



THEY ARE: (From left)...

CATHOLIC ARMY CHAPLAINS among the recent class to graduate from the Chaplains' School at Harvard University photographed at a reception in Boston...

to posts with our soldiers in every corner of the World. To Archbishop Spellman's left is Captain Walter J. Donoghue of Rochester, a veteran Chaplain and Colonel. First in Fourth Row is Father William D. Berger, Rochester. Twenty-fifth in fourth row is Father Gerard J. Kuhn, C.S.R., Rochester.

'Smith-Towner Bill' Perils Seen In New Congress Measure

By Elmer Murphy WASHINGTON — An old familiar legislative project, which antedates the First World War by a number of years, has made its reappearance on the Congressional horizon...

In substance it is the same proposal that was made more than a quarter of a century ago, the main difference being that the first Federal educational aid bill of this kind called for only \$100,000,000...

This first educational aid bill was laid away in the Congressional pigeon hole to gather dust. Several times with some modifications it has been hauled out for another try but it never has been able to run the Congressional blockade...

The plea is made that this is merely another Federal aid measure designed to help the States maintain and improve their educational systems. The Federal Government it is contended, would merely supply the funds but would make no attempt to interfere with school administration.

This assurance may be honestly given at this time, but it is not very convincing as to what may be done later on. Most Federal aid measures of this kind do not hew to the line. The Federal authorities start by allocating the money but as time goes on, the tendency is to lay down the conditions under which it may be spent...

This procedure is not unusual. At the present time, suggestions are being made to give the Federal Government more control over social security administration on the ground that some States are not properly administering social security funds...

So far the Federal Government has kept its hands off education. The State and municipalities look after the schools, deciding what is to be taught. Centralized control of education has made no headway. Just why the old plan of Federal aid should be brought forward at this time is not clear...

There are marked inequalities in the various State school systems. Expenditures for schools are, generally, less in the South than in the North. Some Southern States are having difficulty in meeting their school budgets, due to war dislocations. On the other hand, industrial activity is at a high point and tax incomes have increased...

The Federal Government does not, as a rule, give money to the States without controlling in some measure the manner in which it is spent. And, while it might be perfectly well understood now that the Federal Government was to assume re-

eral States, would it be so understood a few years from now? And might not such a situation, some years from now, give just the platform from which an opportunist could spring into the public limelight? Could not such a person blatantly argue that it was all very well so many years ago to say the Government would assume no control over local education, but he for one (beating his breast) wanted to know how Government funds were being spent, and he demanded that the Government control their expenditure.

Such an argument, loudly given, might not sound so impossible in a few years from now as it does today. And who could tell how, or how far, a heavily-taxed public would react?

It is said today that some "backward States" are strongly tempted to let the Federal Government carry the load, and that this situation cannot long prevail. However, it should be borne in mind that, however attractive various arguments may seem now—the States must take a realistic view of things and understand that eventually they face the problem of doing without Federal aid or giving up their right to administer their schools systems in their own way.

Evidence Guild Meets In County Courtroom

BELLEVILLE, Ill. — The Holy Name men of St. Peter's Cathedral parish have opened their second series of Catholic Evidence Guild meetings in the County Courthouse here.

The group of laymen who inaugurated these public religious forum sessions in the spring of this year, has again procured the facilities of the probate courtroom for their meetings. The current series will continue weekly throughout the winter.

Scores of Priests Give Last Rites At Boston Fire

BOSTON, (NC)—Responding to victims of the worst catastrophe in the history of Boston, scores of priests from parishes of Greater Boston hastened to the scene at the Chestnut Grove night club fire where 400 lives were lost...

Navy Men Give Blood For Stricken Youth

NORFOLK, Va.—(NC)—If little Johnny Pentress continues on the road to health at St. Vincent's hospital here, he should grow up to be a good sailor, for he has some of the Navy's best blood in his small veins, and some of the Navy's best spirit pulling for his recovery.

