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With the Approbation of the MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D. D. Bishop of Rochester.

WAR LETTER

Dear Mother! All these gallant sons have gone
To war. The ripened grain is left undrawn
On frosted fields, and shepherdless the fold
Strays wild upon the hill. O Mary, see
Grow hard for marching every dented knee,

Dawn of a New Day

When the morning alarm pulls us up breathless from the deep
well of sleep, do we merely take up
the unfinished remembrance of yesterday,
or isn't it rather like beginning all over again?

Christ the Worker Portrayed



'Christ the Carpenter,' one of the paintings by Candelario Rivas, Mexican artist of Los Angeles, which adorns the new Church of St. Robert Bellarmine, recently dedicated to Los Angeles.

Gideon Bibles

ALONG THE WAY
By Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S.J.

I notice that the Gideons have just celebrated their 40th anniversary. The Gideons are surely known, are an association of travelling men who put a vast number of Bibles into the hands of those who have distributed one and a half million copies since their foundation.

One can fail to admire the goodness of heart and the zeal of the 7,000 travelling men who make up the Gideons. But as one who is also a publisher, I should find the results of the Gideons a little discouraging. My test of the books we publish is in a very simple one: when I find a copy, I examine it to see if it looks as if it had been well used.

I'm quite objectively I have looked at every Bible every time I have occupied for the past fifteen years, and I have never found one that showed any signs of its pages having been opened, much less thumbed. The covers were worn, indicating that they were used, but the pages were immaculately clean.

Perhaps my deductions are valueless. I know that they would easily discourage me.

Hollywood Movies—Too Fast

I'm worried, and I think we all should be. With the summer (I hope) Americans getting into the U. S. is not going to get into Europe's mess, Hollywood shows signs of getting out pictures that will set their audiences on fire. It happens in the box office point of view: break that brings out Nurse Edith Cavell! at this particular time. But when a company announces in 'Modern Pictures Herald' 'Hitler—Bismarck or Berlin' things are getting hot.

No one can accuse me of losing any love or respect over Hitler. But when the announcement is addressed to audiences, 'no matter what they think of this bloody thirteenth despot' and the opus is styled a 'bonanza of timely, record-shattering screen entertainment.' I have the feeling that the producer has one eye on propaganda and the other on a little cash to be picked up from Americans.

We ought to stay out of this war, and that's that. But any picture that presents either side as blood-thirsty and beastly is going to make us want to get into the war and get in fast. Wonder what the government is going to say about this sort of neutrality?

Incidentally several years ago there was a story current in Hollywood that as far as I know, never got to the general public. I was told it, however, on a tremendously good authority. Some of the producers, to retaliate for Hitler's Jew-baiting, prepared a film with the suggested title, 'Hitler, Mad Dog of Germany.' As I recall, it was even announced in the trade journals. It never appeared. I was told that what happened was simple: the Nazi government put on the trail of every important person in Hollywood secret operatives. When they had completely checked up on all possible scandals they compiled them into a nice fat volume and announced that 'in the moment the film was released, the book would also be released. Neither appeared.

I wonder if this is the same picture I wonder how true the original story was.

I'm sure we don't want no war-industry propaganda in our motion pictures.

Speed in Dining

My earliest memories of eating in restaurants are associated with sitting and waiting and waiting and waiting for the food to appear.

I wonder if service in restaurants has grown faster since those ancient days; for certainly now I never think of myself as waiting and waiting and waiting for the arrival of the food. Is it because I have grown more content? That conversation takes the place of food? or is I, like all youngsters, so anxious to eat, that any delay seemed more annoying and without excuse? It was my Mother's service at home so miraculous, that elsewhere the food seemed to be served with inexpressible lagging hands?

An Expert Opinion

My friend Dr. Pope was talking of his days at medical school. 'One professor,' he said, 'we sincerely loved . . . and because we loved him, I guess, we liked to plague him. Histology was his subject, and he really knew it. But we brought him the most amazing specimens for his 'identification'—and mystification. Once we brought him some blood soaked tissue and asked him to tell us what it was. He worked for days on it before he found that it was tissue paper that we had dipped in blood.

'But he floured us in the end and gained our complete respect. With energy worthy of a better cause, we took the wings from one bug, the legs from another, the body of a third, the antennae of a fourth and put them all together, making a bug the like of which had never before been seen by the eyes of man. Yet we did such a good job that you'd think the specimen was ready to take off in flight.

