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On USO-NCCS Front

Coordinate Civilian Clergy Aid To Service Chaplains

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—A new USO committee, staffed by Religion Consultants, has been formed in order further to coordinate the work of the civilian clergy with that of Army, Navy, and Marine chaplains in the area.

The committee will advise the appeal for greater cooperation between chaplains and civilian clergy issued by Brigs. Gen. William R. Arnold, chief of Civilian United States Army, in a recent message to the national USO organization.

Civilian clergy have a wonderful opportunity to supplement the work of their fellow clergymen in the service by assisting the USO.

Through the committee, chaplains will be able to suggest the needs of the men in camps to the clergy in the community, and thus receive assistance not only in spiritual problems but in practical ones as well.

Open Two More NCCS Clubs For Women

WASHINGTON—Announcement has been made of the opening and dedication of two more USO clubs, bringing to 120 the number of clubs where the Women's Division of the National Catholic Community Service is serving.

In Middletown, Pa., celebrations took the form of a parade which led to the clubhouse. Hundreds of guests who came to visit the club at its opening, and women and girls in war production who need USO services were entertained at a tea.

In Tooele City, Utah, the USO club's opening also took place this week. Among those of importance who met for this occasion included H. L. Sackett, superintendent of the Tooele Plant of the International Smelting and Refining Co., master of ceremonies; the Rev. James F. Claffery of Salt Lake City, Miss Marie Thompson, regional supervisor for the Women's Division of NCCS, and army officials of Dugway proving grounds, Tooele ordnance depot, Wendover air base and St. John Cornical Warfuro depot. Mayor Sol J. Selvin greeted the guests.

Navy Chaplain Speaks From Cathedral Pulpit

(Continued from Page 1)

Besides the exchange with Rochester, plans were to have Navy Chaplains go to Syracuse, Buffalo, Utica, Binghamton, Ithaca, Auburn, Elmira, Geneva, and possibly other cities.

In his proclamation, Captain Badt stated:

"The first Sampson Navy Church Weekend will be observed Mar. 20 and 21. Reflecting the high moral and spiritual aims of Navy training and service, it is believed desirable to afford an opportunity for expression of the common interest among church communities of the Sampson area and the Station itself. With that purpose in mind, arrangements have been made for the appearance of Navy Chaplains in neighboring pulpits."

The proclamation further stated that the exchange of pulpits "should serve to bring to the attention of the surrounding communities the true character of Navy training and ideals. It should likewise be a reminder to recruits and other personnel of the Train-

12 Redemptorists To Give Army Mission

FORT BENNING, GA.—Twelve Redemptorist Missionaries will arrive at Fort Benning Thursday to take part in a Catholic Mission next week at the Army post.

Arranged through the cooperation of Brig. Gen. Walter H. Patton, commanding general of the post, and the Most Rev. John F. O'Hara, Military Bishop of New York, the mission will provide an opportunity for Catholic soldiers to participate in the services in their own areas.

The missionaries will be located in the several principal areas in the post. During their stay, the missionaries will live and eat with the enlisted men. Several of the visiting priests will be quartered in barracks with the soldiers as well as eat at the mess tables with the enlisted men.

Solemn Opening Set

The Solemn Opening of the mission will take place at all Catholic Messes at the post Sunday morning. At that time, the missionaries at each Mess will explain the idea and purpose of the mission and announce the schedule for the individual areas.

The opening will be followed by two daily services, the morning Mass and the evening exercises. The Solemn closing with the imparting of the Apostolic Blessing will occur Mar. 21 and will mark the end of the mission.

The Rev. Joseph Turner, CSS.R., Superior of the Missionary band,

who is a missionary of many years' experience, will direct the activities of the priests. Among the missionaries is the Rev. Francis Murray, CSS.R., who was a chaplain in the aviation corps during the first World War and for a number of years was civilian chaplain at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

The Rev. Thomas McCauley, CSS.R., former president of St. Mary's College, Litchester, Md., and of the Redemptorist House at the Catholic University, also will be among the visiting priests. Others include the Reverend Redemptorist Fathers William Walsh, Joseph Hofus, John Frosner, James McCann, Ambrose McAdams, James Colter, Francis Dauenhauser, Alphonse Schumacher and Francis Chapman.

Catholic chaplains from the post will meet the missionaries Thursday in Columbus when they arrive by train. A luncheon will then be held at the USO in Columbus.

Among the guests at the luncheon will be the Rev. Dan McCarthy, vicar general of the Savannah-Atlanta Diocese, and pastor of the Holy Family Church in Columbus, and Father James Salway, pastor of St. Patrick's Parish in Phenix City.

A PRESIDENT TAKES A BRIDE



Archbishop Giovanni Mastrogiovanni, of Panama, officiates at the wedding of Panama's President Ricardo Adolfo de La Guardia to Dona Carmen Estrineau. It is said to be the first time a President of the tiny republic has been married while in office. (AP photo.) (N.C.W.C.)

Penance, Moderation Urged As Novena For Rain Begins

BUENOS AIRES—Penance and moderation are recommended by the Most Rev. Anunciado Serafini, Bishop of Mercedes, in a message to his people which announces a novena to the Blessed Virgin of Lujan at which prayers for rain will be recited. This section of the Province of Buenos Aires has been suffering from a prolonged drought which is threatening ruin to the farmers.

"A persistent and general drought is devastating our fields, bringing misery to many homes, and with it dejection," Bishop Serafini says. "This tragic reality is causing men to lift their hands for help. To whom shall we turn? God placed the Queen of the Fields, the Blessed Virgin of Lujan, in the midst of our plains to share our joys and sorrow. Our forefathers went to her in their hours of trial, and their prayers were heard. Let us also go to her and ask her intercession for a timely, necessary and welcome rain that will put an end to the desolation of our fields, and we too shall be heard."

ing Station of the life from which they have been temporarily withdrawn. It should in fact provide the occasion for an expression of that community of purpose which binds together civilian and soldier, men in pursuit of those high goals which we all profess."

The current excesses in dancing, gaming, seeking after wealth, and general display of "sinful vanities, improper dress and unrestrained customs," the Bishop regards as "predisposing and provoking the Divine Will to more punishment rather than pardon and mercy." For this reason he counsels penance and reform so that "God will again turn to us, compassionate and merciful."

WARNS OF ALLEGIANCE OATH GIVEN CHILDREN

VATICAN CITY—Reemphasizing the sacred character of an oath and warning against its abuse, the Most Rev. Edmond Vansteenberghe, Bishop of Bayonne, France, has made explicit reservations concerning the collective administration of the oath of allegiance to school children.

"It must be remembered," said the Bishop, writing in his diocesan paper, "that the oath is always a religious act and it must not be allowed to expose children en masse to the obligation of fealty or perjury."