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PETITION URGING ATTACK ON ALL

Persecutions Gets Support Here

The American Tolerance Committee with headquarters in New York City is sending a form letter throughout the country asking prominent citizens everywhere to sign and mail it to the President. The letter urges President Roosevelt to denounce the persecutions of Christians in Spain, Russia and Mexico as he has assailed the persecutions in Germany.

Grand Knight Leo F. Rombaut of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus and officers of Rochester Council and other councils in the diocese were among those who signed the letter and it was sent to Washington. The letter follows:

"Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
"President of the United States of America.

"The White House, Washington, D. C.

"Mr. President:

"We, the undersigned, note with approval your vigorous denunciation of the Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany. We endorse your unprecedented action in calling home our Ambassador to Berlin to report on the treatment of Jews in Germany. We understand your concern over the plight of persecuted Jews in Germany, as well as in Italy. We believe that, condemning the oppression of a helpless and innocent people, you express the spirit of true humanitarianism and true Americanism.

"However, Mr. President, we cannot believe that you are moved to indignation only because persecuted Jews are concerned. We cannot believe that you are interested only in the plight of suffering Jews in Germany. We cannot believe, with resources placed at your command, that you are ignorant of the conditions of the persecutions and murdering of Christians, ravaging and desecrating of Churches in Russia, in Mexico, in 'Loyalist' Spain, in Northern Ireland. We cannot believe that your statement, I myself could scarcely believe that such things could occur in twentieth century civilization' applies only to Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany.

Spokesman For All

"May we respectfully submit, Mr. President, that you are the Official Spokesman, not of any religious or racial group in the United States, but of the American people as a whole. It is our conviction that all fair-minded Americans, of whatever race, creed or color, hold in abhorrence ALL persecutions, ALL tyranny, ALL oppression, as opposed to every human instinct, to every American tradition, to every ideal of personal liberty for which America stands.

"As Americans, therefore, Mr. President, we call upon you, in the name of humanity, in the name of justice, in the name of American fair-play, in the name of the inalienable human right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, to raise your voice with same equally bold and vigorous protest against the persecution of Christians in Russia, in 'Loyalist' Spain, in Mexico, in Northern Ireland, as you have for the oppressed Jews in Germany. As the Spokesman of ALL Americans, we urge you to condemn equally and impartially ALL persecutors and to uphold the victims of ALL persecution, wherever or whosoever they may be.

Urge Envoys Recall

"Since you have called home our Ambassador to Germany and conferred with our Ambassador to Italy, we respectfully demand, in fairness and impartiality to ALL the American people, that you call home immediately our representative to Soviet Russia, our Ambassador to 'Loyalist' Spain, our Ambassador to Mexico, and our Ambassador to England, to consult with you concerning the treatment of Christian minorities in these various countries.

"The souls of millions of blood-stained martyrs of religion, the wailing of millions of Christians enslaved with the chains of oppression, the hearts of the millions separated by murderous death from their beloved friends and relatives, the plaints of the millions of helpless, innocent victims of inhuman savagery, demand more eloquently than these words of ours that you speak for those denied the freedom of speech, that you uphold with the moral influence of American prestige those whom tyranny makes defenseless, to pray for those for whom godless tyrants make it criminal to speak to God.

"Mr. President, we stand by your actions on behalf of the Jews in Germany. We ask you in American fairness and justice only to do for ALL the persecuted what you have done and are now doing for the persecuted Jews. We believe ALL true Americans endorse our appeal to you. America awaits your answer!

"Respectfully,

At the end of each petition appears space for the insertion of twenty or more names.

Geneva Knights Hold Holiday Celebration

Annual Christmas party of the Knights of Columbus, Geneva Council, was held Dec. 19 at the K. of C. Home.

John E. Murray was toastmaster of the affair and Frank Foley was general chairman.

The principal speaker of the evening was Whitcomb H. Allen, president of the Monroe County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. He related some of the interesting experiences which he has encountered in his work.

Grand Knight Cornelius F. Tansey spoke briefly on the forthcoming Old Timers Night which is scheduled to be held on January 16.

Entertainment was provided by Jean Marie Nitsky and Miss Betty [illegible] accompanied by Misses [illegible] and McCarthy, tap dancers. Mr. Lynch rendered the musical part of the program.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Catholic Facts But Little Known

(c) 1938, by N. C. W. C. News Service

By M. J. MURRAY

Rochester Diocesan Council
N. C. C. W.
536 Columbus Civic Center

1938 is turning the last page of the year's book.

