

# Diocesan Review and Annual Calendarium

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## THE WORLD IN REVIEW

OCTOBER, 1936

Almost effort on the part of the Catholic Press toward maximum distribution of Papal Encyclical Letters pledged by Frank A. Hall, Director of National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service in address closing general sessions of International Congress of Catholic Press in Vatican City. N. C. W. C. News Director presented resolution containing pledge after recognizing special efforts made for years by Catholic Press in America to report promptly and effectively great Encyclical Letters of the Holy Father.

Music unit for rendition in church services was banned by the Most Rev. Guillermo Forbes, Archbishop of Ottawa, in a pastoral letter. Strict adherence to liturgical law in church music ordered by Archbishop Forbes who cited abuses.

"The Spanish government is a persecuting government," said the Rev. R. A. McGowan, Assistant Director, N. C. W. C. Social Action Department, as he declined to join the "Friends of the Spanish Republic," in this country. He hit out at sponsors for striving to arouse prejudice on false issues.

Word received in Berlin of death in prison of the Very Rev. Mother Anna Ivanovna, Abrikossova, founder and superior of the Russian Third Order of Dominican Nuns of Oriental (Catholic) Rite. Mother Abrikossova died in Boutirki prison in Moscow on July 23 after detention of 13 years. Another name added to long list of martyrs of the faith was the Rev. Nicholas Nicolaievitch Alexandrov, whose death occurred at the Solovki Islands of the White Sea.

The "cowardly" and "fatal" course of wiping out religious teaching altogether was adopted in this country because one religion feared another

religion would gain an advantage, declared former Judge Alfred J. Talley, prominent layman speaking at the National Catechetical Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in New York. Four Archbishops, 12 Bishops, 26 Monsignors, hundreds of priests and nuns, and more than 4,500 of laity tackled problem of providing more intensive religious education for public school children.

Suggesting role of "Mr. Muckle-wrath Mix-up" for George Bernard Shaw in an early drama of his own, New York Times editorially said he should introduce himself "in the guise of one of the most amusing characters ever presented on the stage."

Approximately \$333,000 rose in smoke as fire destroyed 13 buildings close to the Historic Shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre in Quebec.

Arousing exceptional indignation abroad were two executions at Madrid, those of Father Povoda, priest who was a leader in field of education and Dr. Gomez Ulla, distinguished surgeon. Particularly in France was the murder of Father Provoda mourned.

His happiness in finding himself "within the territory of a great people who know how to unite so beautifully and nobly a sense of discipline with the exercise of a just, legitimate and well ordered liberty," was expressed by His Eminence Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli, Papal Secretary of State, on arrival at New York. Cardinal Pacelli is first

Prince of the Church holding exalted position of Papal Secretary to visit this country.

Completely disregarding the formal stipulations of its Concordat with the Holy See, the Nazi government in Germany reported by reliable sources, quietly getting ready to wipe out the whole Catholic parochial school system.

To cooperate with the committee studying revision of the Baltimore Catechism, a Catholic Biblical Association of America was formed for the purpose of expediting the work. This action resulted from the annual sessions of the National Catechetical Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in New York.

A national Catholic Theater to project the Catholic way of life and to preserve good drama generally was proposed by Emmett Lavery, author of "The First Legion," drama on the Jesuits, as he addressed the Catholic Women's Club of Los Angeles.

Using modern transportation to carry on the mission of the age-old church, His Eminence Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli, highest ranking dignitary of the Church ever to visit United States, streaked across the wide expanse from coast to coast in an especial plane dash, stopping at important centers to confer on matters of import. From New York to San Francisco, wherever the distinguished Prelate visited either by plane or automobile, he was cordially and reverently greeted. In Washington he conferred with His Excellency, the Most Rev. Amleto Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States.

NOVEMBER, 1936

Nation-wide mourning followed word of death of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Burke, C. S. P., General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington. Fifteen Archbishops and Bishops, persons high in the government of the nation, many Monsignors, hundreds of priests and nuns and a large number of laity attended the funeral at National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of the Catholic University of America. Seventeen years of guiding the N. C. W. C. by Monsignor Burke was filled with zealous service judged by Archbishop Mooney at the investiture of Msgr. Burke as a Domestic Prelate on September 21 as "well-merited recognition" by the Holy Father, "of Father Burke's efficient and devoted work as General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference."

