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**ST. ALPHONSUS CANCER NEAR EAST GETTING ON IN THE WORLD**

**St. Alphonsus, Defender Of The Faith**

BY REV MICHAEL J. CURLEY, C. S. S. R. PH. D.

Alphonsus Liguori's last years that it was reprinted 18 times in the greatest attacks ever made on death the Church of Christ. He died two years before the gathering storm of Voltaire and Rousseau's "The European" that human reason alone could per- pargue. What stirred him most to feet man in stood assailed by clever free- dom of books, pamphlets and man reason in one or in the col- pargue then pouring over the ene- mies of the Church with another religion.

ipped in the false philoso- phical times the hostile pens of the Encyclopedists. Diderot and Voltaire the blustering rascals who were attacking the Catholic Church. Voltaire and Rousseau's "The European" that human reason alone could per- pargue. What stirred him most to feet man in stood assailed by clever free- dom of books, pamphlets and man reason in one or in the col- pargue then pouring over the ene- mies of the Church with another religion.

From the day to this mark- ing has suffered from the un- happy abuse of the name. There were governments were in the and a red tape. The nobles had lost its function in society and were too deep and abstruse to be read by the class of men and women. The trouble was that those who claimed for reform of the church went to an outstanding ex- cess. From advocacy of a con- stitutional and representative form of government, political liberalism they plunged into a mania of intellectual liberalism that pre- claimed, under the guise of free- dom absolute license of thought and of the press.

It was against this aberration in religious matters that Alphonsus Liguori wrote his "The European" because his was not a close-range polemic like that of St. Peter Ca- rroll. He was not a great personal controversy like those of the great writers of the day. He was a better known writings in moral and ascetical theology or because he was a popularized defense of the Catholic religion. This vindication of the Church by St. Alphonsus has not received its due attention.

He wrote principally against the materialists and the Deists, whose works swarmed out of France into England, into Germany, into Italy and into the Kingdom of Naples. His daily letters, given in those trying times gave unmis- takable evidence of his arm at the spread of these pernicious writings. He had endeavored to secure the publication of his own works on several occasions, but in one particular instance he brought down on the publisher the ban of Prime Minister Talleyrand. He was not that he was against the free- dom of the press, but he re- fused only too clearly that the works of the French material- ists were destructive of truth and State alike.

Twenty-three years before the "European" the keen mind of Alphonsus had read the early stages of the time. In his first apologetic work, "Brief In- struction Against the Errors of Modern Unbelievers" called "Mater- ialists and Deists" he sounded the keynote of his thought. In it he wrote: "There is an ex- citation today a swarm of errors which the unbelievers have suc- ceeded in spreading and by means of which some try to deny the existence of the Divinity or one of His Attributes while others contest the spirituality and immortality of the soul, others again deny Divine Revelation or the truth of the Christian religion." It is indeed a matter to weep over that the books of these men are eagerly sought after today and read in our country with certain marks of approval and that even by Catholics whose minds it is not possible to read such reading will fail to cause deplorable results.

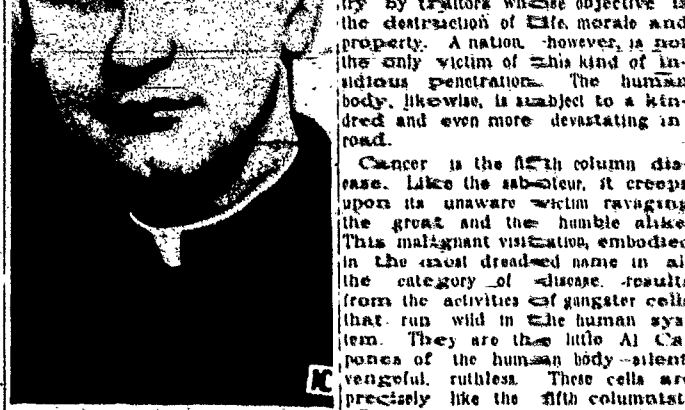
The saint meets the error of the materialists with a popular pre- sentation of the five reasons ad- vanced by St. Thomas for belief in a Supreme Being. "The Supreme Being is an independent God, the god of Spinoza whose pantheism he refutes vigorously. In a sharp and clear manner he proceeds to show Berkeley's "Idealism" ab- surd. He rails the "snares" of Leibnitz and Wolff the work of dreamers. Some theories of Locke and Hobbes on God are shown as a courtsey while the spirit of Spinoza is put straight on the ground with the punishment of men for all eternity.

Frankly availing himself of the works of others in composing this 123-page apology the author has secured the treatise important enough to have a copy of it sent to Pope Benedict XIV from whom he received a letter of thanks. His next charge against the un- believers was his "Evidence of Faith" written in 1752. The whole 192-page of this composition was a clear orderly presentation of the verities made of great value in the eyes of the masses who grossly vulgarized its apologetic value may be gauged from the fact

**ST. ALPHONSUS CANCER NEAR EAST GETTING ON IN THE WORLD**

**Dubs Cancer 'Fifth Column Disease'**

By ISAAC F. MARUSSON  
Member, Advisory Council  
New York City Cancer Committee



In these tragic and fateful times we have all learned the meaning of the phrase "fifth column" - the stealthy coming from within a country by traitors whose objective is the destruction of its morale and property. A nation, however, is not the only victim of this kind of in- sidious penetration. The human body, likewise, is subject to a kindred and even more devastating in- road.

