

Fighting For 'Nobler Cause' Avers Monsignor Sheen

Two Great Phases of War Explained In Auburn Talk By Noted Radio Orator

By Maryrose Barron

AUBURN — Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen came, saw and conquered, the 1600 people who filled East High School Auditorium to capacity on Sunday evening to hear his timely address on "Religion in a World at War."

His winning personality reached out, captured and held the rapt attention of his listeners and his deep thought provoking discussion of world affairs won the admiration and esteem of countless Catholics, Protestants and Jews who came to hear the Monsignor whose voice had thrilled them for many years in his radio lectures. He received the tremendous ovation accorded him with sincere charm and simplicity that will live long in the memory of Auburnians.

Possessed of all the gifts that God can bestow on man, Monsignor Sheen is the outstanding orator and philosopher of the modern world.

The Monsignor was introduced by Mr. Frank J. Leach an outstanding Catholic layman of the City of Auburn who gave a brief sketch of the famed lecture's life. Preceding the talk there was a recital composed of piano, violin and cellist. Miss Mary Day was the pianist, Mr. Harold Henderson the violinist and Mr. Paul de Bourg the cellist.

"Nobler Cause"

In opening his address Monsignor Sheen said, "If I were asked to choose another title for my talk it might be 'What are we fighting for?' and I would answer that question by saying 'We are fighting for a nobler cause than we know for a nobler cause than we deserve.'" During the course of his address he led up to his meaning of this answer.

"There are two great phases in the world. One is the war; the other is the revolution. War involves nations and alliances; the revolution involves ideas. War moves on a horizontal plane of men and treaties and revolution on the vertical plane of ideology. The revolution is the more important for the war is only an episode in the revolution. It is possible for nations to fight on the same side of the revolution. Russia is at present on our side of the war but she is not on our side of the revolution. Please God she may be one day."

Predicts Change

Tracing the different eras in world history the Monsignor said, "There is a revolution in this country today because we are at the end of an era of history. When it began is not important. In any case it is at an end and we will be amazed at the transformation which will take place in America in the next twenty years. It will be so different—economically, politically and socially."

"This era is the era of the individualist one close to selfishness. The revolution began with isolation from the spiritual community or the church. Then came the political aspect and this began with freedom that false definition of freedom—the right to do what you please. Certainly, you can do whatever you please, but ought you? Freedom doesn't mean to do what you please but rather to do what you ought. You may shoot your neighbor's chickens with a gun, but ought you? From this came the economic or era of profit and wealth, in which man said 'I own this property. I can do with it whatever I please. I have no state, no church to tell me what to do with it.' That view was wrong. For example, you have the right to a wine cellar but you may not use it as you please. You may not put your neighbor in a state of amiable incandescence."

"Thus we had the first world war, and when it ended we were no better. For at its close we built a world without divine help—the League of Nations. Numberable treaties were signed in eleven months. In fact there were enough signed to last until the end of the world, but the signatories did not believe in what they signed. Thus

the world was no better and it went on just as it had before the war.

Clashes Ideas

"Something happened? The defeated nations started a revolution. Germany, Russia and Italy being classified as the defeated nations had a head of sympathy and set about to find a system whereby the individual would be subjugated to the common good. Italy was on the side of the allies but she was dissatisfied because she did not receive her bounty from Great Britain. These nations had ideas which were good but their solution was wrong; they were right in their ideas but they went to the extreme and started a new revolution. From these causes there developed Nazism, Communism and Fascism."

The speaker continued his address by saying that the revolution which developed from the first world war had three points to be considered and that in describing Nazism the examples he used would also apply to Communism and Fascism.

Monsignor Sheen said, "This revolution is a religion—a religion founded in direct opposition to Christianity. First, the individual man is worthless; secondly, only a totalitarianism has value; and lastly, evil is the means and end of the revolutionist. This religion was founded in opposition to religion which meant dependence on God and to private property which meant dependence upon the employer."

In illustrating that the party is everything; the individual nothing he referred to the late Heyward Brown who verified this statement with his story of a member of the party. "Sick and unable to assist with the activities, the party member applied for help and was told that as an individual he had no value and since he could no longer work for the party, the party could do nothing for him. Mr. Brown was obliged to take care of the man until his death."

Germany's Belief

At this point in the lecture Monsignor Sheen traced the history of Germany from the year 1848 and continuing he said, "Hitler says you cannot understand Nazism unless you understand Wagner. The Germans believe that the German race is the supreme race of the world and while Wagner may not have originated this belief, he popularized it. In 1868 Hitler officially commanded that the operas of Wagner which glorified the German race be played in all the opera houses in Germany." For Hitler says "Germany was not defeated in 1914-1918 and Germany will never be defeated. Germany can take all but the stab in the back which is Hitler's language and stands for the treaty of Versailles."

"The world has rejected Christianity," he said. "For you cannot refuse the dogma of Christianity and live up to its morals. There is a new religion sweeping the world today—that which we are fighting today and that religion is made up of these three aspects which resulted from the first world war namely, the individual man is worthless, only totalitarianism has value and evil is the means and end of life."

