

Students Collect Radios For Army Signal Corps

CHICAGO. A drive for old radios is being conducted by DePaul University here to aid in equipping students in the Signal Corps of the Army. Fifty radios came in soon after the first call was issued.

Layers, plan now to make your weekend parish retreat at the Diocesan Retreat Home, Seneca Lake, Geneva.

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"WHO SHALL ROLL US BACK THE STONE"



An original black and white picture by Sister Mary Jean Dwyer, O. S. B.

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Catholic Near East Welfare Association

Most Rev. Francis J. Sullivan, D.D., President

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Rev. John J. Carrigan, Assistant Secretary

Peace Be To You

When our risen Saviour appeared to the Eleven He said: "Peace to you, it is I, do not be afraid." Our officers and missionaries pray this blessing and comfort for our friends and benefactors.

CHRIST AND THE PRIEST

Easter calls for a special word on the priesthood. Christ's mission on earth is carried on by the successors of the Apostles. The priesthood was instituted by Christ Himself. Each priest offers the same sacrifice as did the Apostles; he preaches the same Gospel and labors for the same purpose—the salvation of immortal souls.

A missionary priest leaves his native land and family to bring the story of Christ's sacrifice and Resurrection to peoples who know it not. When his mission develops he tries to find among the youth some who show signs of a priestly vocation. These become his special charges.

By good example and prayer they are prepared to go to the major seminary. There they spend six years in study and in becoming like Christ. After ordination they return to their own people, to preach in their native tongue, to administer the Sacraments and to care for the people as did our Lord Himself.

But it is hard to support these young men during the six years of arduous training. It costs Six Hundred Dollars for the entire course. Can you send us One Hundred Dollars a year? Or a Dollar a month for our Student Support Club?

A Mission to be successful must develop a native priesthood. God has blessed many with vocations. They need support while studying. Sponsor a seminarian. While you live and after death he will pray for you. Later you will share in his work as a priest.

FURNISH A CHAPEL

The furnishing of a mission chapel is an opportunity to do something big and not too expensive. You can give to a chapel the altar, the chairs, the altar linen, miscellanea of ornaments, crucifix and candles for One Hundred and Twenty Dollars.

OUR WORK

Our missionary society is to support the missions in the Near East among the people of the Oriental Rites. Out of some 70,000,000 only one million are Catholics. We help us recruit these other Christians in the unity of the Church. You can do so by a donation, or by joining our Association. Dues are but One Dollar a year.

ORPHAN CHILDREN

The plight of an orphan child arouses a response from the Christian heart. It touches us to think of a child bereft of parents and dependent upon a hard world. The war has increased the number of orphans cared for by our missionaries. Will you help us house, feed and clothe them? Five Dollars will care for the cost of an orphan for a month.

DECEASED PRIESTS

Many say that a priest is soon forgotten after death. Yet he should be ever remembered by the people whom he served. Do not forget the priests who trained and instructed you. Request our missionaries to offer Mass for the souls of deceased priests.

AN ALTAR

Having an Altar on which Mass can be offered with dignity and where the Blessed Sacrament can be reserved, is the wish of every missionary fortunate enough to have a chapel. You can possess the Altar for a donation of Fifty Dollars.

NOT TOO LATE

It is not too late to make a donation to the missions. And our missionaries appreciate every gift no matter how small. Send a donation and tell us to use it where most needed.

BAUPLY NEEDED

Many of our priests read Mass from Missals that are torn and falling apart. The Missal is often called the Mass Book. You can give a Missal to a mission chapel for Ten Dollars. Make a gift in memory of a deceased priest.

CATECHISM-PRAYER BOOKS

In our mission schools we are trying to provide every child with a catechism-prayer book. This little book is an outline of the articles of faith, and contains the prayers every Catholic should know. Your Dollar gift will supply ten copies.

OUR LADY'S PICTURE

The people of the Near East are very devoted to our Blessed Mother. We should like her picture in every chapel and mission school. Five Dollars will buy a large picture of our Lady in the Near East.

