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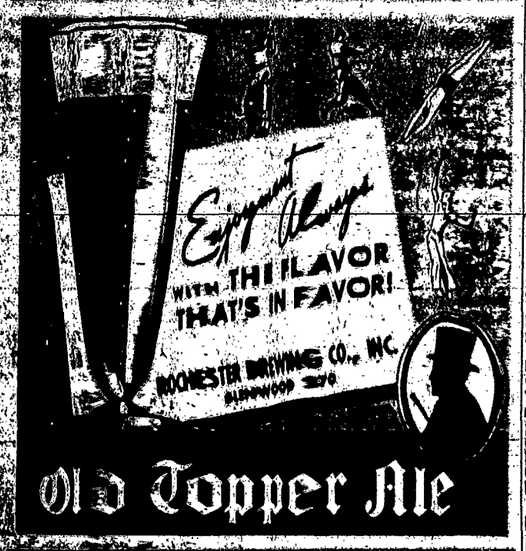

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INTERNATIONAL

VATICAN AIR RAID SAFETY
IRELAND'S VOCATIONS GROWING

Few Precautions Against Bombing Taken At Vatican

By MSGR. ENRICO PUCCI

VATICAN CITY—(N. C.)—Much has been said about the provisions taken or attributed to the Vatican for protection against air raids. We are now in a position to furnish interesting details.

The Lateran Treaty between the Holy See and Italy establishes in Article 7 that: "In conformity with international law it is forbidden for airships of any kind to fly over the Vatican territory." It is easy to understand, however, that, in time of war, the exact and scrupulous application of that article may be practically impossible. It is, therefore, necessary that the Vatican, although keeping strictly to the dispositions of Article 24 of the same Treaty, which establishes that "the Vatican City will always and in every case be considered neutral and inviolable territory," take necessary precautions to protect itself against the dangers of air raids.

Precautions Taken

As a matter of fact, however, these precautions have been very limited. A few years ago, during a campaign for air raid protection, suggestions from the Italian authorities that a supply of gas masks be provided, were accepted.

As regards air bombing, we find that the Vatican has already an excellent refuge in the powerful and massive tower of Alexander VI, remains of the walls of the Fifteenth Century which surround the Vatican on the side of the ancient Porta Angelica.

This rampart consists of a low and massive round tower whose walls have a width of 20 feet. Recently, it was strengthened with a powerful metal cap, not for military reasons but merely by a happy coincidence. In fact, in the upper part of the tower is located the office of the "Fondi di Religione" which guards and administers funds for the religious societies that deposit them.

To guard this wealth a vast vault was built in such a way that a solid cap of steel covers the whole structure.

At this moment the necessary work is being carried on to divide the single very large chamber into several smaller rooms which will have air-proof entrances. Besides this, nothing else has been done for the present.

The construction of a large refuge has been proposed to be built under the residence of the Canons of St. Peter, but the work has not begun. Beyond that, the Vatican City has not many cellars because the buildings there are mostly built on sloping land.

Cellar Under Palace

The palace of the Vatican Canons has good cellars but the only real cellar protected by massive arches is that which opens under the Vatican Basilica and which is known as the "Grotte Vaticane," a venerable place because it encloses the tombs of Saints, Pontiffs and martyrs and is rich in historic memories as well as works of art. It is best not to think that such a sacred place could possibly be hit, because it would mean that the blows would first have had to tear down the arches of the Vatican Basilica and the Cupola of Michelangelo.

In this respect we have asked what precautions were taken or prepared for the safe-guarding of the incomparable treasures of art which the Popes, through many centuries, have gathered. The precautions which can be taken in this regard are very limited because the most precious works of art cannot easily be protected. The Cupola of Michaelangelo, in fact, elevates itself in its immense bulk, under the free sky and the frescoes of Michelangelo, Raphael, Pinturicchio, Beato Angelico, etc., decorate the walls and the arches of the Sistine Chapel, of the "Stanze," of the "Sale Borgia," and to protect them efficiently it would be necessary to cover the whole building. The same can be said of the works of art in the Pinacoteca and the Museums.

As regards the external precautions, Vatican City, during anti-air raid experiments, has always conformed to the rules established for the city of Rome in regard to black-outs.

We add that the Vatican technical office wanted to build a special refuge for the Pope and had already fixed the place where the refuge was to be built, but, when Pius XII was informed, he forbade that anything special should be done for him.

It is generally assumed that Rome will be declared an open city in order to save it from air raids. Not the least reason for this provision would be anxiety to avoid attacks on Vatican City.

