

A Merry Christmas
Happy New Year



As one of its many 'home away from home' services to the men of the armed forces this Christmas the National Catholic Community Service, member agency of the USO, will give out 100,000 free Christmas cards for the use of the men in uniform.

CONDEMNED FILM
REVISED; LEGION'S
RATING NOW 'B'

NEW YORK (AP)—A revised version of the motion picture 'Two-Faced Woman' has been prepared by the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio in the hope that the Legion of Decency might change the 'C' or 'Condemned' classification accorded it.

The M.G.M. home office has informed the National Office of the Legion that it has telegraphed all exchange offices throughout the country to cancel wherever possible all bookings of 'Two-Faced Woman'.

It was also learned here that the sales division of M.G.M. has asked exchange offices to withhold any new bookings on the film until next week.

Word has just been received that 'Two-Faced Woman' has been given a 'B' rating, objectionable in part.

In thousands of Catholic churches throughout the United States, the Legion of Decency Pledge will be renewed Sunday Dec. 14 in response to the invitation of the Bishop's Committee on Motion Pictures of which the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati, is chairman.



Dear Reverend Fathers:

The Sunday within the octave of the feast of the Immaculate Conception is the date chosen each year for the renewal of the pledge of the Legion of Decency.

The improvement in the screen as a result of the activity of the Legion of Decency is seriously threatened. Certain producers evidently feel that a time of national stress is a good opportunity for vice and suggestiveness to sneak back to the screen.

The campaign for clean literature can hold its ground only by consistent vigilance on the part of our people. Catholics should look for the signs of cooperation in the stores where they deal and should avow their right of protesting against publications which offend against our code.

The decency pledge is no mere gesture. No one is compelled to take it, but certainly every Catholic is bound in conscience by a far higher law than the Legion of Decency to accept its principles, and to do all in his power to check the advance of these threats to Christian morality and decency.

With a blessing, I am

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,

Signature of James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester.

Archbishops' Statements Forcibly
Pledge Nation At War Full Support

(By NCWC News Service)

The meaning of patriotism for Catholics in a nation at war was reviewed by Catholic Bishops in ringing statements this week in which they asked of their people, and pledged to the nation the fullest measure of cooperation to the end of victory under God.

Emphasis was laid on the fact that American possessions were attacked. American property destroyed.

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God let us call this loyalty patriotism for the moment and let us say to our priests and people that patriotism for us of the Faith is not a mere emotion that surges up in the hearts of men only at special times and on special occasions.

It is something far deeper than that and is inherent in us not only in times of war but also in times of peace. It is a duty to stand on justice and never can be a mere matter of feeling or sentiment.

"At such a time there can be no place for disunion. Now is the hour for unity and unity alone. Our American people, regardless of past differences of opinion on public matters, are bound today to offer themselves to the nation in the nation's defense, and it is a nation of all nations worth defending."

"Therefore we call upon the priests and people of this ecclesiastical jurisdiction to join with their fellow citizens of every class and creed in a harmonious and strong, because unified, body in giving to our government every possible help in the great work of defense now a duty of the nation and of its every son and daughter at this moment."

"We are sure that we can pledge to the President of this nation the devoted and willing service of a half million members of the Old Faith in these two Archdioceses who quietly and calmly will be ready to do their duty at the call of their country," Archbishop Curley continued, closing with a prayer that "God may bless this nation of ours and direct our government in its heavy responsibilities."

Telling his priests that tragic events of the past few days clearly not of our making have brought war to our own shores, the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, declared that "patriotism supported by religion has only one answer to such a challenge: to rally the total strength of our country to the defense of our soil, our national rights and our vital interests."

Rare Specimens

WASHINGTON—Completing its tenth scientific expedition into the Canadian Arctic region in quest of notice to that area, the Rev. Arplants minerals, fossils, etc. theme dutifully research associate in botany of the Catholic University of America has returned with a variety of rare botanical and geological specimens.

Calls Practice of Religion
'Bill of Rights' Safeguard

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—"Loyalty to God and the practice of religion are the best and surest safeguards of our Bill of Rights and of our American way of living," the Most Rev. John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco, said in an address Dec. 15 at ceremonies commemorating the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of the Bill of Rights.

The ceremonies were held in St. Mary's Cathedral here. "Today our way of living, our country and all that it stands for face the greatest challenge in our history," but that challenge finds us united and ready to sacrifice our lives, fortunes and honor for our country, Archbishop Mitty said.

Reviewing the spiritual principles that animated the founding fathers in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence and of the Constitution, Archbishop Mitty said the documents "reflect two things that were dominant in the mind of the founding fathers: the profound determination to be free in the exercise of their essential liberties, and their equal determination to have a form of government that would secure these liberties for them and their posterity."

THE 'BILL OF RIGHTS'

ARTICLE I
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
ARTICLE II
A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.
ARTICLE III
No soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.
ARTICLE IV
The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.
ARTICLE V
No person shall be held to answer for a capital or other infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger, nor shall any person be subjected for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall he be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.
ARTICLE VI
In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the

Catholic lay organizations are buying U. S. Defense Stamps and Bonds.