

Press Bishop Sounds Call



To the bishops, editors and publishers of American
with great esteem - and my Blessing
John Mackinnon
February, 1942 - Chairman Press Department

Catholic Schools Join In Defense Census

In cooperation with the State Council for Defense and the State Department of Education Catholic School authorities in the Rochester Diocese will work conjointly with public school officials in undertaking a preliminary canvass of school children and those of pre-school age as a preparation for possible evacuation from urban areas.

At a meeting in Albany last week of public and Catholic school superintendents it was made very clear by Mr. Weinhold of the State Council for Defense that evacuation had not yet been decided on as a matter of policy. It was emphasized, however, that a preliminary canvass and census is most necessary in the eventuality that orders for evacuation might be forthcoming from the War Department.

The general impression at the meeting was that evacuation would be ordered only in the case of sustained bombing of a particular locality.

It is expected as a result of the preliminary canvass that exact information will be obtained as to the number of school children and out-of-school children under 18 years of age. In the later group will be included pre-school children and others not attending school who are of school age, including the physically handicapped.

The census will likewise survey the religion of the child, whether Catholic, Jewish or Protestant, with a view to placing the children in homes of their own religious faith in the event of evacuation. An accompanying survey will be taken of localities and homes that might serve as evacuation centers.

Parents can aid in facilitating the survey by giving some thought to where they might privately evacuate their own children to relatives and friends in non-defense areas and by taking care that their children are included in the survey, especially parents of pre-school children.

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C. P. A. Opens Literary Contests In Press Month

ST. LOUIS — (N. C.) — Literary contests conducted through newspapers having membership in the Catholic Press Association have been announced as the 1942 competition sponsored by the Literary Awards Foundation of the C. P. A.

To be held during February—Catholic Press Month—the contests will offer three cash prizes for the best short story under 2,000 words in length, and a similar set of prizes for the newspaper feature article of an optional length. The Literary Awards Foundation announces that its primary purpose in conducting these contests is to encourage and develop fiction writers for the Catholic markets.

The contests will be open to all Catholic writers except those on the staffs of newspapers having membership in the C. P. A. The

entries will be judged according to the standards of short story and feature writing. Entries must be submitted by midnight of the last day in February, and no entry will be accepted which is opposed to Catholic philosophy or theology.

Deadline Set March 15

Those competing in the contests are to submit their short stories or feature articles to their respective diocesan papers. An individual may submit as many entries as he or she wishes. The individual newspaper, in turn, will submit the two best entries in each contest for national judging. The newspapers must submit these entries by midnight of March 15.

The Literary Awards Committee of the C. P. A. is composed of the Rev. Herbert O'H. Walker, S.J., Literary Editor of *The Queen's Work*, here, who is chairman; the Rev. Fred J. Kriebel, General Manager of *The Witness*, Dubuque, and Prof. J. L. O'Sullivan, Dean of the School of Journalism, Marquette University, Milwaukee. Each paper will submit its two best feature articles to Dean O'Sullivan.

It is the wish of the Literary Awards Committee, it is stated, that each newspaper give its own "slant" to the contests; delineate the types of stories and features it carries, their length, etc. It is believed that in this way, editors of the various newspapers can gauge the short story and feature-writing talent available to his publication, and at the same time interested persons can be well acquainted with the type of fiction and feature articles in which the paper may be interested. Through this plan, it was said, it is hoped to bring an immediate and direct benefit to each paper participating in the contest.

Papers submitted for national judging in each contest must be typed, double-spaced.

The committee will return to each paper, for use as it sees fit, the entries which it submits for national judging.

The committee announces that, if a paper desires, it may add further prizes of its own to the national awards; may conduct additional contests and give other prizes for seventh and eighth grade pupils; may add other features to the contests, such as awards for poetry, essays, cartoons, etc.

Rapp-Coudert Pair Draws K. of C. Praise

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y.—High praise for the work of the Rapp-Coudert Committee of the New York State legislature in unearthing subversive activities in the New York City school system, and an appeal for the continuation of the committee's efforts, were sounded in a letter to the leaders of the committee by Hugh A. Doyle, of New Rochelle, State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus.

The letter was addressed to Assemblyman Herbert Rapp and State Senator Frederic R. Coudert, Jr., and copies of it were sent to all members of the State Legislature.

The appeal for continuation of the committee's work was elicited by "press releases and other information" indicating that "a determined effort will be made to wind up the affairs of the Committee with which you have done such splendid work," Mr. Doyle's letter said.

Mr. Doyle said he spoke "on behalf of the 32,000 members of this Order, and their families in the State of New York, in commending the committee's work."

Former Solon Dies

Manchester, N. H.—Joseph Chevrete, well known Catholic layman and former State legislator, has died here at 72. Mr. Chevrete had served nine terms in the State Legislature's House of Representatives.

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