May we have your prayers and suggestions for constructive plans for 1939?

To each and every Council member, best wishes for a Happy New Year, especially blessed by the Infant Savior.

Cecilia M. Yawman,
President,
ROCHESTER DIOCESAN COUNCIL, N.C.C.W.

De Sales Students Enjoy Program

The annual Christmas entertainment of DeSales High School, Geneva, was held in the study hall on Wednesday morning, Dec. 21. The program, enthusiastically declared the best yet, was as follows:

Play, "Keeping Kitty's Dates," Betty Rogers, Mary Jane Fitzgerald, Helen Murphy, Virginia O'Malley, Stephen Kuryla, James Linehan, Joseph Kelly and Betty Kayes.

Play, "The Pampered Darling," Margaret Hart, Anna Mae Riggs, Theresa Picchi, Thomas Hennessey, John DiNardi, Catherine Harding, Mary Kane, Helen Van Nortwick, William Claffey, John McCann, and William Kehoe.

Christmas Carols: Glee Club.

Amateur Hour: William Carpenter, Henrietta McDonald, Jean Humphreys, Rita Toner, Rita Frolich, Gloria Legnini, Joseph Hargrove, John Dougherty, Joseph Carnovale, Russell Gaglianese, Betty McDonald, Helen McCarthy, Edith Iaconis, James Mahoney, James Myles and William Linehan.

Mrs. Joseph Bihary, Glee Club Director, also entertained with an original composition of her own presented as a piano solo.

John Toole acted as piano accompanist for all soloists.

Postage Stamp Exhibit

Paris. — An exposition of postage stamps having religious subjects will be held at Nice during the International Eucharistic Congress of 1940. To date, the number of stamps of this type is not less than 100,000, authoritative sources announce.

I Believe — I Battle

The Right Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven

Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

The Pope Was Joking

Pastoral scenes are always pleasing they are so soothing to the eye and peace-inspiring' I saw a canvas, a masterful picture of a shepherd and his flock It looked so real the sheep contentedly grazing on the heather of a beautiful, cooling pasture The artist who painted it was very skillful, but he proved that he was not sufficiently acquainted with his subject to reproduce it accurately He had the shepherd sitting by the flowing water of a spring, his dog sprawled out nearby. The painter portrayed something th t rarely happens in shepherding. A shepherd always stands; if he sits, it is on an elevation from which he can constantly survey his flock, ever alert that no vicious animal sneak into his herd to destroy, and ever watchful that his charges do not stray into forbidden fields.

Our Holy Father is called the mandled him through St. Peter, Supreme Shepherd. Jesus commanded "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep." He is commissioned by God to shepherd His Flock, to see to it that Catholics are led to fields of beneficial food, to watch the enemy lurking in the shadows, always bent on harm, to guide the faithful away from pastures with poisonous herbs. The responsibility of our Holy Father is tremendous, for he is directly accountable to Jesus Whose flock he has in keeping.

It must distress and sadden his fatherly heart, when little heed is paid to his warnings, admonitions and pleadings for the welfare of the Church. He is always on the watch, standing on the Capitoline hills, anxiously surveying the world.

Almost twenty-five years ago Pope Pius X pleaded: "Ah, the press! Its importance is not yet understood. Neither the faithful nor the clergy give it the attention they should. The old sometimes say that it is a new work and that in the past souls were saved without troubling oneself about newspapers. In the past! In the past! But those short-sighted people do not consider that in the past the poison of the bad press was not spread everywhere, and that in consequence the antidote of good newspapers was not equally necessary. The question is not about the past. We are not living in the past, we are living today. Very well then. It is a fact that today the Christian people are deceived, poisoned and corrupted by impious newspapers In vain will you build churches, preach missions found schools, all good works, all your efforts will be destroyed, if you cannot at the same time wield the defensive and offensive weapons of a press that is Catholic, loyal and sincere."

How has this plea of the Supreme Shepherd been heeded here in the United States? It is true, to a degree of monotony, we have listened to the slogan: "A Catholic Paper in Every Catholic Home," but what has been done about it? We have approximately five million Catholic homes in America, not half of which, according to the latest statistics, receive a weekly Catholic paper

As far as the Catholics in this country are concerned, maybe Pope Pius X was joking when he pronounced the above unqualified statement. Can it be that, since these words were not spoken ex-cathodra, they may be ignored at will? Hardly so, because Pius' successors have with anxiety reiterated the same dire need. Our present Holy Father said, "Anything which you will do for the good press, I will consider having been done for me personally The good press is very close to my heart, and I expect much, very much from it."

