

# FSA Aid To Low-Income Farmers Outlined To 100 Rural Priests

COLLEGEVILLE, Minn. "Our democracy must be based on a very deep faith in people, and all our experience with disadvantaged citizens has indicated that they are worthy of all the faith and all the help we can give them," said C. B. Baldwin, National Administrator of the Farm Security Administration, to more than a 100 rural priests and lay leaders representing 13 dioceses and eleven States, who assembled at St. John's University here for the Fourth Rural Life School of the summer sponsored by the National Catholic Rural Life Conference.

Mr. Baldwin told how the Farm Security Administration is trying to achieve social stability for low income farmers. "We have set up literally thousands of small machinery cooperatives, one of the best means to protect the small family type farm, which is a farm of such size and of such facility that a diligent farm family can operate it without any outside assistance," he said.

Mr. Baldwin spent two days with the rural priests at St. John's pointing out ways in which FSA can work with rural priests and leaders for the rehabilitation of disadvantaged farm people.

"FSA has had to be the spokesman for the low income farmers," he asserted. "We are endeavoring to give them an outlet for self-expression that they have been lacking; we want to give them dignity. We want to make it possible for farmers to live the way they want to live, and I believe that the FSA rehabilitation program is one of the most effective forms of relief that has been experimented with. It rebuilds people instead of merely keeping them on relief."

The Most Rev. Aloisius J. Muench, Bishop of Fargo, President of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, highlighted the opening day by outlining methods of religious instruction in rural parishes. The philosophy behind the rural life movement was presented by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. L. G. Ligutti, Executive Secretary of the Conference, in various talks throughout the week. Closing the school last Friday Monsignor Ligutti stated that the conference is hoping to arrange schools for nuns in order to train them for rural teaching.

The most Rev. Peter W. Bartholome, Coadjutor Bishop of St. Cloud, and the Rt. Rev. Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B., Abbot of St. John's Abbey, both laid special emphasis on the spiritual advantages of rural living.

Aside from the varied discussions there were diversified forms of active participation. Some of the women in attendance received lessons in weaving from Edward F. Worst, of Lockport, Ill., an international authority on weaving.

## Degree Awarded

VILLANOVA The honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, was conferred on the Very Rev. Joseph A. Hickey, O.S.A., Assistant General of the Augustinian Order, at summer commencement exercises marking the completion of the annual Summer Session of Villanova College. At the same time, eighty degrees in course were awarded to graduates.

## College Schedule

PROVIDENCE—Providence College has chosen Wednesday, Aug. 26, for the closing of the summer trimester and Wednesday, Sept. 23, for the opening of the fall trimester, so as to enable students to avoid weekend traffic.

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One-half billion dollars has been spent by Axis on religious propaganda in religious leaders, under whose auspices religious "Peace Chants" and "Hours of Prayer" are produced, services to make NBS religious programs a more effective fighting force for Victory. L. to r.: Rev. John J. McClefferty of staff of Catholic Charities, who assists Rt. Rev. Monsignor Robert F. Keegan; Dr. Samuel McGraw Cavert, General Secretary of Federal Council of Churches; S. Palmer Lewis, Sec'y, Christian Science Com. on Publications of N. Y. State; and Dr. Israel Goldstein, Pres. of Synagogue Council of America.

# Labor Issue Looms

By Elmer Murphy

WASHINGTON—(N. C.)—The question of labor is casting a lengthening shadow over Washington. It appears in the wage controversies coming before the War Labor Board,

in the practice known as "pirating," by which one employer entices workers away from another, and in the proposal to shift employes away from one field of labor to another to expedite war production. One of the most recent proposals of this kind is the shifting of gold miners to the copper mines.

The problem has many phases. It brings up the question of labor supply, conditions of work and wages, and the authority of the Government to regulate them. The importance of manpower in productive industry has become secondary only to manpower on the fighting fronts.

