

CABINET MEMBERS AT MASS FOR ADMIRAL



Leaders of a nation-at-war gathered to attend a Requiem Mass for Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan, U. S. N., former naval aide to President Roosevelt, killed in action in the South Pacific, November 12. Among those present at the Mass in St. Matthew's Cathedral, Washington, celebrated by Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, of New York, Military Vicar of the Army and Navy Diocese, were, left to right, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Mrs. Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet. (N.Y. Times)

War-Aid Activities Planned For School Children's Holidays

Children of the Catholic schools of Rochester will combine their Christmas holidays with their own program of war activity.

During the present week pupils will join with all school children of Rochester in distributing folders in a house-to-house canvass acquainting Rochesterians with the "Share-the-Meat" Campaign. While it is expected that meat will eventually be rationed, civilians are now being urged to voluntarily conserve on meat consumption.

The message being relayed states in part: "Our armed forces and allies must get meat enough—and eat it. Our meat supply this year is the largest in our history. But it must feed our armies, our allies and ourselves. We civilians must share our limited meat supplies so that everybody will get a fair portion and our combined efforts will help to make the meat supply last throughout the year."

A brochure prepared by the Rochester and Monroe County Nutrition Committee provides supplementary information which will be the basis of classroom discussion and study.

Cans for Red Cross. The dismissal gong on Wednesday, Dec. 23, sending children out on their Christmas vacation, will be the signal for the start of other

activities. Answering the call of their Most Reverend Bishop, children throughout the diocese will put aside nickels and dimes of their Christmas money to be given to the Red Cross.

In Rochester contributions will be sent to the Catholic Education Office, outside of Rochester and Monroe County, local chapters will receive contributions directly.

Boys will enlist themselves in a door-to-door canvass for used paint brushes urgently needed in shipyards. Since our supply of brushes is entirely cut off, the salvaging of used brushes two inches or more in width, is of great importance. At the same time, girls will rally to the cause of collecting nylon and silk hose from their own homes and those of relatives and neighbors.

The silk especially is needed for the preparations of powder bags, planes and other war materials.

Brushes will be deposited in barrels provided at any of the City Fire Houses, while the hose will be left in the special containers at the various department stores.

The campaign for rosaries and medals for men in the armed forces came to an end during the past week. The Catholic Education Office is receiving daily contributions from the drive which opened on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

The rosaries and medals will be sorted and packed for the Chaplains' Aid Society.

Anyone having extra rosaries and medals is invited to send them to the Catholic Education Office, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N. Y.

Soldiers Acclaim New Mass Composed By Philip G. Kreckel

A Mass in Honor of St. Sebastian for unquenched voices was recently written by Philip G. Kreckel and dedicated to the Armed Forces of our country. This work will be sung in a number of camps at Christmas time by our soldiers who have expressed their sincere appreciation for the Mass.

The current edition of *Pinchot News* states in part: "It is a fitting thought to compose a Mass in honor of the soldier-saint, St. Sebastian and dedicate the composition to those in the Armed Forces of our country. It is founded upon one of the most beautiful themes and has a distinctive quality that sets it apart from the usual vocal line of most unison Masses. Choirmasters as well as singers will be delighted to have something different. Here are pages of singable and liturgical music in an idiom that merits commendation and attention."

America's Culture At Stake, Says President

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Declaring that America's universities and colleges are the guardians of the nation's culture, President Charles Seymour of Yale University warned against their permitting themselves to be engulfed by materialistic philosophy brought on by "unthinking public opinion" in a report to the Yale alumni.

Should such a situation come to pass he said, the nation would face an era of intellectual and spiritual mediocrity. The universities and colleges, he said, are guardians especially of those aspects of our culture "which do not serve an immediate utilitarian purpose."

Calls Comdr. Shea 'Example Of True Catholic Manhood'

NORTH CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Taking the occasion of the Solemn Requiem Mass for Comdr. John J. Shea, War hero and author of the classic letter in which he advised his small son to "be a good Catholic and you will always be a good American." His Eminence William Cardinal O'Connell, Archbishop of Boston, called the naval officer an "example of true Catholic manhood."

Fifteen hundred people, including representatives of the armed services, attended the Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church, where the Commander served as altar boy 30 years ago. The Rev. Dr. Hugh F. Blunt, pastor, celebrated the Mass and read the following message from the Cardinal:

"On this occasion of the Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Commander John J. Shea, I wish to express by heartfelt sympathy

to his widow and little son and to his father and sisters.

"Commander Shea is an abiding example of true Catholic manhood and of true devotion to our beloved United States of America. May his soul rest in peace.

"To all here, I give my blessing."

SOCIETY SPONSORS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LEPER FUND

NEW YORK.—The miserable lot of the leper of today differs little from the unheeded fate of the outcasts of long ago, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith states in a reminder of the Christmas Leper Fund which the group sponsors.

