

Pope's Concern For World At War Stands Out In 1941 Review of Church Events

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"The bitterness of war increasingly distresses and crushes the hearts of men" and "the dangers of every sort which threaten so many nations become ever more appalling."

These words, written by His Holiness Pope Pius XII last May, cannot be equaled as a sentimentous summary of 1941. For the "bitterness of war" did spread rapidly in its heat theater in Europe, and from it to North Africa, the Orient, and the Western World. Truly the hearts of men were further distressed and crushed as totalitarian legions fanned out to encompass virtually the whole globe in the embrace of violence and bloodshed. And truly "dangers of every sort" and appalling in nature engulfed every nation, including the United States and her New World neighbors, as the flames of war blazed through the earth.

INCREASING PEACE EFFORTS

His Holiness repeated his pledge that he would never cease, "in work and prayer, to do all that is possible to hasten the return of peace." This promise he fulfilled daily in exhortations to audiences, in calls for prayer, in his active solicitude for "the victims of warfare."

Unceasingly the voice of the Holy Father was heard, appealing for a return to the principles that alone can bring and maintain peace. At the outset of the year addressing the Roman patriotic and nobility, he expressed the wish that 1941 would bring a just and durable peace.

In March, the Pope told pastors and Lenten preachers of Roman churches that negation of God and irreverence were chiefly to blame for the world-shaking events of this era. Later that month he reiterated the desire to pilgrims from Rome that "as soon as possible, the nations at war may rehearse the Dreikönig reaching a sure peace in attitude and charity in honor and His Blessing for all."

Vilcabamba brought further words from the Pontiff. Thanking Catholics for their prayers pursuant to his request, His Holiness besought them not to relax their "prayerful vigilance, but rather to reanimate and redouble it."

GRIEF OVER SUFFERING

The Holy Father's grief over the suffering of humanity was expressed to the Sacred College of

Cardinals in June on his name day. On the occasion of two National Eucharistic Congresses in the New World in St. Paul, Minn., and Santiago, Chile His Holiness again was heard on the radio. He said to the St. Paul Congress that self-sacrifice was indispensable if men and women were to "escape the flood" of "black paganism," and in the message to Chile he urged the faithful to give thanks that they had been spared the suffering of armed conflict.

Again in October, the Holy Father asked for prayers that "the days of trial for the Church and poor humanity may be shortened."

Through the Vatican's Office of Information on War Prisoners, the Pope labored to reunite, at least by the reestablishment of communication, war prisoners and their families, engaged in enormous activity to bring relief to the victims of the war, particularly the Poles, but always without regard for nationality, distributed sums through Church representatives in various countries for aid to the needy and impoverished; instructed Papal representatives in all war-torn countries to visit prisoners and bring them consolation. His Holiness was grateful for the aid sent by American Catholics, which constituted the major portion of his fund for the relief of the Polish people.

One of his three Masses on All Souls' Day was celebrated by the Holy Father for those who have died in the present war.

The year's medal of the Pontiff's office recorded the charitable activities of His Holiness in behalf of war sufferers.

MISSION GAINS DESPITE WAR

Despite the war, "the Church in the Missions not only manages to maintain her former position but is actually expanding and pushes ever farther ahead the tents of the Lord," Archbishop Cosmo Costantini Secretary of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith, said in his Mission Sunday message.

The Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle reported that the number of native clergy in all the Catholic missions had increased 8,100 in the last half-century, the figure being 7,000, which includes 42 native Bishops. Forty-seven missions are entrusted to native clergy; it was announced.

On the liability side were reports of obstacles to mission progress because of the widespread internment of missionaries by belligerent authorities. The Sacred College of Cardinals



WORLD PEACE is the constant concern of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII incessantly praying and working for its restoration at the year of 1941 draws to a close.

17 short of its full complement, was further reduced by the deaths of Their Eminences Karel Cardinal Archbishop of Prague, Joseph Cardinal Schulte, Archbishop of Cologne, and Lorenzo Cardinal Lauri, Grand Penitentiary.

Three Princes of the Church marked the silver jubilees of their elevation in the Sacred College: Cardinals Boggiani, Lascaris and Bertram Cardinal Fumasoni-Biondi was named Camerlengo of the Sacred College at a Secret Consistory on May 12.

