

Procedure on Mass Cards

(In answer to a letter received by the CATHOLIC COURIER from a non-Catholic inquiring about the matter of requesting Masses for deceased members of organizations, the following guidance is given.)

In every Church it is possible to secure a Mass card which will assure the relatives of the deceased that the Holy Sacrifice will be offered for the dead person. Ordinarily the High Mass card will state when and where the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered. It is always a good principle to have the Masses offered in the parish church of the deceased, since it is usually easier for the survivors to go there. No definite date is given for the celebration of Low Masses as a rule. The number of Low Masses received precludes this. In view of the strict accounting demanded by Canon Law and the insistence that these Masses be said within a reasonable time, the Faithful can be assured

that the Masses for their dead will be said promptly. The question is often raised as to the difference between a High Mass and a Low Mass. We must always remember that the value of every Mass is infinite but that the manner in which its fruits are applied to the individual case differs in each individual case. Hence such things as external solemnities, the fervor of the priest and the zeal of those participating are matters of importance. For this reason our people ask to have the Masses sung and seek to publicize their celebration so that their friends may attend. Those who offer the Mass make a donation of \$2.00 as an indication of their own devotion and sacrifice.

FHA Loans Available For Necessary Home Repair

Funds are available through the FHA-insured loans to finance all repairs necessary to maintain homes in sound livable condition. Federal Housing Administration officials point out. They stressed the need for keeping property in sound condition, "as only such housing as is necessary to provide accommodations for war industry workers will be built for the duration."

There are thousands of older home properties scattered throughout the country that are completely unlivable and beyond repair because what at first were minor jobs of repair were permitted to go unattended, the FHA statement pointed out.

For example, cellar walls should be kept in good repair. When neglected it is a simple thing for water and dampness to seep in and undermine the foundation of the house itself. Leaky roofs and loose shingles should be looked after at the first sign of wear. When left to farther deterioration, the job of repair will be much greater, and the cost of such repairs will increase accordingly.

Faulty plumbing should be attended to with out delay. This is essential for reasons of health and sanitation as well as maintenance. Heating equipment should be checked at regular intervals in order to guard against possibility of fire, as well as to insure proper and economical operation. A properly operating heating unit will save considerably on the fuel bill, so if there is any doubt as to its working order have it checked.

There are just a few of the items that every home owner should check at regular intervals to be sure that he is maintaining his home in sound livable condition.

There is also the important question of being able to obtain the materials necessary for repairs. When neglected too long, the ma-

terials required for such repairs increase accordingly, and in many instances, critical materials are now difficult, if not impossible to obtain. It is important, therefore, that equipment and fixtures be properly cared for, and all essential repairs made without delay.

To facilitate work of this type, the War Production Board has ruled it unnecessary for home owners to apply for specific authorization when making essential repairs. When such repairs call for the use of materials on the critical list, priorities must be obtained.

Funds to finance necessary home repairs may be obtained on FHA's insured loan plan. For full information regarding FHA Title I plan, apply at your local FHA office, or to any lending institution approved to make FHA home repair loans.

Tribute To the Church

A non-Catholic Englishman writes the following testimonial of the Catholic Church in the Manchester Guardian: "Of the Church of Rome I would say at once that no one who has worked in a Roman Catholic neighborhood, or who has visited regularly in a hospital, can deny that she has kept her poor faithful in her teaching and practice to an extent not equalled by any other community. "She has never for a moment fallen into the heresy of regarding the first duty of the Church to be the improvement of the conditions of this world. The Church of Rome has never been backward in taking the part of the poor. "From India to Peru she has withstood kings, princes and governors on behalf of the poor, the oppressed and the slave."

It's more fun to give than to lend—and often costs about the same.—San Diego "Union."

Catholic Balance Given In Current Events By Verain

CONGRATING IMMORALITY

Depicting the present all too evident low moral standard of conduct, the Catholic Central Verain of America at its 25th annual convention, held in St. Louis a few weeks ago, called for energetic efforts to renew Christian standards. A resolution on this question also the factors responsible for the condition, which concerns both the men in service and civilians.