Three Bishops at Jubilee

Riverside, Ont.—Three Bishops assisted in the sanctuary as the Rev. Wilfrid J. Langlois, Pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church here, celebrated Solemn Mass of thanksgiving on the silver jubilee of ordination. The Bishops were the Most Rev. J. T. Kidd, Bishop of London, the Most Rev. R. H. Dignan, Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie, and the Most Rev. U. Langlois, O.M.I., Bishop of Grouard.

Along The War Front

Foreign Officials Of Rota Move

VATICAN CITY—A French Cardinal and French and English officials of the Sacred Roman Rota, together with diplomats of Allied countries accredited to the Holy See, moved from Rome into Vatican City following Italy's declaration of war on France and England.

His Eminence Eugenio Cardinal Tisserant, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation for the Oriental Church, who is a native of Nancy, France, has moved into Vatican City. He formerly made his residence in the Via Saverio Mercadante in Rome.

In addition to the French and Polish Ambassadors and the British Minister to the Holy See those moving from Rome to Vatican City have included Monsignor Andrew Julien of France and Monsignor William Theodore Heard of England, Auditors of the Sacred Roman Rota.

Meanwhile, the Vatican is entirely silent on Italy's declaration of war. Osservatore Romano, the Vatican City newspaper, which some time ago discontinued the practice of commenting on the official war bulletins of the various belligerent nations, has discontinued the printing of even the bulletins themselves.

U. S. Envoy Prayed In Paris Cathedral

In reporting the narrow escape of United States Ambassador William C. Bullitt from a German bomb, L'Epoque, Paris daily, recalled how the American Ambassador knelt at his pri-dieu in Notre Dame Cathedral on May 19, the day of national supplication.

"And now Providence has permitted him to witness at close range the first bombardment of Paris without being a victim of it," the daily said. "He can tell better than any other how the enemy bombers killed school children. Returning to the Place de la Concorde, having regained the city and found it alive in the springtime, he could tell the world to what altitude the French soul has mounted."

French Soldiers Carry Bl. Sacrament Canopy

LONDON.—Six French soldiers, four of them priests, carried the canopy in an open air procession of the Blessed Sacrament at Carfin Grotto, near Glasgow, when 3,000 members of the Catholic Young Men's Society from all Scottish dioceses made their annual pilgrimage and prayed for peace.

The French soldiers were given a warm welcome afterwards at the local Lourdes institute and one of them, speaking English, referred to their great joy at seeing such a demonstration of faith by young Catholic men in Great Britain.

Envoy's Son Aided By Priest To Escape

WASHINGTON.—Diplomatic circles here have been informed that a priest aided Robert van der Straten-Ponthoz, son of the Belgian Ambassador to the United States, to escape death from strafing German planes in the recent Battle of Flanders.

According to the information, the young Belgian was in command of a tank unit. An enemy attack destroyed the tanks and the envoy's son was wounded together with some of his men. They were evacuated in an ambulance, which was machine-gunned and destroyed, the other three wounded men in the vehicle being killed. Charles proceeded down a road in his wounded condition a target for enemy planes, when he was picked up by a priest in an automobile and driven to safety.

Crucifix Placed Above Every Bed

HAVANA.—A campaign in Cuba to have a crucifix placed above every bed in hospitals and infirmaries in Cuba has brought to light the fact that the Clinica Lourdes, an infirmary conducted by the Cooperativa Medica of Guanabacoa, was the first to adopt this practice. The infirmary is also well supplied with Catholic periodicals, and is a center of devotion to St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes.

Expand Hospital Work In Hong Kong

HONG KONG.—Recent additions to two Catholic hospitals in the colony, Precious Blood and St. Teresa's, both of which are in Kowloon, direct attention to the considerable work that is being done for the sick, especially the sick poor, by the religious institutions of the colony, says Lumen Service.

The efforts made by the Catholic hospitals to increase the number for whom they can give care is great public benefit. The fact that all the Catholic hospitals are habitually full is the best testimony to the welcome in which they are held by the general public.

The Faithful Tore It Down!

Using the great Cathedral in Mexico City as a background for political signs was not pleasing to students and the devout there, who recently tore down the huge banners depicted. The decoration, placed there by over-zealous members of the Mexican Revolutionary Party, featured portraits of President Lazaro Cardenas and Manuel Avila Camacho, the party's candidate in the approaching election, linking them with the wording: "12 of March, 1928-1940. For Workers' Democracy." It commemorated the second anniversary of Mexico's appropriation of the property of Americans, British and Dutch oil companies. (N.C.W.C.)

