

# Bishops Rally To Thwart All Attacks On Catholic Schools

LONDON (NC)—A clear-cut declaration that Catholics will never give up their schools and that they will resist by all lawful means any threats to the existence of Catholic education was made by the Hierarchy of England and Wales at the close of the Low Week meeting.

"We shall not give up our schools," the Bishops declare. "No matter what sacrifices we may be called upon to make for them we shall hold on to them. This is our firm determination."

The Bishops call on their people to be calmly and firmly prepared for whatever lies ahead, and they invite with confidence the support of their fellow-citizens.

The Catholic attitude has never really been in doubt. As this declaration follows recent discussions between representatives of the Bishops and of the Government it may mean that the Bishops have knowledge of the Government's intention to introduce legislation that would be crippling to Catholic schools, or it might mean that the Bishops are anxious to fortify the Government in a line of action which would meet with opposition in other directions.

The Trade Union Congress, the Labor Party, the Cooperatives, the teachers and other bodies are engaged in a campaign for the abolition of the "dual system" now in force—the system under which denominational schools are able to function apart from the State schools. The "progressives" are out for uniform education and what they call equal opportunity for all.

All the Ordinaries of England and Wales, and the Vicar Capitular of the vacant Westminster diocese, have signed the statement.

"For many months past we have been closely following the development of the Government's plan for the reorganization of the national system of education," the Bishops said. "We welcome the evidence that the scope of the system is to be enlarged so as to provide ampler educational facilities for all. We approve the principle of equality of opportunity irrespective of the social or financial status of the family. We rejoice in the evidence that the plan is conceived in a Christian spirit and that religion is to become a more prominent influence in the State schools."

**Reasonable Claim**  
"We maintain that in this England of ours, which takes pride in its religious freedom, the State should provide schools to which Anglicans and Free Churchmen, Catholics and Jews, may send their children with a good conscience, always supposing that there are a sufficient number of such children in a given area to warrant the establishment of a school."

"We are anxious to bring home to our fellow-countrymen the reasonableness of our claim, so that religious allegiance may come to be encouraged rather than penalized."

"Meanwhile, we warmly welcome the statement made by the Prime Minister in his recent broadcast to the nation that the fundamental element of religion must never be taken from our schools."

"We who believe in the Catholic religion are bound to insist that our teachers should be qualified to teach the Catholic religion, not only by their knowledge of it, but by their belief in it and their practice of it. Nothing short of this will satisfy our conscience."

"The present educational system of England and Wales is unjust because it discriminates unfairly between those citizens who wish their children to live according to a definite religion and those who are satisfied with the undenominational religious teaching which is allowed by law in provided schools with State-maintained schools."

"There will never be true equality of educational opportunity until the State provides as much for the one class as it does for the other. At present those who wish their children to be taught and to live a definite religion have to pay the same rates and taxes as the rest of the nation; and in addition they have to find the money to build new schools for their children when new schools are needed, and they have to pay part of the cost of bringing the present schools into line with the demands of the Board of Education. The burden on Catholic men and women has been crushing; it has grown to dimensions never contemplated by anyone when the arrangement was made in 1902. Scotland has a fairer system; we trust that the Government will give England and Wales a settlement at least as equitable as that which is now provided in Scotland."

WRITE TO THOSE IN SERVICE



**BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT AT MARYKNOLL.**—General Enrique Pando, President of Bolivia, visiting in the U. S., greets Maryknoll Sisters outside their motherhouse, Maryknoll, N. Y. In foreground are three of the five Sisters who will leave soon for Bolivia. (From left) Sister Mary Kate and Sister Mary Mary, M.D., both of Milwaukee, and Sister Marie Ignatia of Manila. Also, the Assistant General of the Maryknoll House, Sister Mary Columba of Philadelphia. (NCWCL)

# Newly-Ordained To Sing First Masses On June 6

(Continued from Page 1)

The Rev. Eugene H. McFarland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene J. McFarland, 60 Gregory St.; attended Immaculate Conception School, St. Andrew's Seminary; First Solemn Mass, Immaculate Conception Church, Sunday, June 6, 11 A. M.; Assistant Priest, the Rev. George C. Vogt; Deacon, the Rev. Richard T. Torrey; Subdeacon, Frater Joseph G. LaFrale, S.S.J.; Preacher, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph S. Cameron; Reception, June 6, 60 Gregory St., Rochester, 8 to 7 P. M.

