

Pastors To Launch Catholic Courier Circulation Drive

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Catholic Press Must Safeguard 'Peace Ideals' — Bishop Gannon

Bishop Spurs New Type Of Press Drive

Spurred by the personal direction of His Excellency Bishop Kearney, the CATHOLIC COURIER launches another circulation campaign. An inspiring message of the Bishop will be read in all churches of the diocese as the opening feature in this effort.

Bishop Kearney has seen fit to advise a new method of seeking subscriptions this year. In the past the children of the parochial schools have conducted a Crusade. They were the agents of the COURIER, lending their efforts towards increasing its circulation.

The fact that they have done a remarkable job is evidenced from a study of the circulation figures for the past few years.

Within the last ten years the circulation has jumped from 8,000 copies to 30,000. Our school children were largely responsible for this marvelous increase.

New Method Suggested

However, the many activities, directly bearing upon the war effort, which have become a part of the school curriculum this year, led the Bishop to suggest a new method. The management of the CATHOLIC COURIER fully appreciates the service which the schools have rendered. It is reluctant to be without their assistance this year. But it would seem highly unfair to expect them to add this job to their very busy schedules.

In the campaign, which begins Sunday, Feb. 21, the pastors in every church will personally appeal in the name of the Bishop for subscriptions to the COURIER. Those who have ordinarily given their subscription through the school Crusade should heed this change in plan.

Envelopes will be distributed in every church. Each family will be asked to take one of these envelopes home with them, write in their name and address, enclose the subscription fee and return it to their parish church next Sunday. The annual subscription rate under this new plan will be \$2.00.

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CATHOLIC CORRESPONDENT RETURNS FROM WAR ZONES

LONDON — After a year in Tunis and a year in France, where he visited both zones—former local correspondent of Catholic newspapers here, Vincent Joseph Ryan, has made his way back to England.

He was studying for the priesthood in France when the war broke out. Many of his companions were interned but he happened to have his birth certificate with him and it showed that he was born in Southern Ireland. Although he left there when he was 5 years of age, the Germans considered him neutral.

Heads College

Des Moines — The Rev. Thomas J. Costin, professor and master of discipline, has been appointed president of Dowling College by the Most Rev. Gerald T. Bergan, Bishop of Des Moines.

Would Guide World To Peace



HIS HOLINESS, POPE PIUS XII

Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary Stolen From Parish Church

FRESNO, Calif. — When two women members of St. Genevieve's Parish here met a man carrying a statue of the Blessed Virgin through the streets of Fresno and learned that he planned to sell it, they purchased the statue from him for \$15.00.

On closer examination they noted the statue was very like the one in their parish church. Hurrying to the church they discovered it was the statue, which had been stolen.

Also stolen was a statue of St. Joseph, which later was found smashed, evidently dropped by the burglar, on a nearby sidewalk.

Rabbi Named Member Of Catholic Charities

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. — Rabbi H. Gorin Perlmutter, of the Beth Zion Congregation, a Jewish leader here, was one of three new members elected to the Board of Catholic Charities of Johnstown. Rabbi Perlmutter was elected to a three-year term. The Board has a membership of 18.

Reports showed the association has 250 cases on its active list and handled 61 family cases, 49 juvenile cases and 28 adoptions in the last year.

AUNT JENNIE'S delicious Cherry Pie — made from frozen packed cherries — a treat you won't want to miss — only 20¢. AUNT JENNIE'S BAKE SHOPPE, 318 360-acre Ave. Monroe 686—Adv.

Two 'Schools-At-War' Scrapbooks Chosen For State Contest

Schools-at-War Scrapbooks of St. Andrew's Parochial School and Our Lady of Mercy High School were selected as the representative scrapbooks from the Diocese of Rochester to be submitted to the State this week. It is announced by the Rev. John M. Duffy, Superintendent of Schools.

These books were selected by the judges as giving a detailed report on their various war activities, methods of carrying out promotion schemes, and general make-up of book, which would stimulate other schools and be helpful in formulating programs along war lines.