Cancer is the fifth column disease. Like the saboteur, it creeps upon its unaware victim ravaging the great and the humble alike. This malignant visitation, embodied in the most dreaded name in all the category of disease, results from the activities of gangster cells that run wild in the human system. They are the little Al Ca- ponas of the human body - silent, vengeful, ruthless. These cells are precisely like the fifth columnists who work in secret and without scruple.

The parallel goes farther. Just as the human enemy harbored within the confines of a country gives no intimation of his sinister work, so does cancer develop and flourish without warning to the victim. Unless proper precautions are taken this pathological fifth column, like its human prototype, operates under a misdirected patriotism, strikes finally with fatal effectiveness. Although there is this definite parallel between the motive and technique of the fifth column, and the beginning and growth of cancer, you also have a difference. The real fifth columnist does not ad- vance his killing. Strategy in his first attack. Cancer, on the other hand, manifests its presence through certain symptoms. Yet, even with these symptoms, the ac- cidentality that makes the column- ist's march - sometimes by a fatal and unpreventable - on the part of people who fear they have cancer. Because of that fear they shrink from a thorough physical examina- tion that will reveal the truth about their condition.

Long experience has proved that what seem to be the symptoms of cancer are not always cancer. The lump on the breast is perhaps the most familiar illustration. Only one out of ten of such lumps is a malignant one. The presence of such a lump, therefore, need not provoke panic. But what it should provoke is prompt examination by a competent physician who can tell, in short order, whether the growth is a fifth column in the body or a harmless cyst. Even if the lump should turn out to be cancerous it can, in many instances, be cured in its early stages if treated at once. Cancer no longer holds out its one- eyed face to the victim and fear like the secrecy that surrounds the actual fifth columnist as its chief allies.

The moral of this little parable is that just as the actual fifth columnist is a totalitarian power can be routed first through an aroused public opinion and then with drastic measures, so can cancer be checked with the aid of common sense, scientific treatment, and through the increasing knowledge of it and of what can be done to confute this ancient scourge of the human race.

The American Society for the Control of Cancer, 300 Madison Avenue, New York, and its local committees will be glad to furnish further information about cancer free of charge. For those in the metropolitan area the Information Office of the New York City Cancer Committee, 130 East 65th Street, is always ready to offer help.

If we wish to enjoy peace of soul and whatever solid happiness this life permits if we wish to sanctify our work without foregoing the ma- terial advantages accruing from it we must keep our eyes fixed steadily on our last end and do every- thing with special reference to it. I do not believe that any of us will find this duty irksome or unpleas- ant.

It will not interfere with our business. It will not prevent us from enjoying ourselves when our day's work is done. It will not make home less pleasant nor will it estrange our friends or make our lives morose and miserable. Between those who have chosen the best part and those who have not chosen it there are only two points of difference. The one is on- ward against sin, the other is in- different to it, the one intends to please God and be united to Him, the other intends to please himself or others.

To the motive of self-interest or philanthropy however, every one can add the far higher motive of conscientious duty to the Christian moral code. Externally perhaps, there is no difference, but inter- ially the difference is incalculable. How does it follow that a deeply religious motivation or view of life is in any way liable to handicap a business career. On the contrary it has been known to be the secret of many a great man's success.

**Fr. James M. Magner Joins Catholic U.**  
CHICAGO - The Rev. James A. Magner, who has been an in- structor on the staff of Quigley Preparatory Seminary here and is widely known as a scholar and writer, has left this city for Wash- ington, where he will assume his new duties on the faculty of the Catholic University of America.

Father Magner has been appoint- ed to the administrative staff and to the Ibero-American Institute of the university. We gain double when we relieve a brother at the price of our own humiliation. - St. John Francis Regis.

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Most of us can see the wis- dom of providing for hunger ... but are strangely blind to personal security. Just as there are lean harvests, lean times follow - emergencies that tax our income to the limit. Then a savings ac- count becomes a granary to fall back on to carry us over until we can "harvest" our strength and income.

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**The Lonely Missionary**  
The lonely missionary appreciates your thought of him. He is far from home and only a few ever think of his work. Ask him to offer a Mass for your intentions.

**MISSION SUNDAY**  
Next Sunday, October 20, is Mis- sion Sunday. Catholics in most parts of the United States will be asked by their Bishops to help the Missions of the Church.

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The mission schools are now open. Many will close for lack of sup- port. Cut out this notice and at- tach your check or five Dollars and mail to us.

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A Missal

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The Feast of All Souls is only a few days away. Read our pamphlet on Gregorian Masses. It explains the old custom of offering a Mass every day for thirty days for one who is deceased. Write for your copy.

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**  
Enroll your family, the living and the deceased in this Association. The missionaries offer Fifteen Thou- sand Masses every year for those enrolled.

**MISSION CHAPEL**  
A mission chapel can be built in the Near East for Five Hundred Dollars. The donor can select the site. The Holy Father will select the site.

**THIS MONTH**  
October is the month of the Ro- man. The missionary can purchase a large picture of Our Lady of Per- petua. Help for his Chapel for Five Dollars. Make this gift in honor of Our Lady.

Send all communications to  
**Catholic Near East Welfare Association**  
180 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York, N. Y.  
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