ON LOOKING AHEAD

By George Bernard

One of the stand-by topics for debate among serious youth, either in private conversation or on those more colorful occasions when young people argued in public, both for their own experience and for the education of their fellows, used to be whether or not it was to our advantage that the vision of the future was concealed.

It would be so much better, so the ardent young folk used to argue, if we could see ahead, and know how things would stand with us in this year or that, so that we could plan.

What's the use of planning to be a musician if some new invention will make the employment of musicians unnecessary? What's the use of getting married and raising a family if there is going to be another war?

And so on. The complete answer to this sort of inbred caution is that if we were to know the future, and not in our limited wisdom, to meet the situation, the world would be paralyzed.

Pre-View of War. Even if we were to think about the possible result of every action we should soon be reduced to a state of almost complete inactivity.

What would have happened in England, say, in the spring of 1922, if the people could have known that in the fall they would be committed to a war that would certainly last three and a half years, and that even then the people would be asking themselves, without seeing any answer, when will it all end?

To begin with the people would have started moving themselves about the country in an effort to evade the consequences of the war that threatened. Which way would the enemy attack, they would have asked themselves, shifting this way and that like chess-men in a riot, in an attempt to beat the horror that threatened.

Even rulers cannot foresee the moves in the face of sudden or threatened catastrophe. When the war started children were moved from the cities to the coast. When there were threats to the coast some of them were moved to the interior.

Spain. Children. When Hitler was in the path of General Franco's march in the Spanish civil war, thousands of children were moved out of Spain to England, Mexico, France, Russia and many other places. Before they could get back home thousands of them found themselves in the middle of a bigger war. We would have seen hundreds of them with us in England; some of them have been bombed out of their homes. Had human wisdom been less certain of its ability to figure out a path in the maze of world forces, many a child would have found again a garden of happiness, instead of being compelled to wander still in a wilderness of despair.

What would statesmen have done in 1939 had they known that a year later France would have dropped out of the fight? And when France dropped out of the fight how would the statesmen have looked the future with the foreknowledge that Hong Kong would go, then Malaya, then Singapore, that bombs would have rained on Australia?

How would men have pressed on across the Western Desert, had they known that in a matter of months they and their fellows would be swept back in a new and irresistible drive?

But would it be a happy world if we could know our future? If you answer that in their foreknowledge they would have known that in spite of all these reverses they would ultimately drive on the victory, I can only reply that with this complete foreknowledge (which can belong to God alone) half the world would be in despair and idle.

Would I be consoled to know that in a matter of months, or years, I might be inactive because of illness?

Would I have been consoled to know in my youth that I was destined to spend three years as a soldier with no military ambition; that I would endure things and see things that would be a memory till my dying day?

Would a man contemplate marriage if he could see in advance the struggle he might have to bring up a brood of children, with the fluctuations of health and fortune which are certain to come into play?

God's Great Mercy.

It is by God's great mercy that the future has been kept from us. Instead of a knowledge of the future God has given us, many of us, the love of adventure, delight in the uncertain, a pleasure in facing odds. If there are black spots in the future we do not dwell on them now if we do not know of them. When we meet them we always find strength to face them, and a point to note is that we are not usually called upon to face calamity alone. If you must, therefore, let your mind feed on future tragedies which you think are bound to come, remember, for your consolation, there are always, in this good world, friends who will give you their hand to help you over the rough places.

It is foolish, then, isn't it, to try to pierce the clouds which God, in His mercy towards us, has dropped over all that is to come? Yet millions of people hang on to the absurd and contradictory readings of those who imagine, or pretend, that they can see into the future by considering the movements of the stars.

This thing is certain: That whatever the darkness over the earth today, there is sunshine ahead. And the Resurrection is the promise of that.

English Newmanites Greet Fr. Gannon

LONDON. The Newman Association on Saturday held a reception in honor of the Very Rev. Robert E. Gannon, S.J., President of Fordham University, New York. Father Gannon has also arranged to give an address to the Aquinas Society on philosophical trends in the United States.

Send all communications to Catholic Near East Welfare Association 400 Lexington Ave. at 42nd St. New York, N. Y.