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Catholics Back 'Heroes' Rally



CATHOLIC COURIER Staff Photo

FIRST SERVICE INSTITUTE for Catholic women volunteers brought to Rochester Diocese these leaders in the field of charity and Catholic women's organization.

Nazi Church Attacks Incense Soldiers At Front Says Prelate

Famous generals and heroes among Germany's fighting forces at the front are highly indignant that "in spite of the enormous sacrifices which they are making as Christian soldiers, their religious convictions and their Church are continually attacked at home."

Authentic accounts of religious persecution from dictator-ridden lands continue to come. "Freedom of Religion," the traditional right in these United States is a freedom to be defended.

in Breisgau, has declared in a letter to the Nazi Minister of Culture and Public Education at Karlsruhe, Baden, protesting against the persecution of his clergy.

(Text of Archbishop Groeber's letter, furnished by the N. C. W. U. News Service, appears on Page 2.)

The Archbishop's letter, written in reply to one from the Nazi official, who had accused the prelate of disloyalty, asserted that the real traitors to the German Reich are those who "started and who maintain with fanaticism this hateful division of the German people, who, profiting by the absence of the men in the war, seek to destroy Christianity and the Church."

Will Continue Protest "If the State wishes to regard me as an enemy of the Fatherland or as a traitor because I am pleading publicly for Catholic education and Catholic principles," Archbishop Groeber wrote, "it is free to do so. But in that event the State is going beyond its competence and this injustice will hurt authority itself."

In his letter, an authentic copy of which has been received in this country, the courageous German prelate declared that even were he facing execution he would continue his protests, since he is certain that he is "responsible for German Christians to the Supreme Judge, eternal and just, before Whom will appear also, some day, those who are attacking us."

ADDRESS GRADUATES Hooksett, N. H. The Most Rev. John B. Peterson, Bishop of Manchester, and Gov. Robert O. Hood of New Hampshire addressed the eighty-second annual commencement at Mt. St. Mary Academy

Help Spur Bond Sale; Make Parish Survey Of Men In Service

Elmira Catholic business men cooperated in the American Heroes Day rally Thursday sponsored by the Association of Commerce Retail Division.

They served in prominent capacities on the committees which arranged the parade and rally at Dunn Field as part of the program to raise \$250,000 in war bond sales to purchase a Flying Fortress in the July "Retailer for Victory" drive.

The Knights of Columbus participated in the parade as a group and members of the Council and of other Catholic organizations marched with the air observers, air raid wardens, auxiliary policemen and firemen and other defense groups.

Coincidental with the celebration of Heroes Day a preliminary survey of the Catholic parishes of Chemung County shows that there are at least 500 Catholic young men serving in the various branches of the armed services of the United States.

The parishes have conducted the

survey in response to the appeal of the Most Rev. James E. Keane for complete data on the number of Catholics serving their country in the war.

The returns of the larger parishes have not been completed. Those with nearly complete returns to date show the following reports:

- St. Dominic's
St. Anthony's
St. Peter and Paul's
St. Charles Borromeo
St. Cecilia's

Several hundred in St. Patrick's and St. Mary's parishes are believed in the service and with complete records from all the parishes the total may reach close to 1,000.

Parents and relatives of men in the service are urged to report their information to the various pastors in order to complete the records without delay.

K. of C. To Give Missal To Each Chemung County Catholic Off To War

A Missal will be presented every Catholic entering the armed services from Chemung County by Elmira Council, Knights of Columbus, under a program drafted by the local K. of C. officers.

A committee headed by Charles F. Kramer, chancellor, will direct supervision of the Missals, and will confer with the Mayor's committee in charge of farewell celebrations

for soldiers and sailors to have the presentations made at the time of the official civic exercises.

An initial purchase of 500 Missals has been ordered.

This action of the Knights was decided upon Sunday, when the newly-elected and appointed members of the Council met by Grand Knight Basil J. Villancourt, inaugurated their administration by attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion in a group at St. Anthony's church. The Rev. Bernard G. Hanna, pastor of St. Anthony's, has been appointed Council chaplain to succeed the Rev. Raymond G. Heisel, recently transferred to Rochester.

Breakfast was served in the parish hall by members of the Young Ladies Sodality.

Following the breakfast a general discussion took place in which the spiritual activities of the Council were outlined.

