

Same Dangers Threaten Church, U. S. Says Coronation Speaker

Msgr. Ready's Address Delivered On Third Anniversary of Pope

WASHINGTON, (NC) - Perils presently besetting the liberty and way of life of the United States are the same that harass the Church and things Catholic throughout the world, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, declared here on March 12.

The occasion was the observance of the third anniversary of the coronation of His Holiness Pope Pius XII. Monsignor Ready delivered the sermon at the Solemn Mass celebrated in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of the Catholic University of America.

Monsignor Ready lauded Pope Pius XII as a providential Pontiff. He said the Holy Father's "brilliant qualities of mind and heart, as well as his outstanding experience in difficult service" well fitted him for "the tremendous responsibilities borne by the Servant of the Servants of God." "We can readily understand," he declared, "that the one person in all the world who, on March 12, 1939, understood the full gravity of that responsibility was Pius XII."

Papal Delegate Presides
His Excellency the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, presided at the Mass. The Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore and of Washington and Chancellor of the Catholic University of America, assisted from the throne. Four other members of the Hierarchy, members of the diplomatic corps, Senators, Representatives and other Government officials, and persons prominent in various other walks of life were in attendance.

They heard Monsignor Ready assert that "the liberty and institutions of our nation are threatened now by the same dominant, alien, materialistic ideas and by the same rampant totalitarian military forces which harass the Church and all the Church has built in the course of centuries."

"We have our own national sins to confess and to repent," Monsignor Ready said, "but thank God our nation as a nation still guards inviolate the rights of the Church to carry on with full liberty her own mission of salvation. This nation rejoices in the precious contribution to national life made by the millions of Catholic citizens in the cause of religion and education and mercy and social welfare. And the Church in the United States rejoices in her freedom and cherishes the opportunity to build up in this

ARRANGES PROGRAM



Timothy P. Galvin
Supreme Master Fourth Degree
Knights of Columbus

4th Degree Broadcast To Stress Spiritual Values In Wartime

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (NC) - Need of recalling to the minds of all our citizens the spiritual values which are involved in the war, and the great religious principles upon which our country was founded, are cited by Timothy P. Galvin, Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, as the reasons for the sponsorship by the Fourth Degree of a nationwide radio program, "America Fights for God-given Rights," to be heard Sunday night, Mar. 22, on the National Broadcasting Company network.

The program, originating at Station WEAJ, New York, at 10:30 P. M., Eastern War Time, will feature addresses by the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York; J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F. B. I., and Dean Clarence E. Manton of Law School, University of Notre Dame. Mr. Galvin arranged and will direct the program.

"The Fourth Degree is a particular group or section of the Knights of Columbus which is often referred to as the patriotic degree of the Knights of Columbus," Mr. Galvin said in announcing the program.

"It is but natural that an organization which has patriotism as its prime objective should be concerned about the difficulties that beset our country at the present time, and should be anxious to make some contribution to the cause of our country at this time."

Corregidor Priest Writes To Friends

PITTSBURGH - From behind the bomb-scarred ramparts of the fortress of Corregidor in the Philippine Islands, relatives here have received a letter from Capt. Herman C. Baumann, a priest of this Diocese, telling them that he has "suffered no hardships."

A graduate of Duquesne University, Father Baumann wrote to his mother, Mrs. Mary C. Baumann, saying:

"So far, I have suffered no hardships. I guess your worries and anxiety are actually much worse than being in the war. I am really feeling fine, have not lost any weight, and get plenty of sleep."

"As you know, most of my work is in hearing Confessions and saying Mass. I go to a different group every day, and the soldiers sure are glad to see a priest."

Named To School Post

SAN FRANCISCO - The Rev. Vincent L. Breen, who has spent the last three years in graduate studies at the Catholic University of America, has been appointed Assistant Superintendent of Schools of the Archdiocese, according to an announcement by the Most Rev. John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco.

Republic the Kingdom of God among men.

"This freedom gives us the blessed joy of standing loyally with the Holy Father in defense of the rights of the Church throughout the world. For the Catholic citizens of the United States yield to no people in devotion and generosity towards the Supreme Shepherd, the Common Father of the Children of the Church. We have an especially great love for Pope Pius XII and keep in proud memory his words of farewell after visiting our country: 'May God continue to bless this great nation. I admire the very good qualities of its people and the achievements of its leaders.'"

Blessings of Unity, Peace
"Amidst the present perils that beset the Church and Society, we humbly pray that far recurring anniversaries of this blessed day may merit from Pius and his successors a commendation on the quality of our loyalty to the Holy See and a praising word of friendship for the leaders of our Republic."

K. of C. To Sponsor Outdoor Way of Cross

INDIANAPOLIS - For the sixth year, the local council of the Knights of Columbus will sponsor an outdoor Way of the Cross here on Good Friday afternoon.

Held at the World War memorial, in the heart of the city, the service last year was attended by 15,000 people. The choir from St. Catherine's Church will sing the service this year, and the Cathedral Schola Cantorum will sing preceding the service. The whole service will be broadcast over Station WFBM.

'FLYING CHAPLAIN' FOR U. S. NAVY



Lt. (jg) Francis L. McGinn, U. S. N., of Great Neck, Long Island, Catholic Chaplain at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, one of the few "flying chaplains" in the United States Naval Reserve Force. He is a member of the Order of St. Benedict and began his flight training four years ago with a Civil Aeronautics Authority course in aviation. Official Navy photo. (NCWC.)

