

# Belgian Bishops' Pastors Hits Nazi Attacks On Religion

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Page 10



**GOLDEN JUBILARIAN** — Sister M. Fidelis of the Sisters of Mercy is congratulated by the Rev. William J. Brien, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church and Reverend Mother Lippert of the Sisters of Mercy, who came from Rochester for the Nov's Golden Jubilee celebration.

## 400 Join In Tribute To Sister of Mercy On Her Golden Jubilee

By RITA RICEY

Four hundred persons, friends among religious and laity, and former students, paid tribute Sunday to the long and devoted service of Sister M. Fidelis, on the occasion of her

## Howard W. Klippert Resigns As Manager

Resigning to take up duties in another field, Howard W. Klippert will leave the CATHOLIC COURIER, this Saturday, after completing 11 years, on Wednesday, as manager of the diocesan newspaper.

(See "In Appreciation" editorial, Page 18)

Experienced in the publishing and advertising field, he came with the COURIER in 1932 at the time of its reorganization as the diocesan organ.

During his eleven years as manager, circulation of the paper has been increased by school crusades, the Holy Name Union campaign and other boy activities. Advertising has been developed and the three editions inaugurated. The paper's format was changed to the magazine type and departmental handling of editorial contents installed.

## Mass Said Regularly At U. S. Camp For German Prisoners

ROSWELL, N. Mex. — Mass is being celebrated regularly by the Rev. Genesee Stronk, O.F.M., for German prisoners of war at the prison camp here.

The prisoners sing hymns and pray the Mass with Father Stronk, who, much to the prisoners' delight, preaches to them in German. Before his appointment as chaplain at the internment camp, Father Stronk was stationed in Detroit.

The number of prisoners cannot be disclosed, but they include both soldiers and sailors. Some are members of captured submarine crews while others were taken prisoners in North Africa. All religious denominations are given the right of freedom of worship at the camp.

Inflation must be fought. The most pleasant way of fighting it is through investments in War Bonds and War Stamps. By co-operating in this plan, we can avoid less pleasant ways.

## Archbishop Spellman Plans To Sing Easter Mass In Jerusalem

### Radios Report On Men In War Areas, Cites Antidote For Hate

NEW YORK (NY) — Before he reaches India, China and the Middle East, the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York and Military Vicar of the Armed Forces of the United States, plans to visit the American soldiers in the Holy Land during Holy Week and to offer up the Sacrifice of the Mass on Easter Sunday in Jerusalem.

The Archbishop made this plan known in a short note to the address from London Sunday, addressed particularly to the 1,000 volunteer workers in the twenty-fourth annual appeal of the New York Catholic Charities. The appeal entered its final stages Sunday when the volunteer workers began a house-to-house canvass of the 375 parishes of the Archdiocese.

Reporting on his visit to several camps in Africa and Great Britain, the Archbishop said: "The men over here are calm, determined, and certain about the winning of this war. And they like to hear and talk about the home fronts."

"No sacrifice seems too great to them if they can be assured that the life they live, the country they love, can be resumed again after the war is over. Their aim is America's ultimate victory and after victory a just and lasting peace."

"The contribution of the lives of these men, our men, will be a fruitful sacrifice unless we win both the war and the peace. We shall win the war by our power, brain power, arms power and our powerful source of supply. We shall win the peace with the same power, plus the power of the soul and the source and resource of all powers of the soul is charity."

The Archbishop recalled his last day in New York in February and of the comforting thought which came to the parents of the five Bellarmine Brothers when they said that the boys had been spiritually prepared for the Catholic Charities campaign and of the letter sent to all in the Archdiocese.

"While I spoke my full heart in that letter, I welcomed this additional opportunity to speak to you. For where ever I roam, whatever needs to see, my heart welcomed fondly turns to you."

"But also where ever I roam, I see America and Americans struggling, struggling, suffering and str-

(Continued on Page 5)

## Auburn Knights Spur War Bond Sale

AUBURN — Sales and pledges of nearly \$5,000 toward its quota of \$18,000 in the Fraternity's nationwide \$25,000,000 War Bond Campaign have been reported by Auburn Council No. 201 Knights of Columbus according to Chairman Robert M. Deane. The campaign opened March 29 and will run until April 24 in co-operation with the Treasury Department the Knights of Columbus have undertaken the campaign to help further the war effort.

