

MARCH OF EVENTS IN THE WORLD

January through December, 1940

JANUARY, 1940

Rejoicing continued in Rome because His Holiness Pope Pius XII had paid a visit on December 28 to King Victor Emmanuel III at the Quirinal Palace—a history making event which brought acclaim such as prevailed with the signing of the Lateran pacts 10 years before.

His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, making four episcopal nominations in 21 hours, completed the making of 15 hierarchical appointments affecting continental United States during the 10 months she occupied the throne of St. Peter. The new list included the Most Rev. Christian H. Winkelmann as Bishop of Wichita; the Very Rev. Sidney Matthew Metzger as titular Bishop of Birta and Auxiliary Bishop of Santa Fe; the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch to succeed Cardinal George Mundelein as Archbishop of Chicago, and the Most Rev. Moses E. Kiley as Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Preparations for the International Exposition of Religious Art to be sponsored by the Vatican in 1942, which were temporarily suspended following outbreak of the war are to be resumed, it was announced.

Regular radio broadcasts from the Vatican to the Americas were instituted. Four languages—Spanish, Portuguese, English and French were used and programs directed to different parts of both continents.

The Most Rev. Manuel Ruiz y Rofriguez, Archbishop of Havana, Cuba, died of a heart ailment at the age of 65. He was one of the distinguished recipients of honorary degrees at the celebration of the golden jubilee of the Catholic University of America, of which he was a graduate.

Spiritual values must prevail in the world or material warfare will spread ruin. His Eminence Arthur Cardinal Hinsley, Archbishop of Westminster, declared in a radio broadcast throughout the British Isles.

Announcement was made that a list of the special faculties granted by the Holy Father to military vicars and military chaplains assigned to armed forces in time of war was shortly to be published.

His Holiness Pope Pius XII, drawing attention to the Bible story of the Good Samaritan said mankind seems to have fallen among thieves named Unbelief, Violence, Disloyalty and Hatred. He was speaking to members of the Order of Malta.

A letter which President Roosevelt had received from Pope Pius XII in reply to his communication saying that Myron C. Taylor had been named as his representative to the Holy See to collaborate in efforts for peace was given out at the White House.

The Holy Father said he wished to acknowledge "with grateful joy and increased confidence" the action of the President.

Total levies by the Nazi regime on churches in Germany amount-

ed to more than 10,000,000 marks (about \$1,000,000) according to the official rate of exchange.

Charges, made against Mexican bishops, seeking to involve them in the oil situation in Mexico, were promptly and convincingly denied by the Most Rev. Luis M. Martinez, Archbishop of Mexico. The charges were made by Senator Joe Maria Davila.

FEBRUARY, 1940

Although enduring a "wave of unparalleled atrocities and cruelties," the Polish nation is undaunted in spirit. His Eminence Augustus Cardinal Hlond, Archbishop of Gniezno and Posen, said in a letter written to members of the American clergy.

He said a great number of churches had been demolished; the number of priests arrested "must run into thousands."

With the slaughter of priests and brutal oppression of the laity, the Nazi campaign in Poland was declared, in a memorandum made public in Rome, to be "one of the greatest iniquities in all history."

It is "a real extermination, conceived with diabolical malice and executed with unequalled cruelty," the memorandum asserted, presenting a detailed report of the suffering.

His Holiness Pope Pius XII received in audience Myron C. Taylor, special representative of President Roosevelt at the Vatican. He presented a letter from the President, who addressed the Holy Father as "my good and old friend" and told desires for the establishment of lasting peace among nations.

MARCH, 1940

"I shall destroy Christianity in Germany," Adolph Hitler told Dr. Hermann Rauschning, former president of the Danzig Senate, now in exile in London, the latter declared. He said the conversation took place shortly after the rise of Hitler to power in the Reich.

Catholics of Cuba—both the clergy and laity—asked that religious safeguards be placed in the new Constitution, setting forth the desires of Catholic citizens who constitute the most numerous and important factor in the nation, "and whose spiritual interests are the most appreciable treasure of the collectivity."

An article in the Fordham University quarterly "Thought", written by Nicholas S. Timasheff, former Professor of Sociological Jurisprudence at St. Petersburg, said millions in Soviet Russia continue to believe in God and to participate to the extent possible in religious services.

"The war on religion is not over, as the existence of the Godless Union and the publication of its paper prove," he said.

The first year of his Pontificate has seen developments sufficient to fill a whole normal century. His Holiness Pope Pius XII told members of the Sacred College, contrasting events of a normal period in the development of mankind with the tragic happenings of the previous 12 months.

The Holy Office condemned and placed on the prohibited list the books: "The Boy Prophet" and "Jesus Related by the Wandering Jew," both by Edward Fleg.

APRIL, 1940

His Eminence Jean Cardinal Verdier, Archbishop of Paris, died at the age of 76 years. He was famous as an educator long before his elevation to the Hierarchy and later to the Sacred College, and is also remembered as a builder of churches—building more than 100 of them in the Archdiocese of Paris.

MAY, 1940

The National Anti Communist Bloc of Mexico charged that propaganda headquarters had been set up in Mexico by Soviet agents in the United States who were supplying funds to pay expenses for carrying on a Communist crusade.

Notwithstanding the war, the Code of the Family, consisting of 120 articles providing important material and moral advantages to large families, went into effect in France—certain measures which Catholic employers had long followed becoming applicable and obligatory.

His Holiness Pope Pius XII made a plea for prayers for peace for the restoration of peace in a world that was torn by war.

