

# Low Birthrate Cause To Be Determined By Poll In France

VICHY—(N. C.)—The campaign against birth control, and particularly the referendum to determine the real cause for the low birthrate in France, conducted under the joint

## France Will Again Live, Says Maritain

sponsorship of the National Relief and the National Circle for Coordination and Action of Family Movements, has the endorsement of the Catholic Press which predicts that "lack of, or inadequacy of religion" will hold first place when votes are counted.

Of the alleged causes for the low birth rate, the voter will choose the three which he considers contribute most to the low birthrate in France. These alleged causes are:

Young married couples are more interested in going to motion picture theaters and motoring than in assuming the responsibilities of a family.

Divorce is easier when no children are involved.

The lack or inadequacy of religion.

The necessity of lowering the living standards that one may maintain when there are no children.

The frivolous married woman's objection to "losing her figure."

Employment of women outside the home—in factory, store, office, etc.

Abandonment of rural life.

Difficulty in finding quarters for a large family.

The heavy financial burden of rearing a family.

Aversion to dividing the inheritance or parceling out the family estate.

Fear of unemployment.

Fear of health.

Difficulties encountered in rearing children.

Fear of sufferings connected with childbirth.

Fear of being unable to rear several children properly, according to modern standards.

Marshal Petain insists that "the family" be kept to the fore and, more especially, that the heads of families be aware of both their duties and their rights. The Family Code adopted in 1939 constitutes moral and material protection of the family, and laws and decrees of the Vichy Government have backed and extended the principles of this Code, adapting it to meet the difficult situation caused by the defeat of France. Much remains to be done, and it is most important that officials and leaders in the movement to protect the family derive encouragement and support in their task from an enlightened public opinion.

### 542,135 CATHOLICS

Quebec.—Within the confines of the Archdiocese of Quebec there are 554,135 persons of whom 542,135 are Catholics.

### Jacques Maritain

WINDSOR, Ont. —(CN)—Revolving the second annual Christian Cultural Award from Assumption College here, Jacques Maritain, eminent French Catholic philosopher, told a large audience that France will live again, that liberty and fraternity there are not dead; needing but to be revived and given fresh impetus.

The Christian Culture Award is presented annually to an outstanding exponent of Christian ideals.

Professor Maritain has been lecturing at the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies at St. Michael's College, Toronto.

Eight years ago Assumption College inaugurated a Christian Culture Lecture Series. Famous world leaders in many walks of life have been guests in the series. So popular have the lectures become that the large hall of a theater has not been sufficient to accommodate the attendance, and it has been necessary to obtain a second hall to which the lectures are broadcast through a loudspeaker system. They are conducted by the Basilian Fathers, the same congregation of priests in charge of Aquilinas Institute, Rochester.

A year ago, as a natural sequence to the lecture series, it was decided to present an annual award. The first two recipients have been exiled patriots.

In his lecture, Professor Maritain said the natural law is to be found in the heart of man and that all human rights are rooted in the natural law. As man is gifted with intelligence and resolves upon his own aims, it is up to him to put himself in harmony with the aims which are of necessity demanded by his nature, he declared.

"Freedom from want and freedom from fear, as President Roosevelt has defined them in his four points, correspond to the demands of common law which are to be fulfilled by statute law and world political organization," Professor Maritain said. "The right of suffrage, granted each one of us arises from a positive or statute law."

"The state can ask a mathematician to teach mathematics; but the state cannot force a mathematician to teach a mathematical doctrine. These things depend upon truth and truth alone."

"Man is constituted a part of the family society long before he becomes a part of the political society. If the state has an educative function, it is to aid the family in fulfilling its mission, not to efface in the child his vocation as a human person."

## Pilgrimage Held

Mexico City.—A large pilgrimage from Tlaxcala, State of Mexico, arrived here on foot, en route to the Sanctuary of San Juan de los Rios, where solemn religious ceremonies are in progress.

# HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XII SPEAKS



These new pictures of Pope Pius XII show the Holy Father in various moods while in conversation during a Papal audience at the Vatican, in early December. The pictures which have just arrived in this country were mailed from Rome before the outbreak of war between Italy and the United States. Associated Press photo. (N.C.W.C.)

# Holy Father's Jubilee Plans Cited By Vatican Secretary of State

## Scores Eden View On British-Soviet Status

LONDON (NC) — Commenting on foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's broadcast declaration, on his return from Moscow, that "there is no real conflict of interest between the Soviet Union and Britain," the Catholic Times says Mr. Eden must stand alone in that belief "for not even the mildest of Pinkas has ever suggested that Dialectical Materialism or Leninism, or Marxism or Bolshevism, call it what you will, had anything in common with the despised British Capitalist Imperialism or Imperialist Capitalism."

The paper says it accepts as a political and unpalatable fact the Russian alliance and that it accepts the doctrine of aid to Russia as militarily necessary, but it says it rejects the hypocrisy of whitewashing what Hugh S. Johnson in the New York World-Telegram called "one of the greatest aggressors and bloodiest dictatorships in the world."

## Denies 'Happy' Condition Of Church In Reich

VATICAN CITY—(NC-Radio) Beguiling statements intended to make the world think the position of the Catholic Church in Germany under the Hitler regime is a happy one have been bluntly contradicted by Osservatore Romano.

The Vatican publication has printed the following: "Some newspapers have published reassuring news on the situation of the Church in Germany. We regret being obliged to declare that, alas, it is impossible for us to share in and to confirm such appreciations."