The usual activities scheduled for Monday night were in progress at the NCCS-operated USO club here on Nov. 8, when an urgent call came from the hospital. Seven-year-old Johnny's life depended on an immediate transfusion, but he had no family to contribute the necessary blood.

Just as if they had been called upon to assist a shipmate injured in combat, four Navy men promptly volunteered to aid in saving the child's life. The volunteers, including two Catholic chaplains and two enlisted seamen, were rushed to the hospital, where they each donated at least a pint of blood.

The donors were: Lt. Leo A. Smith, chaplain, of Chicago; Lt. (jg) John Vosylus, Chaplain, of Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Alfred Jacoby, of Bunker Hill, Ill., and Jerome Hays, of Montgomery, Ala. None are more hopefully enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free.—Goethe.

PEARL HARBOR DAY

Without official proclamation, without even the formality of an official name, Americans everywhere are making plans to celebrate a new national holiday this year—Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7.

It will be a solemn observance, for we have little cause to boast this year and no time to rant. The program that is now beginning to take shape, in communities, labor groups, schools and colleges, organizations of all kinds, are built around the theme of reeducation and stock-taking. Americans are approaching Dec. 7 this year in somewhat the same spirit as the Pilgrims approached the first Thanksgiving, giving thanks that they have, come so far over so many obstacles, and dedicating themselves solemnly to the tasks that yet remain.

One organization has stated the theme of Pearl Harbor Day in these words:

- 1. To honor and remember the men and women who have already given their lives in this war.
2. To give thanks that we have been able to survive the unprovoked attacks of ruthless enemies.
3. To take stock candidly of what has been done in one year of war and of what still must be done in terms of work, sacrifice, fight.
4. To rededicate our strength, our time, our wealth, and our lives to maintaining a concept of living which is more precious than any individual life.

Working life and death in their efforts, these priests, nearly all in number, administered the last rites of the Church to many victims. When the flames were at their fiercest, many priests administered general absolution.

Among the first to arrive at the scene, which was located in St. James Parish, where the Rev. T. J. Harlow, pastor, accompanied by his curate, the Rev. Albert Shea, who gave absolution to 100 victims, the Rev. John E. Trandoroff, the Rev. Francis Ryan and the Rev. Joseph Pasoroff. Among the priests who arrived were also the Rev. James Corbett, of Rossmore, and the Rev. William Foley and the Rev. Edward Moran, both of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, who led other groups of clergymen to hotels and hospitals where the dying and injured were taken.

Also assisting were the Rev. Francis J. Coyne, S.J., and the Rev. Thomas Herlihy, S.J., both of Boston College, who gave absolution to 21 dying at first aid stations established near the fire scene; the Rev. Maurice Dulac, S.J.; the Rev. John Keenan, S.J., of Boston College and Immaculate Conception Church; the Rev. James Lyons, S.J., of St. Mary's Church, and the Rev. M. L. Hoot, senior chaplain at the Boston City Hospital.

Priests accompanied the dying in ambulances, trucks and limousines on the way to hospitals and throughout the entire holocaust displayed manly heroic courage.

Other priests at the fire were the Rev. Joseph A. Marston, of the Central School, Jamaica, Mass., who administered last rites to 100 dying; the Rev. Francis J. Doyle, of St. Peter and Paul's Church, South Boston; the Rev. John Tormey, S.J.; the Rev. Joseph McGrady, S.J.; and the Rev. William Powers, S.J., of the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

5 SEIZED, SMASHING LEWD PUBLICATION RING

NEW YORK.—As the climax of protests by numerous groups, five members of a ring which is said to have supplied tons of obscene printed matter to teen-age children, have been arrested, three here and one each in Akron, Colo., and in Kansas City, Mo. A printing press was seized in The Bronx, and more of the contraband material was confiscated in Akron, Baltimore, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh. The arrests smashed the ring.

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