While no news is being sent to the members, a committee has been formed to urge those that are interested to make their purchases through the

## Bishop Plagens Of Grand Rapids Dies

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Most Rev. Joseph C. Plagens, fifth Bishop of Grand Rapids, died at St. Mary's Hospital here March 31, at the age of 83 years. He became Ordinary of this Diocese on Dec. 15, 1938.

The Most Rev. Edward Steffy, Archbishop of Detroit, officiated at the solemn funeral service in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Tuesday, before coming to Grand Rapids. Bishop Plagens had been Bishop of Marquette and previously in 1921 Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit.

Bishop Plagens had the distinction of being the first Member of the Fraternity to be consecrated in Detroit in 1921 although at that time the See was 80 years old.

The Rt. Rev. Most. Thomas L. Nease, Rector of St. Joseph's Seminary, will act as Administrator of the Diocese pending the appointment of a new Ordinary.

A native of Foman, Poland, his life was spent virtually all of his life in Michigan. Son of Andrew J. and Constance (Grylls) Plagens, he was born on Jan. 28, 1859, and was brought to Detroit when he was four years old.

He attended St. Chalmers' Parochial School and Detroit College, now the University of Detroit, from which he was graduated in 1881. He then attended St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, and was ordained to the priesthood on July 3, 1893.

He was widely known for his Americanized activities among the Polish residents of Detroit, whom he was named Auxiliary Bishop which post he held for eleven years until he was translated to

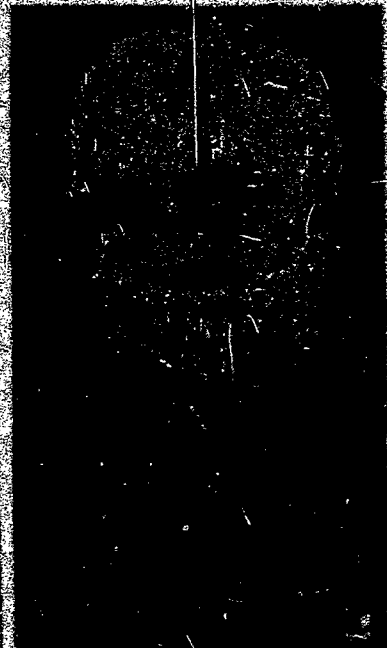
## Vatican Eases U. S. Wife's Anxiety By Sending Word of Soldier-Husband's Safety

WASHINGTON. — A service by the Catholic Church was beyond a "valuable beyond human reckoning" by the neighboring Frederic's secular newspaper when a bereaved non-Catholic wife, who had been notified by the War Department that her husband was "missing in action," learned through the Vatican that he was a prisoner of war in Italy.

The wife is Mrs. Margaret Thompson, of Frederic, Pa., days after she learned from the War Department that her husband, Corp. McCagert Thompson, was "missing in action." The Rev. Patrick E. Leahy, of St. Patrick's Church, Frederic, called at the Thompson home. He notified the bereaved wife that her husband was the Most Rev. Christian H. Wislizenus, Bishop of Wichita, from the Vatican through the Apostolic Delegation in Washington, that her husband was a prisoner of

war. The Vatican message, which instructed Mrs. Thompson to be notified, stated Corp. Thompson had been wounded but was safe.

Commenting on the tragedy-incident, Father Leahy said the action on the part of the Vatican "for this non-Catholic boy did more towards creating a better understanding toward the church here in Frederic than the most eloquent apologetic sermon."



BISHOP PLAGENS

the Diocese of Marquette in Orono, during his five years there he rebuilt the Cathedral of St. Peter, which has been destroyed by fire.

## Six African Tribal Chiefs At Holy Land

JERUSALEM. — An envoy of the Government, six East African chieftains have visited here and during their stay will receive gifts to the sacred shrines and sites of the Holy City and its surroundings.

Two of the tribal rulers, Chief Mwanika and Athero, who are Catholics, were invited with the Local Council of the Holy Land by the Rev. Albert Noel, O.F.M., Curate of the Holy Place. The tribal chiefs were accompanied by Father Laverty, a Catholic chaplain, who speaks their own and other African dialects.

at St. Joseph's War Bond Sales — Founders' Month — Through April