The Vicar of Christ is the Father of Christendom, "Abba" in the true sense. He loves us all and wants our salvation. How deeply hurt must he feel, if the truth would be made clear to him that, on a whole, here in this country there is no real, true, sacrificing enthusiasm for the spread of the Catholic press? We go on erecting beautiful churches and magnificent schools, and preach missions, but we have not time or thought or funds to build up a strong, effective Catholic paper. Our diocesan papers and Catholic magazines are still considered some individuals's hobby, about which nobody in particular needs to worry unless disposed to do so.

Since the public is swamped with all sorts of indifferent or frankly anti-Catholic literature, and at least one of these periodicals weekly comes into every home of the land, the day may not be so far distant when the private, personal opinion of Pius X will be verified and we will discover, to our consternation, but too late, that we assumed heavy debts for buildings in vain.

Czech Bishop Dies

Prague.—The Most Rev. Jan Stavel, Auxiliary Bishop of Olmuetz, has just died at the age of 69. He was a noted educator and supporter of Catholic Charities.

Palliative Developed By Nun Eases Lepers' Suffering

PARIS (N.C.W.C.—Fides).—A palliative developed by a nun who has labored among the lepers of Makogai, Fiji Islands, has proved to be an effective source of relief for lepers suffering from the nervous effects of their malady.

The nun, Sister Mary Susan, of the Marist Missionary Sisters, is now here busily making the anesthetic oil on a large scale. She is being aided by Dr. Jeanson, famous botanist, who is importing quantities of Deino nuts from Fiji, Africa, and Indo-China. It is from these nuts that the oil is extracted.

It is explained that one of leprosy's worst trials is its effect on the nervous system. Because of this many lepers suffer the agonies of sleeplessness in addition to their pain. Morphine sometimes is used for temporary relief, but it must be taken in increasing doses, which in itself is a serious evil.

For some years lepers at Makogai brought the oil with them and the measure of relief it gave them excited the interest of Father Nicouleau, S.M., first chaplain at Makogai, who contracted leprosy and died of it in 1928; the medical officer in charge, and Sister Mary Susan. Sister Mary Susan investigated and developed from the oil a kind of ether, which proved successful. It proved beneficial also in cases of rheumatism and sciatica.

Facts and News about YOUR NATIONAL CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING EDUCATION

Overcrowded, but without a sufficient number of prepared leaders to meet the demands of a changing society, was the status of the nursing profession in the summer of 1932 when the first professional courses in Nursing Education were offered at The Catholic University of America. This was in the nature of an experiment to test the extent of the demand and to discover the University's adaptability for work of this kind.

Behind the movement leading to the establishment of these pioneering courses was the vision, the hopes, and the aspirations of a quiet but persistent member of the Order of Saint Benedict, Sister M. Olivia Gowan, herself a registered nurse and possessor of the degree of Master of Arts from Columbia University. She is a graduate of St. Mary's School of Nursing, Duluth, Minn and the College of St. Scholastica in the same city.

After serving as instructor in St. Mary's and later, superintendent of the Hospital to which that School was attached, she came to Washington in 1926 to become principal of St. Gertrude's School of Arts and Crafts for retarded children, a school founded by the noted Dom Thomas Verner Moore, Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor Medicine, and Professor of Psychology at the Catholic University. Having been instrumental in establishing the courses, she was made director of Nursing Education at the Catholic University and Dean of the School when it reached that status in 1935.

A Happy Union

Nurses have been trained mostly in the school of practical experience, Sister Olivia had observed, with comparatively few having the advantage of higher educational opportunities. This was especially true in the field of Catholic higher education. The primary objective of the School of Nursing is, then, the development of professional nursing according to the philosophy of Christian education, providing for both the nurse and society to which she administers the advantages of a system which has as its aim a happy union of the spiritual and professional.