By virtue of this selection these books have been sent to Dr. Arthur Gelman, State Administrator of War Savings Department, in Albany. There they will compete in the State contest to be held in Albany the latter part of the month. The list of prize winners of the Schools-at-War Scrapbooks is being retained until the Victory Rally, to be held at the Eastman Theatre, Saturday, March 6.

An Exhibit of all scrapbooks submitted by 77 schools of the diocese will be held at the Columbus Civic Centre Feb. 24-March 2nd. Students of St. Agnes High School under the chairmanship of Colette Stanley, are in charge of arrangements. Arrangements will be made after the Rally for exhibits in each of the deaneries outside Rochester.

Press Month Keynote Cites Pope's Plan, 'Charter' As Guides

The Most Rev. John Mark Gannon, episcopal chairman of the N.C.W.C. news department in his annual report on Catholic Press Month has outlined the duties of Catholic papers for the coming month. Reviewing the strength of the Catholic Press in this country particularly, His Excellency put it squarely on the shoulders of our Editors to "bring all their influence to bear on keeping the new reconstructed Constitution, Christian and moral."

"At no time in world history," the Bishop went on to say, "is that mission more timely, necessary and desirable. Recalling the famous statement of Pope Pius X this is the time when we must wield the deduction and offensive weapon of a press that is Catholic, loyal and sincere."

The fears, sufferings and death that deluge the world today result from the fact that we have left "Christ, the Light of the world, out of our human calculations." In the words of the Bishop the Catholic Press must be the "vehicle to bring to bear the waters of Christian philosophy and theology on a parched and withered earth."

To serve adequately and intelligently in framing the peace which will be drawn after Victory, Catholic Editors must keep constantly before them "two documents upon whose conscientious execution millions of people depend for future peace and justice." These documents are the "Atlantic Charter" and "The Indispensable Framework for a New Order" as enunciated by Pope Pius XII.

Bishop Gannon has taken this occasion to review and evaluate the mission of the News Service of the N. C. W. C. In 1940 the News Service was established by the Bishops of the United States "as a powerful Catholic instrument to bring information quickly to the public on all current movements and events."

As was pointed out in his report, this News Service is set to

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Father Stemmler Dies; Solemn Rites Set Monday

"A fine captain of the Lord,—a man who had his Purgatory here on earth," the Rev. John Baptist Stemmler, 77, beloved pastor-emeritus of St. John the Baptist Church, Elmira, died at the rectory, today, following a long illness.

He was "the most beloved priest ever to come to Elmira," the Rev. Theodore J. Winterroth, successor of Father Stemmler as pastor of St. John the Baptist Church, said today.

Word of the death of the revered priest came as this issue of the diocesan paper was going to press and brought widespread sorrow to all diocesan officials, fellow-priests and people.

Solemn requiem services will be held in St. John the Baptist Church of which Father Stemmler

was pastor for 17 years, on Monday, Feb. 22, at 10:30 A. M.

Office of the Dead

Prayers of the diocese will chant the Solemn Office of the Dead in St. John the Baptist Church at 8 P. M. Sunday evening. Father Stemmler celebrated his Golden Sacrodotial Jubilee on Dec. 1, 1938, at which time he was honored by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney and was presented by his people with a gift of a beautiful monstrance.

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SCHOOL HOME WORK TIME ON SCHEDULE

In the regularly monthly Bulletin issued by the Superintendent, the Rev. John M. Duffy, to all schools of the diocese, reference has been made to a suggested time schedule for pupils' home work. According to diocesan procedure, 15 minutes is maximum for grade 3; 20 minutes for grade 4; 25 minutes for grade 5; 45 minutes for grade 6; 30 minutes for grade 7, and 40 minutes for grade 8.

In giving this information the Superintendent pointed out that from this schedule parents should know where Catholic schools of this diocese stand on homework, and how much time their children are expected to devote to it. If parents in the elementary grades do not acquire the habit of doing work, they will be poorly prepared to take up high school work later on. The conservative time allotment per grade takes into account the pressure on child, home—and school from the war.