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'Released Time' Extended To Public High Schools

Bishop's Easter Message

My dear People:

In extending to you sincere Easter blessings, may I solicit at your Easter Mass a sincere prayer for the preservation of the peace of our country and a speedy ending to the world-wide conflict which has destroyed the peace of Europe. May God save our beloved country!

+ James E. Kearney

Catholics Get Call To Back USO Fund Drive

WASHINGTON (NC)—Indorsing a campaign for \$10,765,000 announced by the United Service Organizations, the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit and Chairman of the National Catholic Community Service on April 7, pledged anew the resources of Catholic organizations of this country, both in personnel and facilities, in the current great effort for national defense.

All Diocesan Offices Close

By direction of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, all diocesan offices will be closed on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Reformatory Inmates Mark Good Friday

ELMIRA -- The religious program of the Elmira Reformatory under the direction of the Rev. Francis J. Lane will inaugurate another religious observance. For the first time in any penal institution, the afternoon of Good Friday will be devoted to prayer and meditation and all other activities will be suspended.

The Three Hour Service will be observed in the St. Don Bosco Chapel with Father Winifred Guntner, C.P., conducting the services, assisted by the Chaplain. At the same time a service will be conducted in the Protestant Chapel. Attendance at these services is strictly voluntary and all inmates will have to remain in his room as the shops, school and gymnasium will be closed for the afternoon.

PASSION PLAY PRESENTED IN SHADOW OF BROADWAY

NEW YORK -- A Passion Play one block from Broadway, believed to be the first Passion Play ever produced in New York City, drew throngs of more than 2,000 to its performance this Lent. The play will continue every year. "The Upper Room" by Mgr. Hugh Benson according to plans of the Rev. Timothy J. Shanley, pastor of the Church of St. Matthew. The play is produced at the Manhattan Center, next door to the nationally famous New Yorker Hotel and less than a half mile south of Forty-second Street and the Times Square district. The Benson Players perform the play. St. Matthew's Church presents a series of one-act plays "The Third Day" by the Rev. Francis X. Talbot, S. J., Editor of America, is given as an epilogue.

Church 'Naturally' Fights Totalitarianism

TOLEDO -- Calling the Catholic Church "the natural leader against totalitarianism," Richard Reid, Editor of The Catholic News, New York, said in a weekly talk to the Catholic Forum here that if non-Catholics "would join forces with the Catholic Church in its attitude and effort," totalitarianism would "withstand."

400 Join Army Post's Holy Name Society

BELLEVILLE, Ill. -- Four hundred men stationed at Scott Field Army Post here were inducted into the Holy Name Society at the close of a week's mission. Two Dominican missionaries, the Rev. Paul V. Flanagan, O.P., and the Rev. J. H. Hope, both of Chicago, conducted the week's services. Approximately 600 Catholic men are stationed at the post.



EASTER: Feast of Life and Death

By Rev. William J. McGarry, S.J. (Written for N. C. W. C. Easter Supplement)

Men face the certainty of death, peaceful or violent, in every generation. In our world of 1941 thousands face the probability of violent death, and thimillions who know the terrors of the world's armies face death with their dear ones. They are the first wielded

Dr. Bruening Points Basis for Democracy

DAVENPORT -- There must be a genuinely spiritual basis for democracy if it is to survive, Dr. Heinrich Bruening, Chancellor of Germany prior to the rise of Adolf Hitler, told the students of St. Ambrose College here.

IRISH CENSOR CUTS 6% OF LONG FILMS IN '40

DUBLIN -- The official Film Censor for Ireland examined 770 miles of film in 1940, his annual report just released shows.

U.S. Needs 'True' Soldiers

WASHINGTON -- "Worthy soldiers of Christ are valiant defenders of home and country," writes the Rt. Rev. Mgr. William R. Arnold, Chief of Army Chaplains, in his Easter message to the chaplains of the Army.

Pope To Radio Easter Blessing To World

VATICAN CITY, (NC) -- His Holiness Pope XII will impart his blessing "Urbi et Orbi" (To the City and to the World) from the facilities of the Vatican City radio station Sunday.

Private Charities Do Better Work

NEW YORK -- No government can or should be expected to do the work covered by thousands of private charities, former Gov. Alfred E. Smith, of New York, declared Thursday at a meeting of the Catholic Charities here.

NON-CATHOLIC DONATES \$30,000 TOWARD HOME

ELDORADO, Kas. -- Receipts of a gift of \$30,000 for a diocesan orphanage for girls from Frank E. Allen, 32-year-old Eldorado philanthropist and a non-Catholic, has been announced by the Most Rev. Christian H. Winkelmann, Bishop of Wichita.

Catholic Pupils In City's 9 High Schools to Register For Religious Instruction

Groups Plan 3 Points In New Set-up

Catholic students in Rochester public high schools will be given the opportunity to register for courses in religious instruction on Monday, April 21. These courses will begin next September in Catholic churches, schools and centers throughout the city as the result of new state law making such instruction permissive.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK The State Education Department Absence For Religious Observance and Education Law

Section 625-B, 2 Absence. Absence from required attendance shall be permitted only for causes allowed by the general rules and practices of the public schools. Absence for religious observance and education shall be permitted under rules that the commissioner shall establish.

- 1. Absence of a pupil from school during school hours for religious observance and education to be had outside the school building and grounds will be excused upon the request in writing signed by the parent or guardian of the pupil.
2. The courses in religious observance and education must be maintained and operated by or under the control of a duly constituted religious body or of duly constituted religious bodies.
3. Pupils must be registered for the courses and a copy of the registration filed with the local public school authorities.
4. Reports of attendance of pupils upon such courses shall be filed with the principal or teacher at the end of each week.
5. Such absence shall be for not more than one hour each week at the close of a session at a time to be fixed by the local school authorities.
6. In the event that more than one school for religious observance and education is maintained in any district, the hour for absence for each particular public school in such district shall be the same for all such religious schools.

Valtin Book Reveals Church's Foes

WASHINGTON -- (N. C.) -- "The nobler and thoughtfull Catholic will be agghast at these two formidable foes (Nazism and Communism) of the Church."

Captive Officer Recalls Visit Of Holy Father To World War Prisoners

VATICAN CITY -- Many touching incidents are tending to light additional words received here of the visit which Pape Nuncio and Apostolic Delegate, seeing for His Holiness Pope Pius XII, saw the prisoners of war of all nationalities at various places of internment.

FRANCE MUST SHOW REAL VICTORY IS OF SPIRIT

LIMOGES -- His Eminence Pierre Cardinal Gerlier, Archbishop of Lyon and Primate of Gaul, has received the Grand Medal of the Maritime and Colonial League from General Jambon, President of the Rhone Section of the League.

Chinese Library

Shanghai -- Hou Tao-tung, son of Hou Hui-shan, who died a few years ago, has presented his father's library of some 2,000 volumes to Aurora University. The collection is unique since Mr. Hou Hui-shan concentrated on collecting two types of books: ancient Chinese school manuals and Chinese works by non-Chinese authors.

EASTER GREETING EDITION