Three members of the French hierarchy in Paris statements protested rumors circulated by unidentified individuals to the effect that churches and convents were being used to store arms and munitions for a civil war. "To this calumnious rumor," wrote Bishop Dubourg of Marseille, one of the three, "I oppose the most absolute denial."

Heads of all dioceses in the country were sent copies of the Legion of Decency pledge by the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O. P., of Cincinnati, to be renewed Dec. 13. With copies went pamphlet entitled "How to Judge the Morality of Motion Pictures."

Nationally known for his effective

Catholic Action work, Richard Reid, publicity director of the Catholic Laymen's Association of Georgia, and Editor of "The Bulletin," official organ of the Association was presented the Lactare Medal for 1936 conferred by the University of Notre Dame, at a brilliant gathering in Augusta, Ga.

While Chinese bandits who held him captive for nine months, battled Japanese troops, the Rev. Joseph Clarence Burns, Maryknoll missionary made good his escape, according to word received by the United States Consul General at Mukden, Manchukuo. Three previous attempts to escape from the bandits were made by Father Burns. Bandits had demanded a ransom of 5,000,000 Mexican dollars, artillery, munition and supplies.

Issues at stake are vital, and call for concerted and unified action said a momentous statement issued by the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference at the annual meeting of the Bishops of the United States in Washington. "The forces of atheism and neo-paganism with their offspring Communism and despotism are attempting to rob life of all that is spiritual and supernatural," the statement read. "The fate of western civilization which is rooted in Christian principles is bound up with the outcome of this struggle."

DECEMBER, 1936

Farewell messages to their loved ones, written on scraps of paper and in handkerchiefs by Claretian Missionaries on the eve of their martyrdom in Barbastro, Spain, were in possession of the Claretian community at Washington. Positive identification of 20 more missionaries slain was received at the headquarters of the Community in Rome and relayed to the Very Rev. Eugene Sigranes, C. M. F., superior of the Claretian Col.

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## A Note on the Author of "Denonville's Expedition"

The Catholic Courier is indeed fortunate in being able to present to its readers the story of the Denonville expedition written by Mr. George B. Selden, who has made it a life-long study and is unexcelled as a scholar of this particular theme of American history.

His interest in the subject began with an Indian axe which was lost probably more than 200 years ago. Perhaps some Indian camping on Lake Ontario, at the east shore of Irondequoit Bay, forgot to put his tomahawk back into his canoe.

Nearly 40 years ago a father and his ten-year-old son were walking near Lake Ontario, at the east shore of Irondequoit Bay. Something on the ground with more shape than an ordinary stone attracted the father's attention.

He picked up the curious object bumped the earth off it and found the Indian's iron axe. The father said—"I wonder if this axe could have been left here at the time de Denonville's army camped on this shore. The axe opened wide the gates of historic imagination in the mind of the alert ten-year-old boy. Mr. Selden at that time began the interest in the study of de Denonville and of all allied Indian and white topics of that period in this locality, an interest which has never ceased.

Of the twenty-five to thirty different ways of spelling the title of Rene de Brisay, Marquis de Denonville, only three variations appear in the Review and Calendar, each in a separate article as the choice of that particular author.



The tale of the Denonville Expedition begins on the next page, Page 4.

He has his own collection of books and he knows where to look for those paragraphs in books which relate to a wide territory, for those items which apply to our local field.

Many of his suggestions have been incorporated in previous historical articles in the Courier Calendar. In addition to being a book-historian, Mr. Selden is also a shovel-historian. He has worked on nearly every Indian site in this region mentioned in 17th century writings. In the contact period, which we are considering, where to attempt to separate history and archeology is absurd, Mr. Selden is one of the very few local historians who knows thoroughly both the book and shovel aspects of the subject. "I dug there 20 years ago," he said of a Seneca site recently published as a new discovery.

When Mr. Selden began his study of Denonville, the material on the subject was scattered through many rare volumes. A few connoisseurs had the information. Today, largely due to Mr. Selden's unrewarded pioneering, the whole community is coming into possession of this piece of its own romantic history.

ALEXANDER M. STEWART

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