

FINDS NEED OVERSEAS URGENT FOR NCCS WORK

F. P. Matthews Lauds Red Cross, Canadian K. of C. in Britain

WASHINGTON (NC) — There is desperate need for work which service agencies such as those affiliated with the USO can do for members of the United States armed forces abroad, Francis P. Matthews of Omaha, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Catholic Community Service, one of the USO organizations, said here on Friday.

Just returned from a two-months air journey abroad, during which he visited United States troops in England and Northern Ireland and talked with officials in the two countries, Mr. Matthews spoke with particular reference to those places. He made his journey at the request of the Board of Trustees of the NCCS, to survey needs of American troops abroad for service.

"There is no question that services such as could be rendered by the National Catholic Community Service and the other USO organizations are needed," Mr. Matthews declared.

"And in my opinion the only way we can render these services is through American personnel-workers who are qualified to negotiate with American military authorities in the various areas, workers who understand American standards, workers who understand the wants and background of the American soldier."

Praises for Red Cross

Presently the American Red Cross is the only agency officially recognized by the American Government to work with American troops overseas. Mr. Matthews had the highest praise for the work this agency is doing. "The Red Cross is doing an excellent work in England and Northern Ireland so far as the material needs of our soldiers are concerned," he said. He added, however, that there is much need for the special services the NCCS can render, particularly in the spiritual field.

Mr. Matthews is convinced that the Knights of Columbus of Canada are doing the outstanding piece of welfare work being done for any of the forces in the British Isles. The Canadian Knights, he declared, have several hundred workers in Great Britain, and enjoy the fullest cooperation from Government authorities.

One visiting England is amazed, Mr. Matthews said, to find how extensively American troops are scattered about Great Britain. While the care of the American armed forces presents some problems in London itself, these problems are different and multiplied in the outlying sections. He has seen considerable bodies of American troops on isolated stations who had "absolutely nothing to do in their spare time."

In emphasizing the need for additional spiritual ministrations to the American troops abroad, Mr. Matthews said "everywhere I went and every time I talked with anybody, the English people took occasion to say something about the edifying conduct of American Catholic soldiers." "English priests have been profoundly impressed by the fidelity of American Catholic troops to their religion," he added.

Mr. Matthews said sometimes there are concentrations of troops

Hollanders Use 'Chain Letter' To Oppose Invaders

NEW YORK — The "chain letter" has been revived in Nazi-dominated Holland as a means of spreading the movement of non-cooperation with the invaders, according to advices received here by the Netherlands Information Bureau.

Originated widely and urging opposition to the Nazi Labor Service because it is "an intolerable assault on our national and spiritual life," a recent "chain letter" warned parents that permitting their children to join the labor service would constitute a breach of baptismal vows and added, "It is everyone's duty to refuse to accept for himself or his children the obligation of the Labor Service."



DISTINGUISHED FIGURES met with Francis P. Matthews, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Catholic Community Service on his tour of England and Ireland. He visited there at the request of the Archbishop and Bishops of the NCCS to study the work being done by Catholic organizations in behalf of American

sevicemen. Photo at left shows Mr. Matthews chatting with Cardinal Hickey, Archbishop of Westminster, and Sr. Martin Molloy (left) publisher of the noted Catholic Weekly, "The Universe." Right—Mr. Matthews is pictured with Cardinal Hickey, Archbishop of Armagh, David Gray (left), U. S. Minister to Eire, and Sean Lofala, convert, writer, and cousin of Winston Churchill.

Received By Pontiff, Archbishop Spellman Makes Church Report

VATICAN CITY—His Holiness Pope Pius XII received Archbishop Spellman in private audience last Sunday. The Holy Father greeted the American prelate at a special session of the Pontifical Academy of Science. Immediately afterwards they retired to the Pope's private suite for an audience.

Following the audience Archbishop Spellman said that he found His Holiness in excellent health. Pope Pius XII inquired for President Roosevelt, recalling his visit at the President's home at Hyde Park. He was also solicitous for Mr. Myron C. Taylor, Roosevelt's personal representative at the Holy See, and for other leading church dignitaries.

Archbishop Reports

In the course of the audience, Archbishop Spellman reported on matters relating to the Archdiocese of New York, the Pontifical Society of the Propagation of the Faith and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. As Military Vicar of the armed forces of the United States he also discussed the duties and labors of Catholic Chaplains.

Pope Pius XII accepted the Peter's Pence Offering which the Archbishop brought from New York and dedicated it all for the relief of prisoners of war of all nations. His Holiness has been able to help war prisoners in Italy and Japan and to relieve the sufferings of refugees of all countries regardless of creed through the Bishops War Emergency and Relief Committee of the United States.

Archbishop Spellman was met at the Rome Airport by representatives of the Vatican, including the Rev. Walter S. Carroll of Pittsburgh and the Rev. Joseph F. McGuigan of New York. He was driven immediately to the Villa Gabrielli where he will reside during his stay in the Holy City. The American prelate is restricted to Vatican territory, unless a special Italian permission is obtained for travel in Italy.

Upon his arrival Archbishop Spellman made clear the real purpose of his visit. He was in Rome for consultation with Vatican officials regarding Church affairs. He labelled as "without foundation" any press speculations that would put a political significance on his trip. This was emphasized by the fact that soon after his arrival he visited His Eminence Giuseppe Cardinal Pizzardo, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries and Universities, and Monsignor Alfredo Ottaviani, Assessor of the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office.