"In the footsteps of Christ, Himself, the priests, Brothers and Sisters of the Catholic Church, in widely scattered parts of the world, make heroic sacrifices in behalf of the lepers and they are remaining

Civilian Priest Aid Urged In Keeping Up Morale of Soldiers

WASHINGTON (NC)—A plea for the aid of the civilian clergy in maintaining soldier morale through cooperation with the USO was recently issued by Brig. Gen. William H. Arnold, Army Chief of Chaplains.

"From the beginning of the war," stated Monsignor Arnold, "it was known that the chief dangers to good morale, esprit and military discipline would be encountered not in the Army camps, but in the civilian communities near these camps."

The work of the chaplains, being limited to the Army camps, cannot alone overcome the widespread effects of commercialized vice, "episodes of sabotage more treacherous and destructive than anything plotted by skilled spies and saboteurs," Monsignor Arnold said, adding:

"Civilian clergy have a wonderful opportunity to supplement the work of their fellow clergymen in the Army by assisting the USO in fulfilling its mission as a 'home away from home' for the men in uniform."

"Our work and worry as Army chaplains would be cut in half if our religious people at home led by their clergy would do as much for our soldiers on pass as the Army does for them in camp. We would be not only our country but our Army and the enemy would find us not only strong in arms but unconquerable in spirit."

Urges Vigilant Parish Groups To Study Films

NEW ORLEANS.—A committee of five lay persons in each parish to exercise a vigilant supervision over the type of moving pictures, theatrical shows and of literature offered to the public within the parish area is recommended by the Most Rev. Joseph P. Hummel, Archbishop of New Orleans. In a letter read at all Masses when the annual renewal of the pledge of the Legion of Decency was made.

The committee should consist of "not more than five competent and reliable laymen or laywomen." His Excellency wrote, and "in military areas the nearest parochial committee can be helpful by bringing to the attention of the commanding officer the rules of the Legion of Decency."

Chaplain O'Brien Does Bit For Tots' Christmas Party

At a United States Tank School headquarters in England, more than one hundred English children were invited to a party and banquet to celebrate Christmas party with candy, cakes, soft drinks, toys and best of all, a Santa Claus to preside at the festivities.

The colonel in charge of this particular base "Somewhere in England" suggested the party, and his officers "followed through." They each sacrificed a month's candy ration to provide the necessary treats and their charges in two dollars for the toy fund. The mess sergeant and his capable staff spent many extra hours of K. I. making heaps of hedge and hollyhocks.

Archdiocese of New Orleans' own Father William J. O'Brien, who was assistant pastor at Corpus Christi Church, before his appointment as an army chaplain last month, was responsible for the abundance of toys. He it was who persuaded one of London's stores to part with 20 large portions of the more-than-plentiful stock. Father O'Brien is chaplain at that base "Somewhere in England" and in a recent letter to Monsignor William H. Hart, pastor of Corpus Christi Church, he reports that of all the troops with which he has been in contact, "the Tanks are the best." He is the son of Police Captain and Mrs. John O'Brien of Auburn, and at present has two brothers in the U. S. Army.

As to who enjoyed the party more, the soldiers or their young guests, it is difficult to say. One young lieutenant, however, rather summarized the situation when he said, "I guess if you can't be home with your own, this is the next best thing."

Yes, the American soldiers threw a party as only Americans know how to do it, and it is doubtful if those English lads and lassies will ever forget their "American Christmas."

Asks 'Essential List' Include Religious Groups

(Continued from Page 1)

electrical engineer; civil engineer; skilled mechanic; trained experienced maintenance men in large institutions; shop engineer; superintendents or sections of large enterprises."

The memorandum admits that the need of occupational deferment "will be rare," but points out that "without a listing as an 'Essential Activity,' it is most difficult to obtain consideration for the comparatively very few necessary men from local draft boards."

The memorandum, reemphasizing the impossibility of operating these religious facilities and services without an adequate supply of manpower, declares that "at present because we have not listing as 'Essential Activities' our needs suffer badly in the United States Employment Office."

"The danger is not merely that we are not able to obtain adequate manpower without a listing as es-

sential," it is stated, "but that our necessary supply, not listed at present as being engaged in an essential activity, will be drained to fill the needs of those activities which are listed as essential."

Patriotic Wish To Assist

The memorandum points out that "our non-classification as essential will lead in practical application in many important instances in local Selective Service Boards and in United States Employment Offices to the conclusion that we are actually not essential and therefore not deserving of wide consideration with other activities of a recognized essential nature."

"It is our patriotic wish to do everything within our power to support our country in the war effort," the memorandum says. "We are already using women to replace men whenever possible and will continue to do so at a rapidly increasing rate. We are unable to determine with any degree of accuracy the exact number of men in the category referred to in this field, but we are determined to keep it as low as possible and we are convinced that only in relatively very few instances will it be necessary to seek occupational deferment for anyone under the provisions of the Selective Service Act. We shall continue to cooperate patriotically with every need of our country in war time, but we feel that we would be seriously neglecting our duty as Churchmen and patriotic citizens if we did not point out the vital necessity that religion must play in any success-

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