

Religion 'Essential' McNutt Reminded As Listing Is Delayed

In basic parlance it is "two strikes and you are out." If that adage is to be followed by the War Manpower Commission religion is the United States in a precarious position.

THAT the Rt. Rev. Michael J. Ready, general secretary of the N.C.W.C., has directed the Commission's attention to the omission of the listing of religious activities as essential. Three letters, directed to Chairman Paul V. McNutt were dated Nov. 20 and Dec. 20. It was two months later, Jan. 20, before Mr. McNutt favored Monsignor Ready with a reply.

In his reply, Mr. McNutt, on behalf of the commission, offers clarification of the status of workers in health and welfare activities for the guidance of local boards in questions of occupational deferments but fails to concede an "essential" status to the bulk of religious, charitable and occupational institutions.

Monsignor Ready pointed out in his recent letter that "there is no intention on the part of the part of the Church to demand an unreasonable position for Religion and its activities." On the other hand, he continues, local Selective Service boards "should not be stopped in granting a just recognition of the service these religious institutions give to our American community."

Chairman McNutt in his long overdue reply stated that the "List of Essential Activities" only provides "a list of manufacturing and non-manufacturing activities." For this reason "the churches are included in the 'Index to the List of

Essential Activities" as a means of identifying a type of institution which carries on an important aspect of religious activity. Religion was not listed as essential in that category of activities for, as the Commission stated, 'industrial, commercial, and similar institutions carrying on the production and functional operation of the whole field of religious activities still are not regarded as 'essential'."

The only conclusion which can be drawn from the latest ruling of the War Manpower Commission is that cited by Monsignor Ready. "There is still no recognition of fundamental and essential religious activities."

The use of these lists "only as a guide to local draft boards to assist them with their determinations regarding occupational deferment" will not bring "even the semblance of relief to the shortage of personnel on November 20th." In the opinion of Monsignor Ready, the future of these religious, charitable and educational institutions is fraught with grave danger. Various governmental bureaus, as well as the Selective Service and the United States Employment Service "will be guided by the Commission's list in deciding whether religious institutional requirements are essential to our Nation's Cause." This is not to deny these institutions of sufficient manpower to operate efficiently.

'Parish' Set As Discussion Club Topic

"Our Parish—Heaven of God and Gate of Heaven" will furnish the topic for the discussion club program on Sunday, March 1, and continuing to Friday, March 5.

Invitation is given to the discussion club program in a letter from the Rev. Fr. Joseph J. Kearney, Bishop of the Diocese, directed to all the pastors in the diocese. The pastor presiding over the work in the parish is invited by the Commission of Christian Doctrine of which the Rev. George C. Voss is chairman.

In conjunction with the Lenten program, the Rev. Fr. Joseph J. Kearney will inaugurate the program with a series of talks on the "Our Parish—Heaven of God and Gate of Heaven" on Sunday, March 1 at 12:30 p. m.

Bishop Kearney is commending the work of the Commission of Christian Doctrine in this discussion club.

"Religion is being studied by many sections of the world by observers and public opinion. The workman of Protestantism through the heart of the Church of religion upon the shoulders of the ordinary Catholic."

"Theology of religion are good study in preparation by the people in the world of the ability and our church."

Bishop Walsh of Charleston, S. C., tells us of the great number of address and letters referring to religious practices in the southern camps and in nearly every way giving us a reason for their observance as a part of the preparation of their religion.

Therefore, it behooves us to try every means of education to give our people a better understanding of the principles of religion. This religious education is the mission of the Church. The Church has the duty to give. Good people, however, they are a precious gift to give to the people of the world and to the Church of God.

Paraphrasing to all in the program entitled "Our Parish—Heaven of God and Gate of Heaven," was written by the Rev. Fr. A. S. S. of the Seattle, Washington diocese, especially for the discussion club here. They were published by the Parish News. These pamphlets may be obtained from the pastor or at the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine office, 20 Chestnut St., New York, N. Y.

Designed to give the people of the Parish a deeper appreciation of their parish, the pamphlets are attractively arranged. On the frontispiece is a special picture of the new altar in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, designed through the courtesy of the pastor and "Lenten days." The cover was done by Miss Patricia Flanagan of Rockford.

Divided into four chapters, the pamphlets cover "The Parish and its Church; the altar; Our Parish Mission; Our Parish Faith; Religion; the Gate of Heaven and Our Parish in Action."

All former leaders are urged to conduct their clubs this year and to volunteer their services to their pastors.

The Confraternity director urges the leaders and especially parish chairmen to send in the names of the club members to gain the indulgence granted by the Holy Father for all participating in the Discussion Club Movement.

Japs Bar Red Cross Aid To Jesuits In Islands

In response to an inquiry of the Jesuit Philippine Bureau of New York City for information regarding the possibility of contacting the Jesuit Fathers in the Philippines, Norman H. Davis, Chairman of the American Red Cross stated:

"No problem causes me quite so much concern as that of getting Red Cross help to American prisoners in the Philippines. We have made most earnest efforts through the International Red Cross and in close collaboration with the Department of State. Although our requests have been continued and emphatic, the Japanese Government has thus far failed to provide any agreement whereby continuing relief supplies could be sent these prisoners. We shall not cease in our efforts and are determined to exhaust all possible means until we succeed."

