

BIBLE LOVERS MEET—Capt. Edith McInnes, 24th for 21 days in the Pacific road passes from the New Testament to members of the crew to hold their minds. Above, the two-year quest is reaching a specially-bound copy of the revised New Testament, edited by the Catholic Biblical Association from Rev. John E. Steinmuller, S.T.D., S.S.L., noted professor of Scripture and one of the board of revisers. Father Steinmuller is holding the companion volume he also presented the famed *The Commentary On The New Testament*.

Calls This—'The Mother Letter Of The Year'

FORT KNOX, Ky.—From the Rev. Thomas F. Keenan, a captain in the Army and acting senior chaplain at this military post, comes a letter which he nominates as "The Mother Letter" of the year. The letter, written by Mrs. Helen Halsey Wright, of Hartford, Conn., was in response to a form letter which Father Keenan sent to her to assure her that as her son's chaplain he would look after the boy's spiritual welfare.

Mrs. Wright replied: "I should be falling in a most pleasant duff if I did not acknowledge most gratefully your most inspiring letter. There is great contentment in the knowledge that my son, my only child, whom I hold so dear, will be looked after spiritually away from home as well as at home.

"As a mother, with the intimate knowledge which that relationship affords, I can say, and say with pride and reverence, his faith has produced in him a cheerful, happy optimism which keeps him courageous in times of discouragement. He receives with deference my advice and suggestions and, while ever confident of his own judgment, has always been devoid of arrogance. I feel God has honored me in privileging me to be the mother of so fine a boy. He has been a true son and a devoted follower of his Divine Master. In the trying days that lie ahead may God watch over him and guide him as He has so far.

"I am scarcely yet reconciled to the absence of Frederick from the fold, but happy in the knowledge that he is enjoying army life. I have told him that he is in a new and strange world now, but feel confident he will get on all right, if he will adapt himself to all required duties, performing them faithfully and remembering to apply the same standard of clean thinking and conduct that have up to now brought him health and happiness. I advised him to say little and do much, carrying out all orders with his usual sense of fair play. I urged him to be faithful to God with his prayers as they would keep him clean in mind and brave at all times. I write to him every day and in one of my last letters I told him about the wonderful letter I had received from you. I mentioned that I should be happy to have him seek you out and have a talk with you. I have stressed the fact that you could be a great comfort to him when his mind was troubled and that if he was faithful to his Mass, Confession and Communion he would be fortified against all temptations.

"My deep gratitude goes out to you, Father Keenan, and in years to come may it be my good fortune to maintain such contact with you as will insure unending friendship. My heart is with you in your work and my prayers will

be for your success and spiritual guidance."

Central Verein Meets In Springfield, Ill.

ST. LOUIS, (APC)—Definite decision has been reached for holding the eighty-eighth annual convention of the Catholic Central Verein of America jointly with the twenty-seventh annual meeting of its auxiliary, the National Catholic Women's Union, this year in Springfield, Ill. The convention tentatively has been scheduled for Aug. 21. The decision was reached following a conference between officials of the organization and the Most Rev. James A. Griffin, Bishop of Springfield in Illinois, who last year invited the organizations to meet in his Episcopal city.

The Central Verein conventions have been held each year since 1850 without interruption. It was decided to make no effort to attract a large delegation to the meeting; to cut the usual time of the convention from five to two-and-a-half days; and to request State and city branches to send only a few delegates to the meeting.

Cathedral Canteen Serves 19,000 Meals Monthly

CLEVELAND—Cathedral Canteen, established five months ago by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Joseph P. Smith, pastor of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, is serving an average of 19,000 free meals monthly to men and women in the armed forces.

The canteen occupies the first floor and part of the basement of the old Cathedral School.

Priest In Outdoor Talk Despite Peril From Throat Cancer

LONDON—Warned by his physicians that death was imminent due to the fact that he had cancer of the throat, the Rev. Vincent McNabb, O.P., noted public writer, nevertheless insisted on walking to Hyde Park this week to give a Catholic Evidence Guild talk. To reporters, Father McNabb said he saw no need for alarm, adding: "I have been preparing for this all my life."

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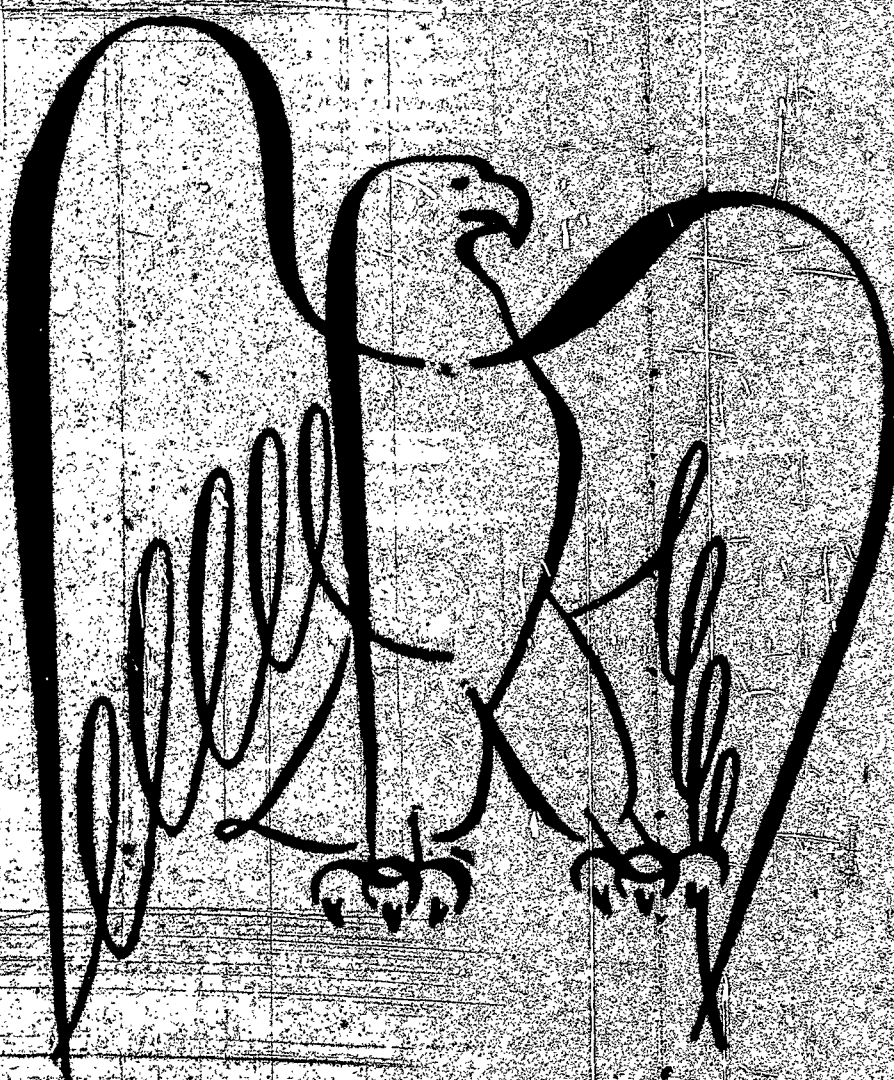
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