While many Causes were discussed and advanced, only one Beatification took place that of Blessed Magdelene di Canossa, Foundress of the Daughters of Charity. However two canonizations were decided upon by the Congregation of Rites: those of Blessed John of Britto, Portuguese Jesuit martyr of the seventeenth century, and Blessed Bernardino Italian Jesuit who died in 1616.

MADE PREMIER

Victoria, B. C. John Hart, a Catholic who recently was named leader of the British Columbia Liberal Party has been sworn in as Premier of the Province.

Bar of Chocolate Gift of Confirmation Class to Archbishop

LONDON (NC) - After the Archbishop of Liverpool had confirmed a class of children at St. Marie's, Southport, he was given a little parcel, neatly tied with red ribbon.

When he opened it he found a bar of chocolate, with a note from the children, thanking him for confirming them.

Among the Causes of Canonization discussed by the Congregation was that of Blessed Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, Foundress of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who was a citizen of the United States. Other meetings discussed the Beatification Causes of Mother Elizabeth Ann Selon, Foundress of the Sisters of Charity in the United States, and Kateri Tekakwitha, "Lily of the Mohawks."

Sixty letters from Members of the American Hierarchy urging the beatification of the Rev. Arnold Janssen, founder of the Society of the Divine Word, served to advance his cause of Beatification. Similar action was taken by the German Bishops at their last meeting held in Fulda.

The Holy See maintained diplomatic relations with 33 other nations according to a list of the accredited diplomatic corps as of December, 1940. The list included Myron C. Taylor, President Roosevelt's personal representative at the Vatican.

Two important international agreements between the Vatican and other States were concluded. Foremost was the agreement signed at Madrid regarding the appointment of Bishops. The freedom of the Vatican in the choice of new members of the Spanish Hierarchy was assured.

A convention between the Holy See and Haiti regarding the administration of church properties was ratified.

An important international action was the cooperation of the Holy Father in bringing about an armistice between Peru and Ecuador in their dispute. His Holiness acted directly with the Presidents of Peru and Ecuador and with the Governments of Argentina, Brazil and the United States.

Heroism Of Men Who Died In Pacific War Extolled By Chaplain

HONOLULU (NC) A story of glowing heroism, of quiet suffering, and gallant death was told by the Rev. William A. Maguire, Chaplain of the United States Pacific Fleet, when he described the fighting at Pearl Harbor in the thick of the Japanese attack Sunday December

"Don't say we buried with sorrow," said Father Maguire who holds the rank of Captain. "Say we buried with conviction. Our men died manfully and we will wipe out that treachery some what may. The spirit of these men lives on. I can feel it."

The bodies of men lost in that attack have been buried here to remain until peace returns when they will be transferred to their native soil. Each grave is marked and each body carefully identified for shipment back to the mainland after the war is fought and won back to home towns," Father Maguire said.

Stating that he had been in the thickest of the attack the graying chaplain said: "Our 1,000,000 Americans would glow if they could have seen how our boys died. It was glorious. Navy a shipper! They manned their guns until the device buckled with the heat."

First Georgetown U. Alumnus Slain In War

WASHINGTON (NC) Ensign George Anderson Wolf killed in action at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked, heads the honor roll of students and alumni of Georgetown University killed in the present war. A native of Hollidaysburg, Pa., he was graduated from the University's School of Foreign Service in 1939 and received his commission May 15, 1941, at the Naval Academy Annapolis.

The Rev. Dr. Edmund A. Walsh, S. J., Vice-President of Georgetown University and Regent of the Foreign Service School officiated at a memorial Mass for Ensign Wolf in the University's Dahlgren Chapel.

Asserting that no eulogy was necessary because "the events and circumstances speak for themselves," Dr. Walsh said that "today another name and another memory is added to the long list of Georgetown students who across 150 years have made the supreme sacrifice."

"Ever have any organic trouble?" asked the medical officer.

"No, sir," replied the recruit, "I'm not musical."

'Lost in Action'



Chaplain Aloysius H. Schmitt, United States Navy, who was killed in the Japanese attack on Hawaii. A priest of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, he was ordained in Rome in 1935 and volunteered for the Chaplain Corps in 1939. He has a sister in the Order of St. Francis in Dubuque, Sister Mary Germaine. Only 39 years old, he is believed to be the first American Catholic chaplain killed in the present war. (N.C.W.C.)