Following the Papal audience, Archbishop Spellman called on Harold Tittman, Charge d'Affaires of the United States at the Vatican. He was among the guests of Mr. Tittman at a quiet Washington Birthday reception for the diplomats of North and South America appointed to the Holy See.

Church 'Resists All' Catholic Leader Avers

VATICAN CITY — Jean Grandmaison, Vice-President of the National Catholic Federation of France, replying in "La France Catholique" to recent articles by former Minister Marcel Deat, who essayed to warn the Church against remaining outside the national revolution, reminds that through the centuries the Church has successfully faced many dilemmas such as that pictured by M. Deat.

The former Minister, after asking whether the Church wishes to remain inside or outside the national revolution, stated that if the choice were inside the Church must remember that the totalitarian State "intends assuming direction in all fields. If the decision were to remain 'outside,' he added, the Church must remember that gods grow old and here, too, youth will prevail.

M. Grandmaison replied that in the course of the centuries many have offered the Church Deat's dilemma "inside or outside." But the Church, he remarked, resisted as, and in 2,000 years has buried many youthful scientific or philosophical gods bent on burying the God of Christianity.

Japs Anti-Semitism In Philippines Hit By President Quezon

WASHINGTON (NC) — Reminding that the population of the Philippines is more than 80 percent Catholic, who have lived in peace and friendship with their non-Catholic neighbors, whether Protestant or Jewish, or Mohammedan, or pagan,

Cause of Pope Pius X Introduced; Receives Approval At Vatican

VATICAN CITY — Observator Romano announces that the Cause of Beatification of Pope Pius X has been definitely introduced, following the approval of the Holy Father and the favorable action of the Cardinalatial Commission. Subsequent steps in the process are considering the universal fame of the sanctity of the late Pontiff and the manner in which he fulfilled the duties and high responsibilities of the Papacy.

Greek Soldiers Feta Refugees In Holy Land

JERUSALEM (NC) — To assist a welfare unit of the Greek Army, the Custody of the Holy Land placed at its disposal the auditorium of the Terra Sancta College, largest secondary school under non-Government auspices in Palestine, to entertain an audience of Greek refugees during the Orthodox Christmas celebration. The school is conducted by the American Franciscans.

Life gives back just what we give it.

European Press 'Guesses' On Count Ciano's Post

ZURICH — (NC-Radio) — Appointment of Count Galeazzo Ciano, formerly Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, to be Italy's Ambassador to the Holy See has occasioned considerable comment in the European press.

The Gazette de Lausanne said many are convinced it is in the Vatican that peace will be prepared, if the war is not prosecuted to the unconditional surrender as appears decided upon at Casablanca. It speculates as to whether Premier Mussolini wishes to have a man in whom he has confidence as Ambassador to the Vatican, or whether he named Count Ciano to his new post because of family ties and a desire to assure his son-in-law of a position of honor and to save the latter's prestige.

The Courier de Geneva said Mussolini was guided less by personal motives than by cold reason. He has placed Count Ciano in a position where he can render the most effective aid to the Holy See.

VATICAN CITY — (NC-Radio) — Semi-official comment issued by Italian sources to the foreign press says full speculation regarding the appointment of Count Galeazzo Ciano as Ambassador to the Holy See is unfounded.

The statement says that "just as the Minister of Popular Culture returns to his profession of journalism to assume the direction of a Roman newspaper, so Count Ciano, a career diplomat, returns to ambassadorial rank and takes the post which is listed as Number One in Italian diplomatic appointments."

There was no further comment in Vatican circles. It has previously been said in Catholic circles that interpretations and speculations which the appointment had inspired in the foreign press were considered without foundation, and that it was not the first time that a Minister of Foreign Affairs had been named Ambassador to the Holy See.

President Manuel L. Quezon, of the Philippine Commonwealth, in a statement issued from his headquarters here, denounced the Japanese policy of anti-Semitism in the occupied islands.

President Quezon said the policy of the Japanese, announced in a recent German radio broadcast, which threatened Jews in the islands with "drastic measures," when "translated from the crude tongue of Nazi-Japanese propaganda," constitutes a "tribute, unintended to be sure, to the Jewish citizens and residents of the Philippines" and testifies to the fact the Jews "are standing loyally and firmly at the side of other groups" in the islands.

"I am proud of this evidence of the rightness of the Philippine principle of religious freedom," President Quezon said. "It proves that all the religions in my beloved country are helping each other and fighting together in the cause of freedom."

"The people of the Philippines have never been guilty of the barbarous and divisive error of religious bigotry. Ever since the Commonwealth was established, the majority of Filipinos, who are Catholics, have lived peacefully and in friendship with their non-Catholic neighbors, whether Protestant or Jewish or Mohammedan or Pagan. The small number of Jews in the Philippines is a respected section of our population. After Hitler introduced official persecution into Germany, we offered our hospitality to a number of refugees who came to the Philippines and quickly adjusted themselves to our way of life. These people were quiet, energetic and productive. They have become a welcome and loyal part of the Filipino population."

"Now the Japanese are aping Nazi Germany by manufacturing their own anti-Jewish propaganda and persecution."

"I am convinced that Tokyo has announced this policy as a cheap way of pleasing the fanatical Nazis who are its allies and as a trick to destroy the unity of Philippine resistance. The Nazi propaganda machine is undoubtedly exploiting this story to justify its brutal philosophy among those of its own citizens who are beginning to doubt."

Sound Basis

Unless there be a supernatural basis for obedience to a divinely established code of morality, the very first and most essential quality for government in the state is lacking—obedience to law and respect for authority. — Cardinal