Vocations Gain In Ireland

DUBLIN — Striking evidence of the increase of religious vocations in Ireland is provided in the statistics published in the Occupational Section of the Census for 1936 and now officially confirmed.

In the professional groups the principal increases were among Catholic clergy, nuns, religious lay Brothers and lay Sisters and theological students. The total of such increases amounted to 2,873 since the 1926 census.

The most notable change in the occupational section is the decline in the number of persons engaged in agricultural pursuits and the increase in the number of other producers. The number of farmers and assisting relatives fell by 28,408, or 5.3 per cent, the decline being confined mainly to farms of from five to 30 acres. The number of females among farmers and assisting relatives fell by 14,302, or 11 per cent, and the number of males by 13,907 or 14 per cent. This decline is attributed to emigration and the "flight from the land" to towns.

MINISTRY OF FAMILY DECREED BY REYNAUD

One of the last Ministerial acts of Premier Paul Reynaud, before the Government left Paris, was the creation of a Ministry of the Family. Senator Pernot, president of the Federation of the Associations of Fathers of Large Families, was named to this new post. A number of distinguished Catholics are associated with this Ministry which Catholics have long advocated: Louis Marin, Ybarnegaray, Bouthillier, Paul Baudoin and Schumann.

U. S. Priest Begins 'Trailer Missions'

PEKING.—The Rev. Christopher Sullivan, Franciscan Conventual of the American Province, is reported by Lumen Service as en route for Shensi with his truck and trailer chapel.

He showed a series of recreational and religious films, including a moving picture of the Life of Christ in Kunmanfu. With a view to exploring the roads to be travelled by the trailer, he then made a hurried trip in his truck to Yuanling, Hunan, in company with Rev. Cormac Shanahan, C.P., lately returned from the States. Father Sullivan then went back to Yunnan to get the trailer, which is destined ultimately for service in the missions of Hingan, Shensi.

Mexico Asks Recall Of Reich Attache

MEXICO CITY. — Mexico has served notice on the German Legation here that Arthur Dietrich, press attache of the Legation and a leading figure in German propaganda here, is "persona non grata" in this country and that his removal is desired.

The Government's attitude, as expressed by Minister of Foreign Relations Eduardo Hay, is that the propaganda activities headed by Dietrich are "prejudicial to Mexican interests." The government demands that Dietrich leave the country within a brief period or he will be ejected.

The German Minister has sought to have the order revoked, but has failed in his efforts.

647 To Be Graduated In Catholic Highs

(Continued from Page 1)

Robert A. Nelson, third in the class is highest among the boys.

Arrangements for commencement at De Sales High School, Geneva on Thursday evening, are being made under the direction of the Rev. Raymond Nolan, principal. The Bishop will preside and the Valedictorian will be Isabelle Kelly with an average of 94 per cent with the salutatorian, George Rickey who had an average of 93.1 per cent.

His Excellency, Bishop Kearney will go to Elmira on next Friday evening to preside at the commencement of Elmira Catholic High School. The Rev. William E. Burns, principal announces that the Valedictory will be given by James Ruddick of St. Cecilia's parish and the Salutatory by Donald Frawley of St. Mary's parish.

Commencement exercises at the Academy of the Sacred Heart on Prince Street were held on June 7 with Bishop Kearney presiding.

The more demanding great Americans, the more the state will come to call only that.

War Hero Is Named Bishop, But New War Keeps Him Out of See

By PAUL VERGNET

Canon Emile Guerry, Vicar General of Grenoble, wounded a number of times during the World War and recipient of three magnificent citations for bravery, has been named Coadjutor with right of succession to the Most Rev. Jean Choleet, Archbishop of Cambrai; but another world war prevents his taking possession of his new post. Caught by in the hands of the enemy and Archbishop Choleet is a refugee at Saint Brieuc in Brittany.

SHANGHAI'S '4 LANGUAGE' PARISH BEING REVIVED

SHANGHAI.—"The resurrection of Sacred Heart Parish" is the way the Most Rev. A. Haouisee, S.J., Vicar Apostolic of Shanghai, characterized the ceremony in which 66 Chinese children were confirmed there, recently, Lumen Service reports.

The parish formerly had some 4,000 Catholics, about half of whom were Chinese, but the fighting around Shanghai in 1937 scattered the flock. It is one of the most interesting parishes in the country. Latest addition to its mixed congregation are some 300 Catholic Jews, for whom sermons are now delivered in German at one of the Masses every Sunday. Sermons are given on alternate Sundays in English and Japanese.