World Events of 1941 in Church Highlighted

World event highlights in the Church during the 1941 war-scourged year follow.

VATICAN

Myron Taylor returned to Vatican City in September and was received in several audiences by the Holy Father. Mr. Taylor presented his Villa Schifanoia at Florence to the Pope in perpetuity for religious and educational purposes.

The Pope assigned the villa to Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., conducted by the Sisters of St. Dominic.

Other activities of the Holy Father included:

International broadcasts, including the address commemorating the anniversaries of Pope Leo XIII's Encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, and Pope Pius XI's *Quadragesimo Anno*.

Founding, through a *Motu Proprio*, of the Pontifical Work of Priestly Vocations in the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries and Universities.

Issuance of a Brief on Diocesan Synods.

Solemn closing of the fourth Centenary of the founding of the Society of Jesus.

Extension of aid to sufferers of floods in Hungary, of storm and fire in Santander, Spain, and of fire that destroyed Tlito, Colombia.

ITALY

Italy lost by death several notable citizens. A distinguished visitor and guest, former King Alfonso of Spain, died in Rome.

Religious devotion throughout Italy continued unabated. At the close of the pilgrimage season, it was announced 3,000 sick had visited the Holy House of Loreto.

GREAT BRITAIN

German bombs destroyed many religious institutions in Britain.

In April, the British Ministry of Information announced that 2,659 churches in Britain had been hit, 714 destroyed or seriously damaged and 1,945 damaged less seriously. Of these 38 were Catholic buildings. Hundreds of priests and Catholic laity died in the air raids.

Amid the ruins sprang up a movement, the Sword of the Spirit, initiated by His Eminence Arthur Cardinal Hinsley, to unite all Christians in defense of Christianity against the aggressive paganism of dictator countries and to lay the foundations for a peace based on the five points of the Holy Father's program.

GERMANY

Expansion of war efforts of the Reich in no sense minimized the prosecution of the Nazi war on Christianity.

The Hierarchy of Germany, in a published statement, protested the oppressive measures against the Church and called upon the faithful to remain staunch in their faith.

Courageous denunciation by Bishop Clemens August Count von Galen of methods used by the Gestapo caused a sensation throughout

Germany and the occupied territories.

By the end of the year it was reported 74 abbey seminaries, convents, houses of study and other establishments were wrenched from the possession of Catholic religious.

In occupied areas the situation was much the same. Authoritative documents showed that German policy was to reduce church organizations to a position of utter dependence upon the will of the governor, or presiding Nazi official.

BELGIUM

With their King in virtual incarceration, their Church hampered by Nazi restrictions and their spirit assailed by the occupation of their country, Belgian Catholics sought to carry on as well as they could.

FRANCE

Unoccupied France extended efforts to restore the country to normalcy. Catholics, under the inspiration of Bishops and Priests, were engaged in deepening their faith in God and in the future of France.

Catholic life in occupied France was afflicted by many restrictions, but whole villages, it was reported, formerly separated from the Church, have returned to the practice of their religion.

FAR EAST

Spread of war in the Pacific brought further difficulties to the Church and her missions. Prior to

the war, the Japanese government legally recognized the Catholic Church in Japan, although it adopted a "non-foreign policy." The Holy See, in 18 decrees, adapted the Church to the new Japanese policy and entrusted all ecclesiastical districts to native clergy.

IRELAND

Ireland's Catholics ardently engaged in a spiritual campaign of prayers for peace. Closest war effect was Nazi air raid on Belfast in May.

RUSSIA

Russia became a new theater of war. Prior to Hitler's invasion, Soviet Godless were complaining that their campaign to abolish religion in Russia was failing. In spite of this, Soviets pushed their anti-religious persecution in territories seized.

Refugee priests from Lithuania told of the hardships endured at the hands of the Russians, treatment, they said, equalled only by the Nazi persecution of the Poles.

MEXICO

Heartening to Catholics were events in Mexico. Early in the year President Avila Camacho's administration proposed legislation to amend the notorious Article 3 of the Constitution, the Socialist Education measure.

The President's address at the opening of Congress in September was marked by emphasis on the need for resurgence of spiritual values in the world.