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**NATIONAL NEWS**

**WASHINGTON LETTER**

**World War Hall Becomes USO Center For Service Men**

SPARTANBURG, S. C. — The salvaged remains of the National Catholic War Council building used here for the recreation of soldiers during the World War have finally been renovated and opened on a full schedule as a USO club operated by the National Catholic Community Service. Most of the service men entertained are from nearby Camp Croft.

N. C. C. S. activities have been carried on here since March 17, under the direction of the Rev. Francis O. Ferri, Pastor of the Church of St. Paul the Apostle. The program in the renovated hall includes regular feature evening dances and special dances on other evenings. The usual attendance is about 200.

The reading and writing rooms are proving popular with the men. The hall is open from 3 to 11 p. m. on Saturday and Sunday and from 7 to 11 p. m. on weekdays.

**N. C. C. S. FOLLOWS THE TROOPS**



Four of the newly appointed field staff members of the National Catholic Community Service arrive at National Airport, Washington, en route to New Orleans, where they will be assigned to operate mobile service units designed to provide welfare and recreational services at forthcoming army maneuvers in the Fourth Corps Area. Left to right, Thomas Williams and Joseph Trachy, of New York; Lawrence Wheeler, of Johnson City, N. Y.; and Charles O'Neill, of Rye, N. Y. (N.C.W.C.)

**200,000 Chicago Holy Name Men Join Crusade**

CHICAGO — A call went out this week to the 200,000 members of the Chicago Archdiocesan Holy Name Union to join in a crusade of prayer for the intention of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII.

The Rev. Edward J. Kelly, Executive Director of the Holy Name Union, informed members of the society that their crusade for prayer will be culminated by a public prayer for the Pontiff during the Holy Hour to be held at Soldier Field, September 14.

September 14

The Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, has asked that all 200,000 Holy Name men receive Holy Communion on Sunday, September 14, for the intention of the Pope.

"Never before in the history of the world has the Vicar of Christ been so in need of our prayers," Father Kelly declared. "While the war-torn world is in turmoil, false philosophers and sinister organizations are using all the means and methods of modern science in their efforts to destroy the world, threatening the Christian civilization." Father Kelly declared.

Many Hindered

"There are many nations today where laws prohibit Christians from gathering in the name of Christ. So it is the duty of people who are fortunate enough to live in a democracy like ours, to take up the torch of Christianity."

The Holy Hour, which will bring together Catholics from the six counties of the archdiocese, will be an American Catholic answer to the floodtide of paganism that is sweeping over the world, threatening to engulf even our own nation, Father Kelly explained.

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**Newport News, Va.**

Current Catholic activities for the entertainment of service men in this area are chiefly the outcome of a meeting at which Knights of Columbus and members of the Catholic Women's Club joined with priests of the district and the chaplains of Fort Eustis and Langley Field in outlining a recreational program.

Several hundred men already have enjoyed Sunday Open House affairs held by the K. of C. and the C. W. C. and a different camp is invited to attend each week. The entertainments include bowling and billiards table tennis, dancing refreshments and a floor show. Outdoor affairs on a site adjacent to the K. of C. building will be developed soon.

**Washington Letter**

**Pinch of Defense Is Felt In Civilian Sacrifices**

By ELMER MURPHY  
WASHINGTON — Washington has had reason the past week to give thought to the high cost of defense. The tax bill providing for dramatic increases in income tax payments, especially those in the "middle class" brackets, was completed and introduced. The pinch of defense priorities is beginning to be acutely felt and further curtailment of civilian industries is officially predicted.

Thus earlier assurances that placing the country on a defense footing would entail sacrifices on the part of everybody are now being confirmed.

The tax increase was of course, anticipated. It was simply a question of how much and by what method the increase was to be applied. Nevertheless, Washington has become so accustomed to making its calculations in terms of billions that an increase of more than three billions in the tax burden was not a particularly disturbing prospect. In the form of a tax bill, however, which indicates specifically how much of his income the taxpayer must turn over to the government this increase has been a rather grim reminder that the hardest road lies ahead.

Priority

Even more perplexing is the disturbing effect of giving defense industries the right of way by the application of priorities. Because of the inability of industries manufacturing products for civilian use—such as shoes, bath tubs, washing machines and a host of other articles, not to mention silk stockings—to get supplies plants are being closed or their operations are being curtailed, workers are being thrown out of employment, and planning has been halted. Communist agents cannot be made because the manufacturer has no assurance that he will have the necessary materials when they are needed.

These dislocations are only beginning. OPM officials make the prediction that 5,000 industrial plants may be shut down and 1,000,000 workers thrown out of employment when industrial defense operations get fully under way. In some cases, communities in which particular types of industry are concentrated have been hard hit. Their main source of income has been cut off and many of their people have no way of sustaining themselves.

New Difficulties

Smaller industries in smaller towns will suffer most. They have not the resources to change their equipment for the manufacture of defense supplies. Neither can many of the workers migrate to the larger industrial centers, where they may be able to find employment. The assumption that defense activities would take up all of the slack in unemployment has not been borne out by experience. It is not the industrial workers alone who have been adversely affected. With their wages cut off the workers cannot buy and trade stagnates, throwing others out of work.