"Has this religion power? Has it strength? It has tremendous power and we in America have not yet realized what power it has! These nations believe in their religion absolutely. They are prepared to make sacrifices for it. That is why the young men of Hitler's army ask that their tomb stones read 'He died in peace with Hitler.' When a man believes in anything absolutely, he will fight for it."

"How can we overcome that religion? I will tell you how you can not! We cannot overcome it by keeping the old order as it is! Hitler has tremendous power in South

SPEAKER



Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen

CHAIRMAN



Frank J. Leach

America and unfortunately came in our own country. We can not go before nations with our present ideas which have helped to produce a Hitler. We must go to them with new ideas based on sound principles. Hitler's idea can not be overcome by an old order; can not be overcome by force for you can overcome an idea only by a contrary idea. We are not fighting to preserve an Empire, but to bring a new world into being, a restoration of the things that are worth dying for."

Places Name

The present state of affairs can be blamed on the press, the movies and our schools of modern thought, was Monsignor Sheen's declaration. Our boys believe they are fighting in defense of the absolute truth. When Colin Kelly dove his plane into a Japanese warship he was not motivated by an opinion, for men do not die for an opinion. Kelly believed in the absolute truth. I believe in it and the men in the fighting forces believe in it. But we can not send a man to die for the truth and on the home front deny that there is truth. If there is no difference between good and evil, how can Hitler be wrong and we be right. Once Harry Elmer Barnes compared men to a cockroach. If this be so, what are we fighting for? If a man has a soul, then there is something to fight for. These men believe in the individual man. What we need is an absolute truth; a belief in something good. Hitler is believing in something evil."

"William James of Harvard taught that there was no such thing as truth. What is useful is truth; if it works, it is truth he said. But that belief is dead now, thank God, and we know the day it died. It died on December 31st.

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Qualified As Nurses' Aides 12 Volunteers Graduated

AUBURN — Caps and pins were presented Sunday at Mercy Hospital Nurses Residence by twelve young women who have completed the Nurses' Aid Course under the direction of the Auburn Chapter of the American Red Cross.

These women were capped as Nurses' Aides and will begin duty immediately at Mercy Hospital. They have completed a course of 20 hours of training given by Sister Marie Celeste, R. N., and are now required to give 100 hours of service to the community and hospital or where called upon to serve.

Nurses Aides were given blue uniforms with caps of the same shade and a white blouse. Each has received her official Red Cross Certificate. Her pin and cap bear the Nurses' Aid insignia as does the dress of her blouse.

Those who have successfully completed the course and the Red Cross Examination are as follows:

Miss Virginia Grant, Mrs. M. M. Corwick Wilson, Miss Mary Lantford, Mrs. J. Lawczak, Miss Cecelia Dolan, Miss Dorothy Ricketts, Miss Eleanor Donahue, Miss Patricia Evans, Miss Irene Heiseck, Miss Nora Graceffo, Miss Joan Wright, and Mrs. Polly Ryker.

The caps were presented to the graduates by Mrs. Lester Dewey. Before the exercises the class gave a demonstration at the hospital in Nurses' Aides procedure. At the conclusion of the program tea was served.

Fourth of Faculty

New York—The Rev. Dominick Zema, S.J., has been appointed Head of the Department of History in the Graduate School of Fordham University, succeeding Dr. Jeremiah F. O'Sullivan, who has become a Captain in the Army Air Corps. Dr. O'Sullivan is the fourth member of the Graduate faculty at Fordham to enter the armed forces of the United States.

P is for Plodge; Q is for Quack. Keep your War Bond Plodge and

HOLY FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS

By Mary Ellen Fitzgerald SENIOR-JUNIOR BALL

AUBURN — The Holy Family, under the leadership of Father, New York, and his orchestra, will furnish the music for the Annual Senior-Junior Ball to be held at the Holy Family High School auditorium on Friday, May 28. The ball, sponsored by the activities of the school, is expected to be a successful and profitable affair. Dancing will begin at nine and continue until 1 o'clock.

William Farrell, the Senior class president, is chairman of the event, assisted by Co-chairmen John Hennessy, vice president of the Senior class. Various committees have been selected from the Senior and Junior classes, headed by the following: Cabinet, Paul Docherty, advertising, Frank Spencer and Margaret Dorn, Mrs. John Pausley and Theodore Malone.

The entire association committee consists of the following students: William Doyle, Raymond Wall, Betty Casey, James Quinn, Patricia Kenny, William Delaney, Jack Coughlin, John Curtis, Thomas O'Brien, James Delaney, Albertine Mohan and Mary Cernady. The patron committee is under the direction of Katherine Cutler, the patroness and patronage to be announced later in the local newspaper.

Labor Inspector

Quits Building. The Ministry of Social Security and Labor has announced the appointment of the Rev. J. A. Vanover, A.M., pastor at Uxbridge, Province of Pictou, as labor inspector in that locality.

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