So far the Government has been reluctant to curtail the right of workers to work when, where and how they please and for wages that will be acceptable to them. It has followed the rule of dealing with wage questions piecemeal. No general wage standards have been set up. Each case is considered separately. About the only definite policy is that the workers shall have a decent living but that is a vague formula which depends upon a good many things. The trouble is that wages—labor costs—are all tangled up with price fixing, price ceilings and anti-inflation measures. The merchant and manufac-

turer find that while prices are held down, wages can still go up and sometimes the margin between them gets unacceptably small.

Neither has the attempt to hook up wage increases with the cost of living, on a sliding scale arrangement, been very successful. The complaint is frequently made that under this plan the industrial worker is not expected to make any sacrifice by contributing to war production while the men who do the actual fighting are and the consumer feels the pinch. He cannot increase his income to offset increased prices.

It is doubtful that the Government will change its labor policies. One argument against it is that there is no need to change them. Labor, on the whole, is doing a good job and the delays due to strikes are very few. But it is to be expected that, as the war goes on, there will be more "directives." There will be more regimentation—not only for labor but for everybody. The worker will be assigned to his task and there is a bare possibility that as time goes on some sort of ceiling may be imposed on wages.

For example, the Senate has before it a bill which would authorize the Civil Service Commission to transfer government personnel from peacetime to war agencies, "with or without the consent of the employer." This is akin to the proposal to shift workers from gold mines to copper mines because copper is much more needed at the moment than gold. It is so badly needed, as a matter of fact, that the War Production Board has halted construction of fifteen par-The Very Rev. Dr. Paul Kalkscherry has been named General Secretary.

We must have a great veneration for the truth, for it is the truth which frees us from our passions and leads us to God.

# To Win War, Make Selves Spiritually Fit For God's Army, Urges Bishop

DICK MORRIS, Jr., Americanism must make themselves spiritually fit to be in God's army. The Most Rev. Gerald T. Bergan, Bishop of Des Moines, declared in an address before 2,000 Des Moines men and women in Drake Stadium here. He spoke at a demonstration which marked the climax of a three-day observance in honor of the nation's heroes sponsored by the National

War Activities Committee. "If we wish to win this war we must get on God's side, and we do that only when we make ourselves spiritually fit to be in His army," Bishop Bergan said.

"This war will be won not alone by superior numbers of men and tanks and planes," the bishop said, "but most of all by the nation that spends most time on their knees. We may think that the program will be slow, but we never retreat when we kneel in prayer."

## Bishop Asks Full Government Backing

MEXICO CITY—The Most Rev. Bernabé María Rivera, Bishop of Tamaulipas, has called upon the people to "lay aside all doubts" and to support the Government of President Manuel Ávila Camacho in these crucial times. Bishop Rivera quoted and endorsed the statements made from Mexico City by the Most Rev. Luis M. Marín, Primate of Mexico, and added his personal appeal for unity, harmony and patriotic cooperation with the Government "in every sense."

## Frank Cartella Dies In Hornell R. R. Yard

HORNELL—Frank Cartella, 35 East Ave., Elmira, N. Y., died unexpectedly, MONDAY, AUG. 17, 1942 in the eastbound Erie R. R. yard.

Survivors are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Cartella; three brothers, Julia, Peter, and Carl; one sister, four sisters, May, Rose, Angeline and Josephine; all living.

Funeral Mass, Thursday, Aug. 20, 8 P. M., St. Anna's Church, Hornell. Burial in St. Anna's Cemetery.

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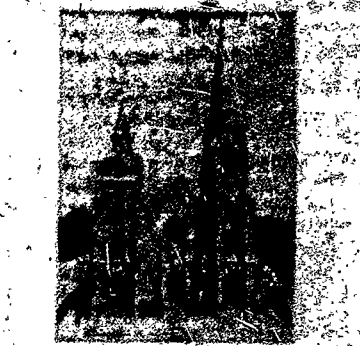
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