What is to be done about it is the question facing the defense officials. They are trying to relieve distress in some extreme cases, but the general attitude is that this dislocation is the inevitable price which must be paid for defense. The only thing that can be done is to apply priorities more gradually in order that producers of civilian goods may have more time to adjust themselves to the necessary changes. But this is a palliative, not a remedy.

From this it may be expected that an unusual strain may be put upon social service activities before the shadows have been lifted. There is much talk of a defense boom and consequent inflation, but it is none the less evident that the upsurge in industrial activity is by no means universal. Even defense will have its industrial casualties.

**Draftee Aid Group Formed At Niagara**

(Continued from Page 1)

hope has been placed in the various dayrooms of the Fort for the use of the present party and supplies. Cigarettes, candy and matches have been donated to the patients in the hospital and the men in the guardhouse. On the inside of the building, shaving cream, razor blades, games and magazines. These gifts are distributed not only to Catholics but to the soldier (personnel in general) in the name of the organization.

Mr. Egan has stated its aims and purposes as follows:

1. The name of the organization will be the Fort Niagara Catholic Chaplains Aid Society.
2. The purpose of this organization will be to furnish to the Catholic Chaplains of Fort Niagara, N. Y. such aid, as material, moral or spiritual, as shall be within the power of the individuals of the said Fort Niagara Catholic Chaplains Aid Society, or the body of a whole. The rendition of such aid shall be entirely voluntary on the part of the said members and body and acceptable and satisfactory to the said Chaplains.
3. In addition to such aid and assistance as defined in article two, the organization shall, whenever possible, furnish to those soldiers at Fort Niagara who are confined to the hospital or guardhouse, or in other cases who are attached to the 1206 Service Unit, and finally to the men of the service generally whether at Fort Niagara or elsewhere, such recreation or pleasure as shall be available, regardless of the creed or color of said recipients.
4. The officers of this organization are John J. Egan, President, and Helen Troy, Secretary. The address of the organization is 253 7th Street, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Undoubtedly many people will wish to assist in this important work either by contributing the above mentioned articles for distributing or by assisting in making up the gift packets. All contributions should be directed to the Fort Niagara Catholic Chaplains Aid Society, 253 Third St., Niagara Falls, N. Y.

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**Britain Refuses To Lift Ban On Paper**

(Continued from Page 1)

have freely given of their utmost effort in furtherance of the common cause. The single striking exception has been the Communist Party. On September 2, 1939, that party declared its determination to resist Hitlerism. A little later, suddenly and without consultation with its rank and file, it reversed this policy. It then declared that the struggle against Nazism was an "imperialist war," which must be stopped. Since then the Communist Party has taken every opportunity to obstruct and weaken the national effort. It has misrepresented and distorted the purposes of the Labor movement in supporting the fight against Hitlerism.

"When one Sunday, June 22, 1941, Hitler, without warning or provocation attacked Soviet Russia, the Communist Party of Great Britain, once again without consultation with its rank and file, changed its policy. It announced that the struggle was no longer an "imperialist war."

"The Communist Party during the war has thus demonstrated its irresponsible and unstable character. The sufferings of the British people under the strain of almost constant Nazi raids left it unmoved and unaffected. No vestige of sympathy for the British people, nor for the cause for which British fight, has appeared in Communist declarations. Unlike the British Labor movement, its policy is not, and has never been, determined by democratic methods, nor by reference to the needs and purposes of the British people. The Trades Union Congress and the Labor Party therefore conclude that no association with the Communist Party is possible."

Priest Killed In Crash

Springwater, N. M.—The Most Rev. Rudolph A. Getten, Archbishop of Santa Fe, celebrated the Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass in San Jose Church, Anton Chico, for its pastor, the Rev. G. Charrie, who was killed in an automobile accident near here.

**C.C.C. Chaplain**

Carbondale, Ill.—The Rev. Bernard Loepker, formerly pastor of St. John's Church, Dahlgren, Ill., has taken up duties as full-time C. C. C. chaplain at Marietta, Giant City State Park, near here. Father Loepker succeeds the Rev. Fred M. Halbig, also a priest of the Belleville, Ill. Diocese, who has been named pastor of St. Barbara Church, Okawville, Ill.

**Oblate Superior Dies**

Rome — The Motherhouse of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate has been informed of the death at Marietta some weeks ago of the Very Rev. Bulgoe Blanc, Assistant General of the Congregation. He was 71.

**Plan Defense Industry Courses**

A program of specialized defense courses to provide technical defense workers has been launched at the University of Dayton, Marietta institution, Dayton, O. Above are shown, Brother Thomas P. Ryan, ceilar, chairman of the university administrative council of defense activities, discussing the chemical defense course in the program with William J. Wohlleben S. M., head of the department of chemical engineering and Rev. Dr. John A. Ewert, S. M., president of the university. (N.C.W.C.)

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