WOMAN, 102, DIES
Waukegan - Funeral services were held at St. Joseph's Church here for Mrs. Christina Fincutter, 102, oldest citizen in Lake County. She was buried in Ascension Cemetery which was once part of the Fincutter farm.

NEW BROADCAST
New York - Station WJAC of San Juan, Puerto Rico, is the latest outlet over which the "Sacred Heart Program" will be carried, according to the Rev. E. P. Murphy S.J., National Director of the program.

False Bible Suppression Charge, Cropping Up Again, Is Answered

By G. V. Service
ST. LOUIS - Perhaps the most frequently repeated charge leveled against the Catholic Church by its enemies the past four hundred years is its supposed suppression of the Bible. Time without number Catholic historians have refuted the contention, as have non-Catholic historians in more recent years.

Strange it is, therefore, to find the ghost come to life again, not in a hack publication or a presumably anti-Catholic paper but in The Guide Post, published for the Public Library of Cincinnati and distributed free of charge to the library's patrons. It is difficult to believe the article in question, on "Old Bibles," should have been inserted without deliberation or that it was dashed off merely to fill space.

Having referred to the Cincinnati Library's Rees Vidler Collection of rare old bibles as a prized and valued possession of the author, "K. E.," somewhat smugly informs his readers: "Up to the time of the Reformation, the history of the Bible in Western Europe was that of the Latin Vulgate alone. The earliest translators, editors, and printers of the Bible in English underwent persecution and often death when they introduced versions in the vernacular." Such a courageous spirit was Miles Coverdale, the author continues, "the translator of the first complete Bible printed in the English language . . ." One of these books, bearing the imprint Oct. 4, 1535, is included in the Ohio city's library.

Other Texts Found
Among the other biblical texts to be found in the Rees Vidler Collection is the Matthew Bible of 1537, containing much of William Tyndale's translations. Tyndale, it is said, "first printed the New Testament in English, several years before the Miles Coverdale Bible appeared."

Against the first statement, that Western Europe knew only the Latin Bible, let it be said that as long ago as 1919 the English Protestant scholar, R. A. Peck, reported after painstaking research that there existed, before 1500, no less than 15 printed editions of the Bible in German, 13 in Italian, 11 in French, two in Bohemian, one in Dutch, one in Spanish, and 124 in Latin. The Encyclopedia Bri-

tannica discloses that Venerable Bede, a Catholic saint, translated a portion of the gospels in England as early as the ninth century.

Other translations into the vernacular of the people of that country were made in the ninth and tenth centuries, before either the invention of printing or the use of paper in Europe. In the twelfth, thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries there were still other translations brought forth in England; these were in French because after the Norman invasion that language became prominent.

An authority on the subject, the late Fr. Herbert Thurston, declares that up to about 1400 there was no prose literature in English speech, and indeed no demand for it. Those who knew how to read and write were familiar with French and Latin and read scripture in those tongues. A non-Catholic authority, Dr. James Cairdner, member of the Church of England, quotes approvingly St. Thomas More's (1478-1535) statement in the latter's famous "Dialogue" that "the whole Bible was, long before Wycliffe's (d. 1384) days, by virtuous and well-learned men translated into the English tongue." Actually, the English people's acquaintance with the Bible in their

own tongue dates back to Caedmon's Bible paraphrases written in 870.

Hilaire Belloc points out that "any version in the language which we call today English would naturally be rather later than foreign versions because the English language was formed very late." And even Cranmer, the agent for the Catholic faith, responsible for the Great Bible of 1539 (a copy of which is in the Cincinnati library), admitted that the scriptures had been "translated and read in the Saxon's tongue which at that time was our mother tongue . . ." In point of fact, the Church stipulated only that vernacular Bibles should be approved before publication.

Omissions Cited
What "The Guide Post" forgot to say was that both Tyndale and Coverdale were apostate priests whose scriptural publications were grossly inaccurate and heretical, and were issued for political rather than religious reasons. Another factual omission by the magazine was that the persecution of both men was undertaken by Henry VIII after he had formally severed the allegiance of his country to the Holy See.

The article in the library journal implies that the people clamored for the scriptures denied them. Apparently the author is unfamiliar with the opinion of the Anglican scholar, J. E. Dore, who states that the English people did not buy the Coverdale Bible, even at a time when no restrictions were imposed upon its sale. "We must remember," Mr. Dore maintains, "that the universal desire for a Bible in England was read so much in most works on the subject, existed only in the imagination of the writers. So far from England then being 'a Bible-thirsty land,' there was no anxiety whatever for an English version at that time."

How such untruths as K. E. repeats in "The Guide Post" can be perpetuated in spite of refutation especially by learned non-Catholics—some of whom may even be unfavorably disposed toward the Church—is hard to fathom. Unless, that is, it is recognized that the Church's enemies are constantly on the lookout for ways to discredit her.

'Keep Them Praying' Slogan Offered Chaplains' Corps

WASHINGTON - "Keep Them Praying," a thought that has appeared frequently in the Circular Letters sent out from the office of Brigadier General William R. Arnold, Chief of Chaplains of the United States Army, is a suggested slogan for the Chaplains' Corps.

"Considering the deep religious significance of this war and remembering the President's request for prayer," Monsignor Arnold says in a communication to all chaplains, "I say to our chaplains with the men, 'Keep Them Praying.' Men ought always to pray. 'Keep Them Praying' and we shall win the war and a just peace."

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