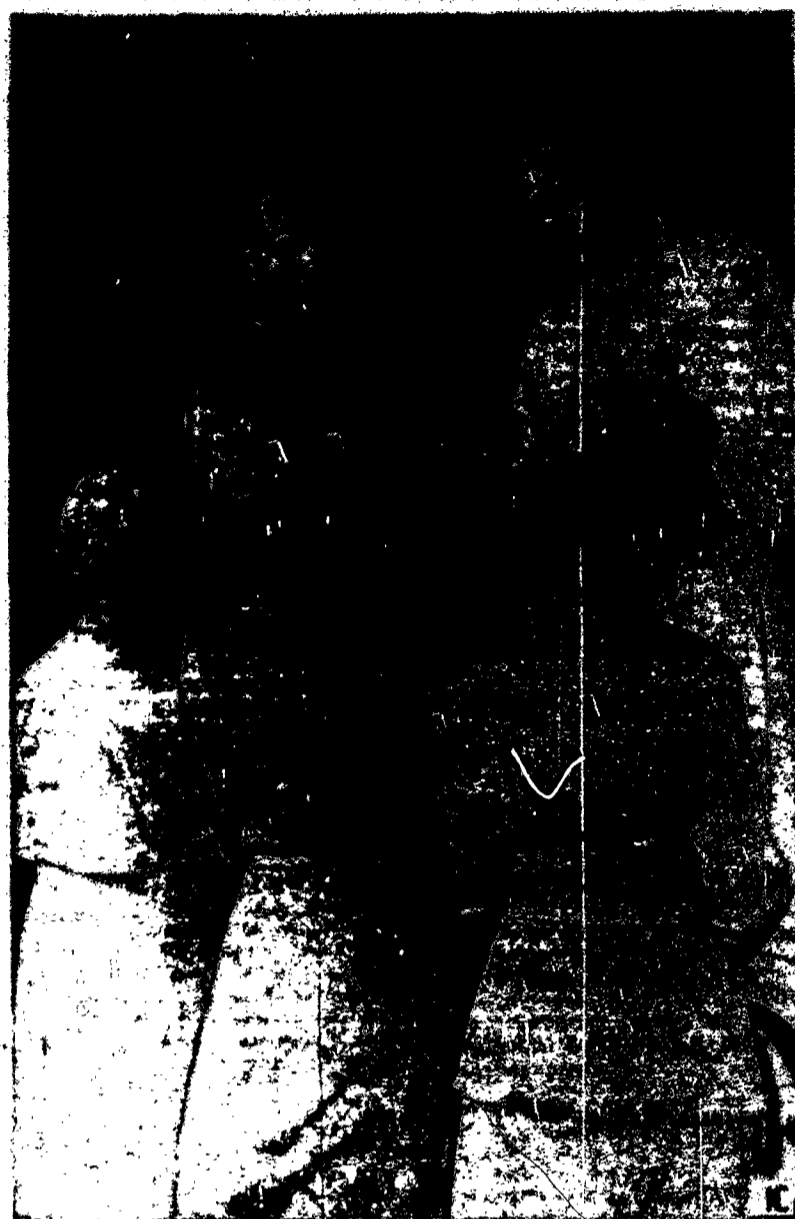


Congressmen Hit Out At Proposal To Tax Religious Institutions



WAAC Officer Candidates receive Holy Communion from the hands of Post Chaplain Urban J. Beer at Fort Des Moines, Ia. Of the 1,800 members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, enrolled early in September, more than 300 are Catholics. (N.C.W.C.)

U. S. Catholics Join Prayers For Merchant Marine

WASHINGTON — (N. C.) — Catholics throughout the United States will join with their fellow-Americans in prayers on Sunday, September 27, for the men of the Merchant Marine on the occasion of the anniversary of the launching of the first "liberty ship" in what has been designated as America's "Victory Fleet."

A communication from Admiral Emory S. Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, has been transmitted by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready.

General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, to the Ordinaries of Dioceses throughout the country.

In his communication, Admiral Land noted that the men of the Merchant Marine are making a most vital contribution not only to the war effort of the United Nations, but to relief and assistance for civilian populations in the far-flung war areas. "It is our feeling," Admiral Land wrote, "that no recognition of their services would be complete unless the churches of our country are associated with that recognition."

Victory Fleet Day, Sept. 27, will mark the first anniversary of the launching of the No. 1 Liberty Ship, the "Patrick Henry," and 12 other merchant vessels. The anniversary marks the end of a year of unprecedented achievement by American shipbuilders and finds the United States nearing the peak of production in the greatest merchant shipbuilding program in world history. Records of the Maritime Commission show that a shipbuilding capacity far greater than that of all of the rest of the world combined has been created.

Including merchant vessels that are to be put into service on Sept. 27, American shipyards have produced and put into wartime operation a total of 478 ships of nearly 3,200,000 deadweight tons in twelve months. Of this number 28 but 29, or a total of 457 ships have come from the shipyards since Jan. 1. The goal of three ships a day was reached this month, 46 days ahead of Maritime Commission estimates at the beginning of the year.

Franciscan Joins

Washington, D. C.—Father Patrick Coyne, O.F.M., of the Convent of the Holy Land at the Franciscan Monastery here, has been accepted as a chaplain in the United States Army and assigned to the Chaplains' School at Harvard University.

WASHINGTON — (N. C.)

Attempts to levy taxes against religious, charitable and educational institutions were roundly condemned this week by two Members of Congress, one of whom charged that some persons were seeking to escape their proper responsibilities by diverting attention to these institutions.

