

No Need To Despair Of Gaining Just Peace

DUBLIN There is no need to despair of a just peace, since God, if He sees fit, can change even the minds and hearts of states-

men." His Eminence Joseph Cardinal MacCarthy, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All-Ireland, declared in an address at the annual distribution of prizes to students at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. "Our faith," His Eminence said, "teaches us that prayer is all-powerful. Let us then continue to pray that God in His mercy may take

pity on the countless millions of His suffering children throughout the world and bring about, in whatever way He deems best, a speedy and lasting peace, based not on vengeance and greed but on the eternal principles of justice and charity." By the Way — BUY BONDS

TIMELY ETERNALS

By Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven
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GOD'S MAILED FIST

Under the date line of Washington, July 5, 1942, the Associated Press sent out the following news item: "Only two of the many heads of nations, one of them President Roose-



well, who addressed messages to the United States on the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, took occasion to mention that in God or need for help of God in their greetings. President Lescot of Haiti was the only one beside President Roosevelt. Greetings were received from a total of thirty-six nations scattered over the globe."

From the White House, the President told the nation that the message of the Fourth of July, today, as 100 years ago, is "the assurance of the right to liberty under God."

"In the overrun and occupied nations of the world, this day is filled with added significance at a time when freedom and religion have been attacked and trampled upon by tyrannies unequalled in human history."

But what can we hope for, or expect God to do, under the circumstances? Thirty-four of thirty-six nations did not even give Him a thought, on a solemn occasion in these terrible times, when every nation needs His protection and help. If the Almighty is punishing the world for its utter disregard of Him, then it seems that the end of worldwide misery is not in sight. It is pitiful that, in our modern, shallow faith, almost the only thing that can bring men to their knees to acknowledge the Creator is misery, reverses and suffering. People go around totally ignoring God, acting like pagans and atheists, as long as everything goes well with them. Not only will they refuse to pray to God and serve Him but they will scoff at the idea of religion. However, when misfortune overtakes them, when they become desperately helpless, then the knees sag and soon touch the ground, and a humble sigh escapes from the harassed heart. "Lord, help me!"

"The truth of this human reaction was interestingly brought out by a United States Army lieutenant who described the hell of the Bataan battle. During a terrific bombing attack, the lieutenant jumped into a fox hole, where he found a sergeant crouching for shelter and protection. The officer squeezed in tighter, so as to give his buddy room. "Then, all hell broke loose, and I wasn't surprised to find myself praying out loud," he narrated. "I heard the sergeant praying, too. When the attack was

over, I said, "Sergeant, I noticed you were praying." "Yes, sir," he answered, without batting an eye; "there are no atheists in fox holes."

"Our right to liberty under God!" These wishful words of our President sound appropriate and correct as far as God is concerned. But, when the world refuses to be under God, when it sells itself to the slavery of the devil and follows the awful lead, then freedom from oppression, uncertainty and unhappiness may never be hoped for, no matter how much we pray. The mailed fist of war, or some other form of misery, always will weigh heavily upon us until the day that, in humble submission, the world will have bowed its proud and silly head, and struck its sinful breast with a well-meant "Mea culpa," and come back to God's rule and moral order.

The Creator is patient and long-suffering; nevertheless, the time must come when He is forced to call a halt to impotent human arrogance, be it in the lives of individuals or in the world at large. In 1912, the Titanic, then the latest word in boatbuilding, left the docks in England bound for America on her maiden trip. She was so built by the greatest engineers in the world that she could weather the severest storms ever recorded. No natural element would be able to destroy her. Her cabins and staterooms were filled to capacity with carefree passengers close to 2,000 with a crew of 800. Everything was under control and it seemed that her prowess was not to be tested, for the weather was ideal, the seas were calm.

One of her builders, with tempting challenge, had written somewhere on her hull, "There is no God." One night, on this first voyage near Newfoundland this majestic and indestructible queen of the seas ran on to a floating iceberg. In two hours there was nothing left of this superior human achievement. She sank to the bottom of the sea with 2,300 of her living cargo. Hardly two hundred passengers were saved.

The Fourth of July messages for thirty-four countries, scattered over the globe, wrote on the world's hull, "There is no God." Have the nations, especially their leaders, not yet realized that God's hand is heavy upon us? The way that divine wrath can be stayed is not by empty prayers but by a sincere, wholehearted return to His beneficent rule of providence and mercy.

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Sound Call To Conserve On Fuel, Gas, Telephone

Declaring that whatever is done on the Home Front has a vital effect on the Fighting Front, the Rochester and Monroe County War Councils are calling upon all residents of the community to give even greater cooperation in the conservation of such vital commodities as Fuel Oil, Gas, Coal and Telephone Service. The use of Fuel Oil is already covered by rationing regulations, but saving on Coal, Gas and Telephone Service has been on a voluntary basis to date and it is hoped that cooperation will be complete enough to maintain it that way.

The chief problem in the case of coal is not lack of coal but shortage of transportation. More and more railroad cars are being needed to carry raw materials to war plants and to transport finished equipment from them. The more cars used for this purpose the fewer available for carrying coal for home heating to the various cities.

When we save coal by reducing temperatures, insulating our homes or through other means, we help release more cars for vital war work. Rationing of gasoline and tires cuts down the number of deliveries that coal dealers are allowed to make and the householders can help by ordering in as large quantities as possible and by allowing five or six days for delivery.

Gas is being consumed in ever-increasing

quantities by the great war plants of this area. New plants for the manufacture of gas cannot be built so present facilities will have to suffice for the war. This means that every home should avoid wasteful use of gas. Do not light the oven of the gas range to heat the kitchen. Don't light the top burner until the cooking vessel has been placed over it. Turn down burner when liquids reach boiling point. Don't let the hot water faucet run.

The nerve center of war production is the telephone and householders are urged to limit all conversations to three minutes, to avoid "visiting" on the phone, and to use it only when absolutely necessary.

137 Adult Converts Confirmed in Belfast

DUBLIN — (NC) — An unusual and most impressive ceremony took place in St. Mary's Church Belfast, when the Most Rev. Daniel Mageean, Bishop of Down and Connor, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 91 men and 46 women converts. The converts included 16 soldiers and five members of the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

A number of military chaplains were among the large congregation that came to witness the ceremony.