The Rev. Edward Lee McMannus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. McMannus, 20 Beacon St., Rochester; attended Corpus Christi School, St. Andrew's Seminary; First Solemn Mass, Sunday, June 6, 10:45 A. M.; Assistant Priest, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, V.G.; Deacon, the Rev. E. Charles Bauer; Subdeacon, the Rev. Thomas K. Cleary; Preacher, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Walter J. Lee, V.F.; Reception, 25 Deacon St., June 6, 4 to 7 P. M.

The Rev. Jerome F. O'Mara, son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. O'Mara, 975 Chili Ave., Rochester; attended St. Andrew's Seminary, St. Michael's College of University of Toronto; First Solemn Mass, St. Andrew's Church, Sunday, June 6, 11 A. M.; Assistant Priest, the Rev. George W. Eckel; Deacon, the Rev. Gerard J. Goffel; Subdeacon, the Rev. Joseph G. Goffel; Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Raymond Hamel, Fall River, Mass.; Preacher, the Rev. Francis A. Kiechammer; Reception, 975 Chili Ave., June 6, 4 to 6:30 P. M.

The Rev. William J. Rieker, son of Mrs. John P. Rieker, 16 Crosby St., Hornell; attended St. Ann's School, Hornell High School, St. Andrew's Seminary; First Solemn Mass, St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Hornell, June 6, 12 A. M.; Assistant Priest, the Rev. Charles P. Rieker; Deacon, the Rev. Ignatius N. Cameron; Preacher, the Rev. Edward M. Lyons; Reception, 52 Crosby St., Hornell, June 6, 4 to 8

# TWO AUSTRALIAN PRIESTS ACTIVE IN CATHOLIC PRESS

MELBOURNE.—(NC)—The Rev. Harold Lalor, who formerly conducted a "Children's Hour" on a radio station at Perth under the name of "Uncle Peter," is now Editor of the diocesan newspaper and also conducts the "Catholic Hour" from the same station. He was ordained in Rome after attending the Propaganda College and studied Catholic Action in Belgium.

Another Australian priest, the Rev. R. H. Thompson, who formerly was a country newspaper editor, is now in charge of two diocesan weeklies in Brisbane.

# Russia, Reich Block Vatican Bureau Aid To War Prisoners

VATICAN CITY.—(NC-India)—The Vatican Information Office continues regularly to send to Washington lists of American prisoners of war in Italy and word from the camps states that the men are anxiously awaiting first news from home.

An announcement in L'Observatore Romano states that all attempts to obtain news of soldiers in Russia and to organize service communication with them have failed. However, it is stated, the Information Office, following instructions received from the Holy Father, is continuing its ceaseless interest and efforts, leaving nothing untried in the face of grave difficulties. This official clarification, it was announced, was made necessary by tens of thousands of requests received recently at Vatican City for news of persons missing in Russia.

As is known, the Holy See has been unable to obtain direct news of prisoners in Germany and is not permitted to establish correspondence with them.

Recent statistics show the British prisoners Section of the Vatican Information Office, since it was founded in May, 1941, has received 60,274 requests and 236,362 pieces of information. The efforts of the Office make no distinction as to nationality, religion or race.

# Cited For Valor

Denver.—The Oak Leaf cluster for outstanding achievement in the European war theater has been awarded to Lieut. Wilbur W. Brounig, of the Army Air Forces, who also has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Brounig, member of St. Philomena's Parish here have been advised.

# Turning Tables, South Seas Native Catechizes U. S. Chaplain-Confessor

NEW YORK.—(NC)—How a South Sea Island native turned the tables on a chaplain is interestingly told by the Rev. Arthur J. Denello, of the Archdiocese of New York, in a letter to the Military Ordinariate.

Father Denello relates that while he was preparing for Mass one morning a native approached and said that he wanted to go to Confession. Having heard that some of the natives made false claims of Catholicity, Father Denello determined not to help the native, with his Confession, but to let his

# Servites Direct School Built By Municipality

BOGOTA.—In the presence of high Government officials the Mayor of Bogota, Dr. Carlos Sosa de Santamaría, turned over to the Congregation of the Servites of Mary the new Catholic school built by the municipality.

The founder of this school, which will accommodate some 20 girls students, is Benecita Maria Mercedes Lopez Michelson, daughter of the President of the Republic.

# Have you purchased your War Bonds or War Stamps this week?

Denver.—The Oak Leaf cluster for outstanding achievement in the European war theater has been awarded to Lieut. Wilbur W. Brounig, of the Army Air Forces, who also has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Brounig, member of St. Philomena's Parish here have been advised.

# Wrote to Those in Service

WRITE TO THOSE IN SERVICE

# Wrote to Those in Service

WRITE TO THOSE IN SERVICE

# Wrote to Those in Service

WRITE TO THOSE IN SERVICE