Mr. Davis further stated that the International Red Cross Com-

mittee was advised that no tons of relief supplies had been shipped from Hong Kong and Yokohama to the Philippines.

"Of these 200 tons were sent from supplies sent by the American Red Cross on the diplomatic exchange SS. Gripsholm. Greater quantities have been provided by us for the next sailing of the SS. Gripsholm on its exchange mission. Unfortunately, however, all these supplies will not go far enough in meeting needs. Not until the Japanese agree to the appointment of an International Red Cross Delegate to the Philippines and to the granting of safe conduct for Red Cross relief ships sailing regularly, could we give adequate assistance."

Mr. Davis concluded: "It is pleasing, though not surprising, to know that the Alamo and students of the Alamo merited the commendations of General MacArthur. It is my earnest hope that as further information comes from the Philippines, it will be found that the Jesuit Fathers there are safe and carrying on in the tradition of the Society of Jesus."

The Alamo is a large Catholic school in Manila under the direction of the Jesuit Fathers, including the High School and College courses.

The Alamo is known as the West Point of the West because of the military school attached to the University. Many of its graduates distinguished themselves with General MacArthur in the defense of the Philippines.

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Students Kneel Every Hour To Pray For Men in Armed Service

NEW ORLEANS — When the bell in the clocktower of the church strikes the hour every child in the Roman Catholic school kneels to pray for some man in the armed forces of the United States.

Boys of the 5th and 6th grades have organized two armies, one is "The Army That Kneels and Prays That the Army Might Stand" and the other is "An Army on Its Knees To Keep an Army on Its Feet."

'Sampson News' Lists Masses

"Sampson News" — a breezy, little four-page paper, daily illustrated, is published for by, and in the interest of Sampson Navy Men at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Sampson, N. Y.

Action photos taken at the station, news items of the men at the station and accounts of entertainments sponsored both there and in Rochester are included.

Under an illustration of the Chaplain's flag appears the title of religious services: Catholic, Protestant and Jewish. Using Navy time, Masses are listed as follows:

0715—Mass in C, F and G deck halls and B Ship's Messes.
0800—Mass in C, F and G deck halls and B Ship's Messes.
1000—Mass in C, F and G deck halls and B Ship's Messes.

Q ANNA
Masses at 0800 and 1000.



Bishop Urges Prayer To St. Joseph In March

Faithful of the Baltimore Diocese are directed by the Confraternity, Bishop Kearney to make a particular prayer to St. Joseph during the month of March in the following order:

1. Monday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
2. Tuesday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
3. Wednesday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
4. Thursday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
5. Friday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
6. Saturday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
7. Sunday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.

The Bishop's Appointments

- 4 Thursday—Supper: St. Joseph's, 7:30 P. M.
- St. Francis Xavier—Catholic Church, 7:30 P. M.
- 5 Friday—St. Patrick—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
- St. Bernard's Seminary—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
- St. Francis Xavier—Catholic Church, 7:30 P. M.
- 6 Saturday—Kathleen Theatre—School Victory Rally—8:00 P. M.
- 7 Sunday—St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:30 P. M.
- 8 Monday—St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:30 P. M.
- 9 Tuesday—Columbus Civic Centre—Prayer: Holy Mass—8:00 P. M.
- St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:30 P. M.
- 10 Wednesday—Massed Stations—Low Mass—8:00 A. M.
- The Most Rev. Bishop will offer Holy Mass at Blessed Sacrament Church with Holy Communion during Lent unless otherwise stated.
- St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:30 P. M.
- 11 Thursday—St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:30 P. M.
- 12 Friday—St. Francis Xavier—Low Mass, Closing of Novena—8:00 A. M.
- St. Andrew—Lenten Service—7:30 P. M.
- 14 Sunday—St. James, Transfiguration—Confirmation—8:00 P. M.
- Mark Twain Hotel, Entrance—E. of C. St. Patrick's Mass—8:00 P. M.
- 17 Wednesday—St. Patrick—Pontifical Mass—10:00 A. M.
- Powers Hotel—Dinner, Knights of Equity—8:00 P. M.
- 18 Thursday—Columbus Civic Centre—E. of C. Mass—8:00 P. M.
- 19 Friday—Noseweeth Convent, Pained—Pontifical Mass—8:00 A. M.
- St. Andrew—Lenten Service—7:30 P. M.
- 21 Sunday—St. Mary's Church—Low Mass, 8:00 A. M.
- St. Patrick, St. Marks—Confirmation—10:00 A. M.
- 22 Thursday—Columbus Civic Centre—Low Mass—8:00 A. M.
- 23 Friday—St. Andrew—Lenten Service—7:30 P. M.