St. Mary of Euphrasia Pelletier, Foundress of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, and of St. Gemma Galgani Passionist Tertiary of Luca, was solemnly canonized in St. Peter's Basilica. April 21 was set as the date of the Feast of St. Mary of St. Euphrasia Pelletier; April 11 as the date for the Feast of St. Gemma Galgani.

"The sure right to life and independence of all nations" was again proclaimed by Pope Pius XII as *Osservatore Romano* made a strong denunciation of aggression as Luxembourg, Belgium and Holland were invaded by German Nazis.

Blessed Rose Philippine Duchesne, Foundress of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of the United States, was honored in solemn Vatican rites of beatification. As the Supreme Pontiff descended to St. Peter's Basilica to venerate the new Beata for the first time he was presented with a miniature statue of Blessed Rose Philippine and of two little girls—one of them an Indian, symbolizing her work for the Indians.

"You may go ahead assured that you may rely upon the confidence and support of the new State," General Francisco Franco declared in addressing the National Executive Board of Catholic Action that was recently appointed in Spain.

The controversy between the Vatican and Italy was regarded as settled as *Osservatore Romano* resumed circulating freely in Italy.

JUNE, 1940

His Holiness Pope Pius XII laid down precepts which should govern the treatment of persons living in territory occupied by

enemy military forces, pleading that civilians be spared and that laws of humanity be observed by belligerents.

The Paternal Apostolic Blessing was imparted by His Holiness Pope Pius XII upon Socialists of America.

Emphatic denials from Washington followed reports in the secular press that President Roosevelt, through Myron C. Taylor, his personal representative at the Vatican, had offered His Holiness Pope Pius XII refuge in the United States.

Through His Excellency the Most Rev. Valerio Valeri, Papal Nuncio to France, the French Government asked the Holy See to convey to the Italian government a request to know the conditions upon which a durable peace between France and Italy could be brought about.

JULY, 1940

His Excellency, the Most Rev. William Godfrey, Apostolic Delegate to Great Britain, in a short wave address from the Vatican radio station, defined the attitude of the Catholic toward his country, particularly in time of emergency.

"The Catholic Church, with all its pride and power, is a force to lean upon in time of danger," he concluded. "No nation that has ever trusted her in an emergency, has had reason to regret the solidity of the rock of Peter."

Society must be rebuilt "on less fragile foundations," that is to say, in accordance with Christian morals, the fundamental source of any real civilization, "if the people of the world wish to come out of the present crisis permanently."

Thus His Holiness Pope Pius XII outlined the formula for permanent peace in a discourse to a group of newly-married couples.

Lithuania, invaded by Soviet Russia, renounced its Concordat with the Vatican.

Communists control the Canadian Youth Congress. Timothy P. Slattery, Montreal lawyer and president of the Canadian Catholic Youth Union, charged in a statement. Nevertheless, he said, "some sincere and sound Canadians," continued to work with the Congress.

Copies of *La Croix*, former Paris Catholic daily newspaper, received in Washington, contained an admission of the defeat and ruin of France. But made a stirring appeal to the people where "we are left with our ruins, our death, our collapse, our occupied territory" to join in bringing about a spiritual revival.

"The Catholic Church looms large as a man's hope in the present chaotic world," Claude G. Bowers, United States ambassador to Chile, declared in paying warm tribute to His Holiness Pope Pius XII and in lauding President Roosevelt's appointment of a personal representative at the Vatican.

Rejection came from the German Government to a proposal through which the Vatican hoped

Papal representation could be continued in Holland and Belgium—a suggestion that the Vatican representatives be permitted to remain in these countries without diplomatic status.

AUGUST, 1940

Resumption of Japanese aerial bombardments brought extraordinarily heavy damage to Catholic establishments in and around Chungking, China.

Catholic institutions of learning were destroyed; professors and students in many of them killed. Ten bombs struck a Catholic orphan asylum in one day.

The plant in which "The Catholic Daily," published by Bishop Paul Yu-Pin, was printed, was struck by bombs.

"The Holy Father, in a letter addressed to the Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops of France, expressed confidence in the reawakening of the entire French nation; gave assurance of paternal sorrow and affection, and expressed belief that France will rise again.

"America can, and I believe, will, set an example of freedom before God and men," Arthur Cardinal Hinsley, Archbishop of Westminster, made that outstanding declaration in radio address to the people of the United States.

"Would to God that history showed no war provoked by a lie cleverly diffused."

His Holiness Pope Pius XII thus attacked "poison" news and the dissemination of false propaganda that spreads enmity and discord among peoples and nations, in his weekly discourse. Publicists have a weighty responsibility, he said.

SEPTEMBER, 1940

General Francisco Franco honored four American prelates with the decoration Grand Cross of Isabella the Catholic. They were William Cardinal O'Connell, Archbishop of Boston; Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia; the Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore and Washington, and the Most Rev. Thomas E. Mulloy, Bishop of Brooklyn.

The Rev. Charles J. Callan, O. P., of Holy Rosary Church, Hawthorne, N. Y., was appointed Consultant to the Pontifical Biblical Commission—the first American to be chosen for this honor.

Death of His Eminence Isidro Cardinal Gomaz, Archbishop of Toledo and Primate of Spain, reduced the number of members of the Sacred College to 55.

The Most Rev. Gabriel Breynat, O.M.I., Vicar Apostolic of the Mackenzie, known as the "Flying Bishop" of the Canadian Northwest, who had flown 38,000 miles in four years, was grounded because the war cut off the source of revenues which paid for upkeep of his plane.

Legal restrictions which actually oppressed or hung threateningly over members of Religious Orders and Congregations in

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