It was decided to sponsor a Council retreat at the new diocesan retreat house of Our Lady of the Lake at Geneva. Father Hanna was requested to work dates on which a weekend retreat may be conducted and to make all arrangements.

Grand Knight Villancourt announced that the custom of the Memorial service for deceased members would be resumed in November, the month of All Souls.

The officers who took part in Sunday's discussions included Father Hanna, and Grand Knight Villancourt, John T. Nugent, past grand knight; Edward C. J. Mack, deputy grand knight; Charles F. Kramer, chancellor; Thomas J. Hanlon, warden; William H. Osborne, financial secretary; Edmund McClellan, recording secretary; Francis O'Brien, treasurer; Henry B. Farrell, pastor; John C. Benson, outside guard; Eugene F. Ryan, lecturer; Marvin E. Johnson, sewing chairman; and Charles Curran, custodian.

Catholic Book Club Makes July Selection

NEW YORK.—"Living Upstairs: Reading for Profit and Pleasure," by Francis Mehan, is the Catholic Book Club selection for July, it is announced in the club's current Newsletter.

As indicated by the subtitle, Mr. Mehan's work is an introduction, informal and non-academic, to the great literature of the centuries. With Mr. Mehan "we learn what the 'kingdom of the mind' really is," writes Sterna Cunningham in the Newsletter review: "that it is not merely a place to retreat from disastrous headlines, unpleasant experiences; but some place where our better selves serenely plan for the future."

Plan Institute For Catholic Volunteers

By Mary E. Fitzgerald

Plans for the all day Institute, on Friday, July 17, which is one of a series of four to be held in key cities in the Rochester Diocese during the week were completed on Sunday, July 12 when the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. O'Grady, Secretary of the National Catholic Conference of Social Work, came to Elmira to confer with local leaders.

Deny Report Cardinal Will Travel Abroad

VATICAN CITY.—The reports circulated abroad that His Eminence Luigi Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State, is about to visit various countries, including England, is said at the Vatican to be entirely without foundation.

A secular press report printed in the United States, quoting a Swiss source, said the suggestion was made that "Vatican diplomacy may take a more active part in world politics." It said the Swiss source mentioned "the coming trip abroad of the Papal Secretary of State, Luigi Cardinal Maglione with London as one of his goals."

SERVICE CHAPLAINS PAID TRIBUTE IN CAMP PAPER

GARDNER FIELD, Cal.—High tribute was paid service chaplains in an article in the camp paper here. Flight Dispatcher, which reviewed the work of Father Edward J. McCormick, Catholic chaplain at this post.

Written by a private, the article said chaplains probably do more for the enlisted personnel than any other officer and deserve great credit for their trying tasks.

Father McCormick is a priest of the Little Rock Diocese and before coming here was pastor of Mary Immaculate Church, Hoxie, Ark.

The secret of happiness is to think and as much as possible about others.

Build Chapel From Shipwreck Lumber

SAN DIEGO.—Well-seasoned lumber from a ship wrecked many years ago on some Australian shore has become a very practical Catholic chapel for American soldiers stationed there, who built it in their "few free hours" with the aid of their chaplain.

Chapel facilities were the first thought of Father Kenneth G. Stack, United States Army chaplain after his arrival in Australia, but in a country keyed to war the dearth of tools and lumber to build it was a serious problem.

One saw, two hammers, a square and a spirit level "were all the tools we had and we considered

ourselves lucky to get them," Father Stack wrote in his most recent letter to the Most Rev. Charles F. Euddy, Bishop of his home See of San Diego.

"We had no lumber and no prospect of getting any so we scouted around and nature came to the rescue," he said. "Many years ago a ship was wrecked on these shores and most of the lumber washed ashore so in our few free hours we hauled and hauled until we had enough to build the church."

"Nature had already seasoned the wood and we did the rest. The altar is made of matched mahogany on which we carved a Celtic

Cross and an Alpha and Omega and then we made our own stain out of gasoline and tar. The whole effect is beautiful as the altar contrasts strikingly with the antique effect of the interior walls. These we left in their seasoned, weather-beaten condition."

Because a church large enough for the usual Sunday attendance would be "a fine target for our Japanese brethren," a small structure with sliding doors was built. Thus on weekdays the church becomes a private chapel, accommodating about 40, for the soldiers' personal visits to the Blessed Sacrament, Father Stack said.