

Bishop Exhorts All Out Effort In War In Columbus Day Address

"We are all at war" — all peoples, — beneficiaries of the discovery of America in God's Holy Name. By Columbus "450 Years Ago" were called upon to pledge to keep it "God's Country" by His Excellency, the Most Rev. James E. Keane, in an address marking the 450th Anniversary of America's discovery at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Day night.

Bishop Kearney, state chaplain of the K. of C., was the speaker at a joint celebration attended by 500 persons and sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the Italian-American Civic League and Rochester Council Knights of Columbus.

"In these exercises in which we are participating today we are memorializing the first great event in the history of the land we love, an event which in its far-reaching consequences to humanity the world over is transcended in importance by but one other incident

in history of mankind—the birth of His Savior."

His Excellency recounted the adventurous and momentous voyage of Columbus and cited the deeply religious faith which had carried the mariner through to his goal. "Land of Opportunity"

"He had found a continent where centuries later the greatest nation of modern times would arise, a country where popular liberty flourishes, conferring on its citizens, conservatism without bigotry, liberty without license, where education is open to everyone, where colleges, schools and libraries dot every hillside, a nation which justly earned its traditional title, 'The land of opportunity,'" the Bishop declared.

"After 450 years we and ourselves in mortal combat with forces which seek to destroy these very principles which made America the land of opportunity, the land of the free," His Excellency asserted.

"When the war began there was

tendency in many neutral quarters to minimize the importance of those issues, to view it as a war in the old style between certain European powers in which only their own national interests and prestige were at stake, or even to regard it as a sham fight put up to cover a strategic retreat to new diplomatic positions.

"Today it is no longer possible for anyone to deceive himself with such illusions. This 'phony war' has revealed itself as a total war which takes no account of national sovereignty or international conventions or human rights, and the conflagration spreads with such rapidity that no state is so strong or so remote that it can reckon on remaining isolated. Whatever the issue may be, it must affect the whole world and the future of every people and civilization.

"Much has been written on the war aims and the peace aims of the Allies, but the real issue is a very simple one: to check the power of the greatest military machine in the world before it conquers Europe and dominates the world.

"Thus whatever their faults and whatever the defects of their own social systems, Britain and America stand today as the bulwark of the freedom of the world. If that bulwark is broken, no one knows what will come next — universal chaos or universal slavery. In any case it is foolhardiness to suppose that the consequences can be limited to Europe. The Atlantic world itself is a unity in which the Pacific world is now dependent. If the two pillars of Atlantis are broken, the whole of the Western hemisphere will be shaken.

"Nor can the effects of such a catastrophe be limited to politics and economics. They involve profound changes in the character of civilization such as have only occurred in the past in the case of a religious revolution. For the most characteristic features of the totalitarian system against which we are fighting are its claim to control men's minds as well as their bodies, and in order to enforce this claim it mobilizes all the resources of the new black arts of mass suggestion and propaganda.

"It wages war not only by military and economic means, but by spiritual weapons that are directed against the mind and will of the peoples who oppose it — and not of them alone, but of all peoples whose sympathies may affect the issue of the struggle — that is to say every people in the world.

"This immense extension of the character of the war not only makes nonsense of the old conception of neutrality together with all the other established laws and conventions that guarded international relations, but involves moral issues to which no Christian can be indifferent.

"In the past it was possible to regard war as an external misfortune, like plague and famine, which must be endured as a divine judgment, but which did not affect man's personal responsibility or his religious freedom. On the contrary, the evils of war often strengthened the appeal of religion by turning men's minds from earthly strife to the vision of eternal peace. But total war respects none of these things and leaves no spiritual value intact. It treats religion itself as another weapon in its armory, and if we take refuge in pacifism, we find that pacifism is being exploited in the same way as a useful tool for weakening resistance and disintegrating national morals.

"The massive drive for power which constitutes totalitarianism is abolishing the limits which had been imposed by centuries of Christianity and civilization on the primitive instincts of violence and aggressiveness. But these limits are not only necessary to the preservation of individual freedom, they are no less essential to social order, and when they are destroyed, there is nothing left between the naked human soul and the forces of destruction.

"For the irrefutable evidence now at hand establishes the fact that certain subversive forces in control of particular government would destroy all spiritual, moral and cultural values of civilization. We frequently hear the observation that these hostile powers are attacking the democratic way of life. Such is undoubtedly the case, but what is even of more serious significance and menacing portent is that they are striking at the

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My dear People:

On next Sunday, the Church will pay solemn tribute to the great army of workers and subscribers who are maintaining the works of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. The day will be set aside as a day of prayer for God's blessing upon the valiant missionaries who are waging their battle now against heart-breaking difficulties, and in spite of all kinds of trials and direct need.

Furthermore, the day is our golden opportunity to come to their support with our financial help in the year's collection, a collection which is so badly needed and which must be an outstanding success. It will represent the last hope for many a mission project, which without immediate help would be obliged to abandon the work of years. Even though war has forced many missions to close, there are still mission lands where our sons and daughters are keeping alive the light of faith, spreading the gospel of the Christ and looking back to us over the miles for our help in their arduous work.