Pope 'Moral Leader' Says Daily Paper

WASHINGTON. — Reference to His Holiness Pope Pius XII as "the moral leader of Christendom" is made in an editorial published June 14 in the Washington Post, secular daily newspaper.

The editorial declares that Italy's declaration of war has placed the Pope in "a most poignant dilemma," and adds:

"As a temporal sovereign he is under the necessity to preserve the neutrality of the Vatican State and to maintain diplomatic relations not only with Italy but also with those powers now locked in life and death conflict with Italy. Thus the Vatican is certain to seethe, as long as the conflict lasts, with frantic diplomatic activity and with rival propagandas.

"Meanwhile, it is impossible that the Pope, as the moral leader of Christendom, can now adopt a passive role in a war that is more a conflict of philosophies than a conflict of nations. Upon the course and issue of this conflict may depend the survival of Christianity itself. Nor can the Pope ignore the abysmal miseries wrought upon so many millions of his people in so many Catholic nations of Europe.

"In this cruel situation what course can the Pope now pursue? Shall he remain silent until he has reason to feel that his voice can once more be heard above the roar of battles and the moans of the dying? Shall he continue to speak out as bravely as before against the barbaric papers that have destroyed countless bodies and souls? Might he thereby invite upon his person such indignities as were visited by the conqueror Napoleon on Pius VII? Or must he trust that a new Christian world of justice and charity must one day rise out of the new barbarian darkness as our dying Western World once rose, with the guidance of the church from the long night of Europe?

"These perhaps are some of the questions to which the supreme Pontiff seeks the divine answers as he kneels in his chapel."

Argentine Deputies Show Belief In God

BUENOS AIRES.—The majority of the 82 National Deputies elected in the March polls have recently in taking their seats publicly acknowledged their belief in God.

On being sworn in 61 Deputies chose the time-honored form and swore faithfully to discharge their office by "God, Country and the Holy Gospels."

Be Sure To Read The Movie Guide

ROCHESTER THEATRES
RIVIERA DIXIE
Deanna Durbin—K. Francis
IT'S A DATE
Lew Ayres—L. Barrymore
DR. KILDARE'S STRANGE CASE
LIBERTY STATE
TYRONE POWER DOROTHY LAMOUR
JOHNNY APOLLO
J. Arthur—F. MacMurray
Too Many Husbands
MADISON MONROE
B. Aherne—M. Carroll
MY SON, MY SON
P. Lane—T. Mitchell
THREE CHEERS FOR THE IRISH
CAMEO
Technicolor Feature
PINOCCHIO
J. Penner—L. Hayes
Millionaire Playboy
WESTEND
Technicolor Feature
PINOCCHIO
J. Penner—L. Hayes
Millionaire Playboy
GRAND
E. Powell—F. Astaire
Broadway Melody of '40
J. Cooper—B. Fields
SEVENTEEN
RIALTO
J. Arthur—F. MacMurray
Too Many Husbands
Bob Burns—M. Auer
ALIAS THE DEACON
TEMPLE
D. Durbin—Kay Francis
IT'S A DATE
W. Berry—L. Carillo
TWENTY MULE TEAM
LAKE THEATRE
SUNDAY—JUNE 23
Eleanor Powell—Fred Astaire
Broadway Melody of 1940
Cecile Lombard—Brian Aherne
VIGIL IN THE NIGHT

PALACE
NOW PLAYING
ANNA NEAGLE
RAY MILLAND
IN
"IRENE"
WARNER BAXTER
ANDREA LEEDS
IN
"Earthbound"
Cavalcade of Academy Winners
CENTURY
NOW PLAYING
THE WAY OF ALL FLESH
AKIM TAMIROFF
GLADYS GEORGE
GIRL IN 313
FLORENCE RICE
KENT TAYLOR
REGENT
NOW PLAYING
IRENE DUNNE
CARY GRANT
My Favorite Wife
CHARLIE RUGGLES
Opened By Mistake
TEMPLE
STARTS SATURDAY
LUCKY
CISCO KID
CESAR ROMERO
I Take This Oath
GORDON JONES
CAPITOL
NOW PLAYING
BING CROSBY
IN
If I Had My Way
THE BLUE BLOOD
SHIRLEY TEMPLE

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THE FUNDAMENTAL OF VALUE . . . the relationship between what you pay and what you get. This is where the Forman policy of quality is so important. Into the equation goes our knowledge of good style, good taste, imbued with an appreciatin of the fine points of finer merchandise, we instinctively demand the same essentials even in merchandise at lower prices. What you spend returns a maximum of value at Forman's.

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