'What's that bug?' we demanded.

'The doctor looked at it brightly, pushed it aside with a snort, and said: "That," he said pontifically, "is a humbug!"

Sorsum Corda

Whither Shall I Go?

By REV. JAMES M. GILLIS, C.S.P., Editor, The Catholic World

That phrase, as every one who reads the Psalms will remember, is part of a beautiful and eloquent question addressed to God by the devout King David and later him by everybody who prays to the Omnipresent Deity. It runs: "Whither shall I go from Thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from Thy face? If I ascend into heaven, Thou art there: if I descend into hell, Thou art present. If I take my wings early in the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there also shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.

Those same words may be spoken to Death as well as to God. There is no hiding away from Death, as sleeping. Death even if we fly to the uttermost bounds of the earth. How many times we preachers have used that text and expounded that truth. It would be foolish to try to say.

GERMAN MYSTERY

Since the war commenced, and with the war raids on unprotected ships at sea, the thought has come that David's words may be applied not only to God or to Death but to the mysterious Death, the airplane, the battleship and the U-boat. Hostilities had hardly commenced; the radio still seemed to be speaking only threats and possibilities when word came of the sinking of the Athenia in the far North Sea, a couple of hundred miles away from its usual course.

Then came the report that Hitler's destroyers were cruising about in Southern Seas, not on the European side of the Atlantic but on our side. They were in the Caribbean, off the Bahamas, close to Vera Cruz and elsewhere. Next came preparations against sabotage in Canada, east and west, in Australia, New Zealand and India. Some people even think that the riddle of the wreck of the Southern Pacific steamer in Nevada can be solved only on the supposition that it was an act of war in a country not at war and before war was declared.

Whether these are guesses or surmises or suspicions and not facts is beside the point. From now on to the close of the war Death will be everywhere. It may come out of the sky, or off the land, or from the sea.

PLACES OF SAFETY

Children and other non-combatants were rushed away from London and Paris. But will it save them to flee to the country? Where can they really hide? Where be safe? Mr. W. W. Holland, a news commentator writing in a symposium entitled "When War Comes," gives advice as to where to go if you wish to be safe. Here is his list:

Five Years Ago—

—in the files of the CATHOLIC COURIER

From Sept. 27, 1934, Edition
The Most Rev. John T. McNichols, Bishop of Cincinnati, declares that the Legion of Decency should be made a permanent organization to insure cleanliness in moving pictures.

The Rev. James B. Keenan, pastor of St. Mary's Church in South Street, announces that plans have been made for celebrating the 100th anniversary of founding the church in October. The event would be marked by appropriate religious and civic ceremonies.

Death comes to Catholic pastor of St. John the Evangelist during the week—the Rev. Edward J. Dwyer, pastor of St. James Church at Waverly, and the Rev. Ignatius Klajna, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church at Newark Valley.

Announcement is made that Archbishop Edward Mooney will be guest of honor at the meeting of the Catholic Women's Club, to be held at the Rochester Club on the following Tuesday evening.

Five thousand persons, including priests and members of the laity, attend the annual ceremony of the graves at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery on the previous Sunday, conducted by the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Rochester.

WHY? Catholic Evidence

Why Do Catholics Claim That Your Head Came From Jesus' Side?

By GUY

Any church that claims to be the Church of Christ, today must be able to trace its lineage back to Christ and to Him upon whom Christ said His Church would be built. Peter said some of them will build My Church (Matt. 16:18). Christ alone, therefore, whose genealogy goes back in unbroken line to His Father and His Divine Master of Christ. So much would seem conclusive.

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Feast Days

Sunday, Oct. 1—ST. REMIGIUS
Monday, Oct. 2—The Holy Guardian Angels
Tuesday, Oct. 3—ST. GERARD
Wednesday, Oct. 4—ST. FRANSIS OF ASSISI
Thursday, Oct. 5—ST. FLACIDUS
Friday, Oct. 6—ST. BRUNO
Saturday, Oct. 7—ST. MARK

Social Action

Let's Move Along
We are on the right road. We are taking some of the first steps. A social order of unity, of interdependence, of the brotherhood of free men in their vocations, their occupations, separately and jointly, is the end of our road if we are to make a great America and use economic life as rungs in the ladder to God. Society and the Social Encyclopedia (N.C.W.C., Washington, D. C.)

Verbal transgression leads to tepidity of fervor. A tepid person is not as disposed for a reception of divine grace as a fervent man.

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