

Procedure on Mass Cards

(An 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 guidelines are given.)

In every Church it is possible to have 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 practice 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 in the individual case differ 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 said and seek to publicize their intention so that their friends may attend. Those who offer the Mass make a donation of \$2.00 as an indication of their devotion and intention.

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, "so only such housing 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 further deterioration, the job of repair will be much greater, and the cost of such repairs will increase accordingly.

Faulty plumbing should be attended to without 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.

These 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 projected 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. Where such repairs are 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 Rochester Courier: "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 people faithful to her teaching and practice to an extent not equalled by any other community."

"She has never 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 Embassy Given In Current Events By Verain

COMBATING DEMORALITY

Depicting the present all the great low moral standards of humanity, the Catholic Central Verain of America at its 25th annual convention, held in St. Louis, a two week ago, calls for energetic efforts to remove Christian demoralization. A resolution on this question calls the leaders responsible for the condition, which concerns both the men in uniform and civilians.

In the early stages of most wars, the demoralization decreased there in a marked tendency to draw closer to God, to keep His laws, to appreciate 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 this private and public demoralization.

So it is with the present struggle. Already the trend away from God and His Commandments has begun. Statistics and newspaper headlines have noted and commented upon this sad tendency. And while the men with the armed forces are engaged in a special way to all manner of temptations, it should not be supposed the lowering of morality affects only the men in service. The contrary is even more so. 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, particularly as regards the individual's life, the high wages paid to our soldiers, the great number of women working in factories, employment of youth 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; including 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 leaders disorder, which may even attempt to challenge public authority. Following the first World War, for instance, Central Europe was the scene of irreparable Communist revolts which swept aside local as well as national governments.

In view of present conditions it 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 permit, individually and collectively, to transgress 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 "Think 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 11,000 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 Scriptures would be offered by 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 Adds Causes War Victims

VATICAN CITY — The Holy See (the papacy) against the background of the continuous war that rages, the contributions which the Holy See has been able to make towards relief in Greece have been significant. It is revealed in a lengthy article which has just been published in the Vatican.

Name Clear Coast

London — The M.I. 6 (Special Intelligence) has been able to identify the names of those who have been killed in the Greek campaign. It is reported here. The names of the fallen are being sent to the Holy See by the Vatican, which is gradually receiving the papers filed from the campaign.

PROTECT Their Food

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

Housewives, farmers, clerks, in fact anyone 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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