At times it was possible to excite the hungry, cold, and the priest, kneeling in some passage from Scripture,

would strengthen the spirit of the prisoners.

Mass in Prison Cell

On the eve of the Feast of the Sacred Heart, in the obscurity of an infected cell, a prisoner-priest celebrated Mass. For Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a coverlet served as canopy, a condensed milk can for an altar, and a man's coat was made of wood by the prisoners.

The last breath of the dying and their farewell to the world was: "Viva Cristo Rey!"

These few facts explain why the people of Bilbao have applied to their names the designation of Martyrs. And, in truth, when the documented history of this martyrdom has been prepared, it will be seen that, as in the case of the French Revolution, many of these victims, both priests and laymen, were martyrs in the canonical sense of the word.

This correspondent has witnessed with his own eyes the execution of youths for the simple offense of wearing a medal or a crucifix.

The religious devotion which the captives had, and which was in the approach was indicated somewhat by the throngs of people who came to Dario by train and bus, not only from Bilbao but from neighboring towns as well.

One of the cemetery walls had served as the favorite place of execution for the unfortunate prisoners of Bilbao. A great crucifix against a black drapery which covered the whole front of the wall,

and a quantity of branches behind it served to mark the funeral plot.

In the cemetery chapel a Capuchin who had been a prisoner on the Alhama Mench throughout the war, and who had seen the terrible things that went on aboard that ship, was the celebrant of the Mass. He was served by two young men who had been his prison companions.

Roll Call of Dead

Two large stones bear the names of the dead, but both these and the unknown dead, whose names will never be known, were eulogized by the Mayor of Bilbao, the Civil Governor and the Provincial Chief of the Falangists. Their words evoked Christian resignation, civic indignation and a determination to wrest Spain from the hands of depolluters.

The ceremony closed with the singing of the National Hymn. By order of General Francisco Franco this hymn is sung with the hand upraised and with the palm extended, because "for the threatening gesture of the closed fist which is used by the Reds, there is substituted this feature of cordiality and respect."

Survivors of the prison ships tell horrible stories and it is unquestionable that they suffered worse tortures than other prisoners. Each newly arrived prisoner was beaten. The Marques de Arlica, an elderly aristocrat, because he was an aristocrat, was forced to clean up the human filth.

Prisoners were despoiled of ev-

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