VATICAN CITY (NC-Radio)—Reemphasizing the plans being made by the Central Committee on celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of His Holiness Pope Pius XII's episcopal consecration, His Eminence Luigi Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State, has invited Papal Nuncios, Apostolic Delegates and other representatives of the Pope throughout the world to call the attention of Bishops in their territories to these coordinated undertakings.

In this connection His Excellency the Most Rev. Francesco Borgognini Duca, Papal Nuncio to Italy, has addressed a letter to the Bishops of Italy reciting the Pope's desires with regard to the observance.

The jubilee, which will be observed from May 13, 1942, to May 13, 1943, commemorates the consecration of the present Holy Father as Titular Archbishop of Sardes on May 13, 1917. Wishes expressed by the Pope with regard to observance of the jubilee throughout the Catholic world are:

1. The observances must be primarily of a religious and spiritual character in accord with the difficult times through which the world is passing.

2. The faithful should be invited locally to join in prayers for the Pope's intentions in the Cathedrals and principal churches in this connection it is considered fitting that the Pope's Feast Day be celebrated with especial solemnity throughout the world this year.

3. The Apostolic Benediction will be broadcast to the entire world after a Mass of Thanksgiving to be celebrated by His Holiness in St. Peter's Basilica on May 13, the actual day of the jubilee, or on the following day, which is Ascension Thursday.

4. It is not advisable that pilgrimages to the Eternal City be undertaken for the occasion, but it is recommended that the faithful be invited to attend on the day of the observance in the Vatican, religious ceremonies in their local churches.

# Bishops of Argentina Condemn Totalitarianism and Racism

BUENOS AIRES—(CN)—Their repeated condemnations of extremist doctrines and an exaggerated nationalism, also condemned by the Holy See, are again called to the attention of Argentine Catholics by the Hierarchy in a joint pastoral.

"In view of the various ideological movements that, under present circumstances, are causing a certain amount of confusion among Catholics," the pastoral says, "we believe it our duty to enlighten them by reiterating our teachings, imparted in accordance with the supreme directions of the Holy See."

The Bishops of Argentina remind their flocks that in their joint pastoral of May 30, 1938, they said: "The Church, whose mission is above all parties and factions, aspires to the greater good for existing societies, as apart from exaggerated nationalism — which, going far afield from the true exigencies of the virtue of patriotism, proclaims the total submission of the individual to the State — as she is from disruptive Communism which, trampling upon beliefs, liberties and rights, converts the individual into a mere instrument of a kind of social state which impairs human dignity itself."

"We call the attention of our faithful to this," the latest pastoral says, "so that they may not be assuaged with respect to activities which lead to such extremes, and so as to the political rights of Catholics, we recall-ratifying it in its entirety—our pastoral of October 2, 1931. Its pages contain the perennial doctrine of Catholicism, which does not concern itself with personal convenience but rather with the real rights of God over men and societies, mindful of the promise of the Divine Master: 'But seek first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all these things shall be given you besides.' (Matt. 6:33)"

"The true Catholic," the pastoral continues, "logical in his beliefs and in his active and social life, has so accommodated his thought, both in social and political matters, to the true and sound orientations of his bishop, whose desire is the grandeur of the country within the arms of Christ."

The pastoral also reminds that at the Bishop's Conference in November, 1938, it was established: "We remind Catholics that the Church has rightfully condemned (1) the doctrine of the totalitarian State, which disregards the proper and inalienable rights of the person and the family—rights which are anterior to the State—as well as the rights of the Church which have their origin in God; and (2) the doctrine of Racism, which has as its supreme goal the perfecting of a certain race, and maintains that the superior humanity of that race and the racial instinct established in the blood are the origins

of religion and the juridical order."

The Argentine Bishops warn their people to "be on guard against these errors, reaffirming the brotherhood of man as the basis of concord and peace, and defending by all means the treasury of divine truth and Christian civilization, and the highest interests of the country as well; mindful always that it is not licit to disregard the inherent rights of the human person."

## Pupils Urged By Bishop To Collect Rosaries For Men In Armed Forces

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the Catholic schools of Dansville, Avon, Lima, Mt. Morris, Parkville and Wayland.

St. Peter and Paul's School, Elmira, for the Catholic schools of Elmira and Owego.

St. Francis de Sales School, Geneva, for the Catholic schools of Geneva, Canandaigua, Clyde, Penn Yan, Seneca Falls and Waterloo.

Corpus Christi School, Rochester, for Blessed Sacrament, St. Agnes Institute, St. Boniface, St. Job, St. Joseph, St. Mary, Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Victory.

St. Stanislaus School for St. Amrose, St. Andrew, St. Bridget, St. Francis Xavier, St. George, St.

Michael, St. Theresa, Holy Redeemer, Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Margaret Mary.

St. Mary's Boys' Home for St. Augustine, St. Lucy, St. Monica, SS. Peter and Paul, Good Counsel, Immaculate Conception and Holy Family.

Near North Hall for St. Anthony, Holy Apostles, Holy Cross, Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart and St. Charles.

The Catholic high schools and the schools of Ithaca, Brockport, Spencerport, Webster, Holy Ghost, St. John, Ridge Road, St. Salome, St. Theodore and St. Thomas will send their collections of religious articles directly to the Catholic Education Office, 98 Chestnut St.