In the early stages of these wars, the pronouncement declares, there is a marked tendency to draw closer to God, to love His laws, to supplicate Divine Providence for a speedy end to hostilities. But as a war drags on there is an equally pronounced tendency in the opposite direction. And thus private and public morality suffers.

So it is with the present struggle. Already the trend away from God and His Commandments has begun. Statisticians and economists alike have noticed and commented upon this sad tendency. And while the men with the arms are exposed in a special way in all manner of temptations, it should not be supposed the lowering of morality affects only them in service. The contrary is even more correct. World War I proved that those behind the front, especially in Europe, suffered more in this regard than those actually at the front.

FACTORS INVOLVED

There are many factors responsible for this situation, including the disruption of home and family life, the uncertainty of the future, particularly as regards the individual's life, the high wages paid to war workers, the great number of women working in factories, employment of youths with the consequent rise in juvenile delinquency. The declining private morality is reflected in the divorce courts, in the entertainment world, and in the press. Consider, for instance, only the fact that within recent months the number of periodicals barred from the mails has greatly increased; included among these have been several well-known publications.

The lowering of private and public morality in time of war is particularly harmful, because it fosters a state of mind which finds expression in widespread discontent, and fosters disorder, which may even attempt to challenge public authority. Following the first World War, for instance, Central Europe was the scene of innumerable Communist revolts which swept aside local as well as national governments.

In view of present conditions we would call attention to the importance of preserving sound morals, whether public or private. For men can hardly expect God to bless their efforts on the battle front if they persist, individually and collectively, in disobeying His laws. And even victory bought at the price of evil is an empty thing.

With the specific intention of helping the men in service overcome temptation, the Central Bureau has published "Guide Right, Fundamental Tactics of Warfare Against an Insidious Enemy, Counsel for the Soldier, Sailor and Marine." This 22-page pamphlet is distributed free of charge and already more than 115,000 copies have been sent to chaplains and the men in the country's fighting forces. Members of the Central Verain have been very generous in supplying funds for the publication of this booklet, which has won the acclaim of chaplains as the best pamphlet of its type available to the men in their charge. "Because of the expansion of the Army and Navy, we would urge our members to contribute even more liberally to the fund intended for this purpose, so that as many as possible of the young men entering service may have a copy of this valuable publication."

Serves Russians

Los Angeles.—A new mission center for Russian Catholics has been established as an adjunct to St. Andrew's Russian Catholic Church here, of which the Rev. John H. Ryder, S.J., is pastor. Father Ryder opened the center with celebration of Mass in the Russian Rite and announced that the Holy Sacrifice would be offered up each Sunday. During the week the center is a work shop and social hall for Russian Youth.

By the way — BUY WAR BONDS

Holy See Aids Greece War Victims

VATICAN CITY. Holy See considered against the background of the current need that while the contributions which the Holy See has been able to make toward relief in Greece have been considerable, it is revealed in a lengthy article which has just made its appearance in *Il Messaggero*.

Acting through the Holy See, Archbishop Angelo Dimezzi, S.D.B., Apostolic Delegate in Greece, the relief measures put into effect by the Holy See have included notably the maintenance of an information office to assist in such

the maintenance of reported that the and prisoners of war, to the situation of food and the operation of public kitchens and the

Nash Clear Coast

London.—The *Mid-South* *Patrol* which has been taken over by the Germans is reported here. The losses in tonnage from the sea and it is stated that the Germans are gradually removing the population from the coastline.

PROTECT Their Food

FOOD WILL HELP win the war. And don't think just because you don't work directly on questions of war that your work isn't important. IT IS!

Housewives, farmers, clerks, in fact any one who does a good day's work is doing WAR WORK. It will all count for VICTORY.

The laborer is worthy of his hire, also good substantial food. Make full use of your range and refrigerator and other useful modern appliances.

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