Both Congressmen are members of a sub-committee of the District of Columbia Committee of the House of Representatives, which has been holding heated, intensive hearings on a bill introduced by Representative John P. Hunter of Ohio to clarify the tax-exempt status of religious, educational and charitable institutions in the National Capital. Both agreed that precedents in the City of Washington are likely to be followed throughout the various States and they called for the matter to be settled here on a basis of reason and justice.

The situation in Washington has become one of great urgency because municipal officials, acting upon their interpretation of the present tax law, have recently placed on the tax rolls of the District many religious, charitable and educational properties which heretofore have been exempt. Appearing at the direction of the Administrative Board of Bishops of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, General Secretary of the N. C. W. C., has held committee of both the Senate and the House that Catholics of the United States are "alarmed over this question of taxation."

Tax Opposed by Chairman

Representative Hunter, Chairman of the District sub-committee, is one of those deploring the placing of religious, charitable and educational institutions on the tax rolls, and Monsignor Ready addressed to him at the hearings on Tuesday "an expression of deep gratitude for his 'first introducing a bill to protect as well as to clarify the tax-exempt status of religious institutions of mercy and education."

Representative William T. Schulte of Indiana saw in these recent maneuverings an attempt by "certain individuals to relieve certain citizens from paying their just debt and an attempt made to saddle it on such institutions." The Congressman said several attempts had been made to tax similar institutions in Indiana, and he warned that a precedent set here might be followed elsewhere.

Representative Schulte said that if religious, charitable and educational institutions were to be taxed, it would eventually result in the important work now conducted by these institutions being thrown back on the States, creating new burdens for the taxpayers.

Thousands of children are educated each year in the parochial schools of the District of Columbia, "while their parents also contribute to the support of the public school system," Representative Schulte pointed out. "The parochial school system relieves the District taxpayers of at least \$1,000,000 additional taxes a year in the cost of new schools, teachers, textbooks and maintenance," he declared.

Monsignor Ready had brought strikingly to the attention of the Committee the remarks of President Roosevelt of Jan. 4, 1941, when the Chief Executive declared that religion is the first of the "three institutions indispensable to Americans," and that "the defense of religion, of democracy, and of good faith among nations is all the same fight." The Monsignor pointed out that "the imposition of new financial burdens in the form of taxes would be a very effective way to hinder the efficiency of the agencies and institutions which nourish and promote religion, and would thereby injure the source and strength of our democratic system."



My dear People:

With the opening of our Seminary comes my responsibility of appealing to you once again for the financial help necessary to maintain our institutions dedicated to the preparation of our priesthood.

You can readily understand that the large loss of men now serving the country takes from our parish a number of our regular contributors to this collection, and that I am accordingly deeply concerned that there be a generous response from those who remain. Furthermore, the return from investments in a year now world is far below what was expected when our houses and scholarships were established. Yet the work must go on. We must have educated priests capable of meeting the tremendous demands that will be made upon us after the war.

St. Bernard's Seminary is magnificently represented by being for our men in service from General Arnold, Chief of Chaplains, down through the ranks of Army, Navy and Air Corps Chaplains. Rochester may well be proud of the reputation of its seminaries. To each generation comes the responsibility of keeping faith with the past and maintaining that reputation.

Each parish of the diocese is assigned a definite quota based upon the minimum budget for our two seminaries. If every man corner will give at least two dollars to this collection, it will be possible for the pastor to meet his obligation with the ease of a feather.

May I, at this time, urge that our people in preparing their wills, keep in mind our Seminary. I can think of no more salutary act, than to provide for the education of a priest for the Abba of God. It is almost impossible to conceive the rich spiritual heritage of such a bequest.

Finally, let me say that there is no work closer to the heart of Christ than the preparation of His Apostles. A generous contribution to that work will surely bring unmeasured blessings. Thoroughly confident of your continued generosity to this important cause, I am

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,

John E. Kearney
BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

Elmira Degree Draws High K. C. Leaders

A distinguished list of Knights of Columbus leaders will attend the exemplification of the Fourth Degree, Patriotic Section of the Knights of Columbus at Elmira, Sunday, Sept. 27.

The impressive ritual based on a religious and patriotic theme will open at 2 P. M. in the Deane Memorial Auditorium, St. Joseph's Hospital. The degree work will be in charge of Cyril J. Mast, Master.

"America Fights for God gives Rights" adopted as a theme for Fourth Degree American activity wherever established will be the theme of the banquet program.

Visiting leaders will be entertained at a Bridge Tea on Sunday afternoon by the Grand Lodge, Elmira.

Committees of Grand Assembly arranging for the degree and banquet are headed by General Chairman Henry P. Farrell.

Assisting are: Degree and Degree Equipment, John Hagan, Degree Class, John Schneider, Dinner and Banquet, Dennis E. Lewis, C. Mark, Reception, Harry J. Laguarda, Ladies Entertainment, Mrs. William A. McCarthy.

The Rev. Joseph E. Vogt, Father of the Holy Spirit, will officiate at the degree and banquet and the Rev. Raymond G. Moran, Chaplain of Rochester Council, will participate in the degree work.



Joseph F. Lamb

of the Fifth District, competing the area covered by the Diocese of Rochester.

Guests of honor who will attend the degree and a dinner for the 400 Knights and Ladies following in Mark Twain Hotel will be: Supreme Master, George F. Galvin, Hammond, Ind.; Vice Supreme Master, Alfred A. McLaughlin, Washington, D. C.; Supreme Secretary of the Knights of Columbus, Joseph F. Lamb, New Haven, Conn.; State Deputy, Hugh A. Doyle, New Rochelle; Andrew McCreedy, Master, Second New York District, New York City.

Treasurer for the banquet at 4:30 P. M. will be Cornelius J. Miller.



Cyril J. Mast

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