Our country needs God's blessing in these trying days. No surer way of winning that blessing can be imagined than a ready response to the appeal of His own apostles, who today ask your assistance in the difficulties occasioned by the world at war.

Pray for them at Mass today. Say a special prayer to St. Francis Xavier and the Little Flower of Jesus on their behalf and make your offering worthy of this noble cause.

May God bless you all.

Your Sacred Shepherd in Christ,

James E. Keane
BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

COMMEMORATE JESUIT MARTYR



The tercentenary of the death of Saint Rene Goupil, first of the eight North American Martyrs to give his life for the faith in this country was observed at the Aurieville, N. Y., Shrine on September 25 feast of the martyr, by a Mass celebrated in the historic vaulted, burial place of the saint, by the Very Rev. Zacharias J. Maher, S. J. assistant to the Jesuit General for the United States. (N.C.W.C.)

Call For Ending Military Drafting of Farm Labor

PEORIA, Ill. — President Roosevelt and Congress were urged to take immediate steps to stop the military drafting of men essential for food production, in a resolution adopted by the National Catholic Rural Life

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Conference at the closing of its twentieth annual convention here.

The resolution declared that "if the present high level of production must be maintained, the countryside must not be stripped of its manpower and we urge the stopping of the drafting of men essential to food production."

Because of war conditions, no plans were made for the place or dates for the 1943 Conference.

The resolution on the drafting of farm labor, read by Bishop Muench, stressed that private property conforms with human nature and is a great developer of the Christian family and human personality; that the members of the Conference are willing to sacrifice to bring the war to an early and victorious end; that they advocate the use of the home and community resources to overcome labor and equipment shortage; that rural America presents the greatest missionary challenge to the Catholic Church.

The home, the first line of defense, should be manned by American mothers and the women of the United States can best serve their country by remaining in the home and keeping America strong by providing an adequate diet and a rich homelife for husbands, sons and daughters engaged in the war effort, the Conference concluded in another resolution.

Still other resolutions urged all Americans to study and plan for post-war settlements on good land, and endorsed consumer, credit, and producer cooperatives.

How 'Gob' Trained In Navy For Life As Trappist Monk Told By Veteran Chaplain

NEW YORK—How an American "gob" utilized his "itch" in the United States Navy as period of training for eventual entrance into the life of a Trappist monk is told by the Rev. William A. Maguire, pastor of St. Ignace, in his new autobiography, "Rig for Church," published here by the Macmillan Company.

Father Maguire, a naval captain, has spent a quarter of a century in the service ministering to the spiritual and many other needs of Navy personnel. Father Maguire writes of the array of men in the Navy with whom he has come in contact through the years — atheists and believers, saints and sinners.

"I have made many lasting friendships among the Navy's enlisted men," he writes, "and I have found saints among them whose spirituality, under the circumstances, was amazing. Wanted To Be Trappist"

"When the fleet was at Panama in 1936, Chaplain Frank H. Leah, an Episcopal minister serving as battle force chaplain, came aboard my ship, the cruiser Indianapolis, and told me of one of his shipmates in the California. He said he wanted me to speak with one of his sailors who desired to become a Trappist monk. Chaplain Leah suggested that I talk to the lad before letters were written in commendation. I went aboard the California with Frank and met the man in the chaplain's room. The sailor said he had aspired for a long time to the holy life of a cloistered monk. He had become a vegetarian and abstained from other items of a sailor's usual diet to find out whether or not he was equal to it. He had trained himself to wake up in his hammock in the middle of the night to recite his rosary. But he did not have the appearance of an ascetic; in fact, he had all the earmarks of a typical machinist mate — rugged, rough and ready. That young man is now in a Trappist monastery in Kentucky."

Father Maguire entered the Navy as a young priest in the World War and was still at his post as the second ship's globe expert. When the bombs dropping over Hawaii on Dec. 7, 1941, reached the whole nation and brought this

LCBA Office Employees Pledge War Bond Purchase

ELIZABETH, N. J. — The office employees of the Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association have responded in great part to the voluntary 10 per cent payroll deduction plan for war bond purchase.

This is in line with the desire of the Supreme Council to cooperate in giving financial support to the Government's War Program. The Association itself has purchased \$1,700,000 worth of bonds in the last 12 months and at a recent meeting the Board of Supreme Trustees authorized Miss Kate Mahoney, Supreme President, to invest funds as they become available in U. S. War Savings Bonds.

Archbishop Gives Labor Invocation

LOS ANGELES — The Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, Archbishop of Los Angeles, delivered the invocation at the inauguration of the forty-third annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor in Long Beach.

President C. B. Haggerty of the State A. F. of L., assisted by Edward B. Rowan, of San Francisco, and James Keenan, of Santa Monica, accepted the Archbishop in the