With so many schools of nursing already in existence, all of which were giving the basic courses required in training schools, it was believed the new division could best accomplish its purpose and render a distinct service to the profession and to Catholic education by beginning its work after the general studies leading to the R. N designation had been made and the required experience secured. Accordingly, courses were introduced which would train for leadership in the field such as preparation of teachers for schools of nursing, and for administrative and supervisory positions in those schools

There are two divisions of instruction in the School at present. That pertaining to nursing education includes, beside training for the administration and organization of schools of nursing and nursing services, the teaching of nursing arts, social sciences, and the physical and biological sciences with particular reference to nursing and the supervision of the clinical specialties.

Health Service Goal

Public health nursing, the other branch to which this School devotes its attention, is a term commonly applied today to general staff nursing and supervision, as distinguished from hospital and private practice. Its chief goal is health service for the family and the community. Its primary objective is to prepare nurses through advanced professional training, including field work, to meet the growing need for this type of rural and urban community service in the many official and private agencies which have developed in recent years.

A third function of the School of Nursing at The Catholic University comes from its being a part of an institution whose original purpose was in that field of learning which lies above the college or pre-professional level. On the basis of its graduate faculty and the work of its students, The Catholic University is one of the thirty-two members of the Association of American Universities. Its degrees are accepted by all other American institutions of higher learning and by professional organizations without question. Research into new and unknown fields and the pursuance of graduate studies has become an integral part of the School of Nursing Education. A member of the Faculty has generously established a fund which permits the publishing of dissertations which may be of value to the profession and several of these contributions to knowledge are now being used in various parts of the country. Research in the field of nursing has thus been encouraged and incorporated as a worthwhile objective in the advanced program conducted by the School.

PRIVATIONS OF AUSTRIAN SISTERS ARE REVEALED

LONDON — Information which has come to a German priest here shows there is much suffering among the many nuns whom the Nazis have turned away from schools and hospitals in Austria.

In some of the schools, now barracks, the nuns are permitted to remain in part of the building but are obliged, to keep themselves alive, to wash and sew for their oppressors. Church collections for these Religious and for members of men's Orders are insufficient. The Nazis are giving them two alternatives —giving up the religious life, or starving.

Reich Faithful Pray For Peace, Freedom

COLOGNE.—On the day set aside for prayer for the repose of the souls of the war dead of the Archdiocese of Cologne, His Eminence Carl Joseph Cardinal Schulte ordered that the Blessed Sacrament be exposed throughout the day and invited the people to visit the churches and pray that "peace, liberty and well-being reign in our dear country, that the poor and the unfortunate find the necessary aid; that the attack of Emptiety and neo-paganism be broken against faithful perseverance in the faith; that the plague of immorality recoil before the purity of family life, and that, finally, the peace of Christ in the Kingdom of Christ may reign so that there shall be one Church, one flock and one Shepherd."

Noted Poet-Wife of Chesterton is Dead

LONDON. — Mrs. Gilbert Keith Chesterton, who died Monday, was herself a poet of note and was described by Gilbert Chesterton, her late husband and eminent Catholic author, as "in all ways a kindred spirit."

The former Frances Blogg, Mrs. Chesterton was married to the noted writer in 1901 and was a convert to the Catholic Church in 1922. She survived Mr. Chesterton by a little more than two years.

CLAIMS 125 RUSSIAN

Planes Have Landed In Leftist Spain

LONDON. — Sir Henry Page Croft, Conservative member of the House of Commons, this week declared in Parliament that 125 aviation pilots from Russia landed in Leftist Spain in November and December.

The statement was made while Laborites were assailing the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Austen Butler, on the continued presence of Italian troops in Nationalist Spain.

THERE IS NO COMMUNISM IN RUSSIA, SAYS PRIEST, CITING WAGE INEQUALITY

WINNIPEG, CANADA.—"There is no Communism in Russia, if Communism means equality," the Rev. Frederic Siedenburg, S.J., Executive Dean of the University of Detroit, declared in a lecture here last night sponsored by the Lecture League of Winnipeg.

Speaking on "The Soviet Today" in the Christian Culture Series, Father Siedenburg asserted "there is no equality when the great mass of workers exists on 200 rubles a month, while the chosen few live lavishly on 1,000 to 20,000 rubles a month." "This diversity of wages," he added, "inevitably creates different classes, and especially elevates the bureaucracy of highly paid government officials."

Father Siedenburg said the rank and file in Russia live on less than $18 a month. He cited the denial of ordinary liberties, saying "the Russians of the Czar were far from free, but they could leave the country if they desired." He declared "the supreme disgrace of the Soviet States is its tyranny."

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