

Top-Notchers

A release of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 3841 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

By E. E. MORGAN

Grandpa, who was a top-notch farmer in his time, would be completely at a loss on the land today. He wouldn't know how to drive a tractor in the field, or a truck to the crossway. He would wonder how we get water without a pump, or how we get milk without a cow—without an electrically operated machine, or understand how we could fry eggs, and freeze ice cream with the same wire.

And yet, the same traits of character which made Grandpa a successful farmer, a good citizen, and respected member of his community are required by his grandsons, if they are to meet and overcome the modern problems, which confront them. They no longer need to shoot wild animals — at least those that travel on four legs — or break the tough prairie sod with ox teams, but they do need to produce more food than ever before without free access to labor, new machinery, or even repair parts.

WENT TO WORK

When the billiard ball rolled around the sod shanty, when the Indians got little Jason and carried him away, when the ox died during spring plowing, or the one wagon broke a wheel, grandpa didn't quit or howl for help. He twisted marsh hay for the mule, chased the Indians, borrowed an ox, and built a new wheel. Grandpa and the children were all the help he had, but they did things which seem impossible now.

And so today, when farmers are faced with situations about as difficult as those remembered in pioneer stories, the men, women and children of Grandpa's blood will rely on their own labor, ingenuity and skill to get the fields tilled, the crops planted, the cows milked, the pigs fed, and the machinery patched up for another year. It seems impossible, but tough going is only a challenge which brings out the best in Americans, whatever their occupation.

MEET THE TEST

Just how the armies, the defense workers, and the starving peoples of Europe are all to be fed is beyond the comprehension of any one man. Each farm is a separate problem to be worked out by those responsible for its operation. The American Farmer hasn't been licked yet. Drought, floods, hail, storms, insects, diseases — he's used to fighting — and winning.

The boys are doing their share and the folks on the farms are right with them. Be the weather good or bad, we will do our level best to lift, squeeze, pull, and tear from each farm the best points of edible products needed as munitions to win the war. We'll accept our personal responsibility for our own jobs, and see to it that they were never done better. We want to win this war right now. We want our grandfathers, and our grandsons to recognize the fact that we were equal to the emergency and that we met our tests as well as did the pioneers for whose heritage we are responsible.

Bishops Issue Volume On Lasting Peace

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settlement at the end of the last war.

Father Koenig points out four general characteristics of the peace documents presented in this volume: (1) their universal scope in presenting a "completely integrated program of political, social, economic principles based on natural law and Christian revelation"; (2) the essential unity and continuity of the pronouncements made by all five Popes as they apply Christian principles to new issues in an ever-changing world; (3) the prophetic character of the pronouncements, recognizing "long years in advance the conflicts that would inevitably arise if dangerous injustices, inequalities, points of friction were not eliminated"; and (4) the underlying note of optimism and hope that runs through papal teaching on peace. Dr. Koenig points out, these Popes "enjoyed avenues of information that have no counterpart among secular governments."

"The Pope is, indeed," he writes, "served by a highly capable diplomatic force all over the world; but far beyond that, he is the

ON "CATHOLIC HOUR" PROGRAMS



Participating in the "Catholic Hour" radio series titled "Report to the Mothers and Fathers" are Chaplain John F. Robinson (left), of the faculty of the Naval Chaplains School, Williamsburg, Va., and Chaplain John E. Soulet, Catholic assistant to the Chief of Navy Chaplains, Washington, who will speak on June 20 and 21, respectively, over the stations of the National Broadcasting Company, at 8 p. m. E. W. T. The "Catholic Hour" program is produced by the National Council of Catholic Men. (N.C.C.M.)

Catholic Hour Message

Parents Told Of Spiritual Welfare Of Boys In Service

NEW YORK (NC) — In a continuation of the "Second Report to Mothers and Fathers" on the spiritual welfare of their sons and daughters in the country's armed forces, the Most Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., Military Delegate, and the Rev. Thomas A. Shanahan, S.J., an Army chaplain, spoke Sunday evening on the "Catholic Hour" radio program.

Bishop O'Hara spoke here, while Father Shanahan's address was broadcast by short-waves from Australia. The "Catholic Hour" is produced by the N. C. C. M. and is carried on the National Broadcasting Company network.

Steel radio and airplane have annihilated time and space. Bishop O'Hara said, "Here is where the altar is" in the current world conflict. He related that from "places known and places unknown" come hundreds of letters daily, which "reveal no military secrets of war, but they do tell that God's Army is on the march, bringing thousands of young men closer to God than they have ever been before."

At the outset of his talk, Bishop O'Hara declared that everything is "far from" perfect in the Army and the Navy. He added that as long as man has free will, there will be sin and as long as there is sin there will be plenty of evil in the world, including the great evil of war. He continued: "But our great consolation is that the vast majority of the men in the service learn a measure of unselfishness, of self-renunciation greater than ever marked their conduct before; and when they discover that their self-renunciation and spirit of service is greatest as it grows more and more out of love of God, they have laid the foundation of a life in conformity with God's Commandments — and no greater blessing can come to a nation than an increase in the number of men who live according to God's will."

Church In Yangon

Bishop O'Hara said wherever American troops have gone, they have found the Catholic Church ahead of them. He asserted that in North Africa and in the South Pacific Islands, the life of Catholicism between natives and American soldiers, sailors and marines resulted in saving thousands of American lives and had brought immense aid to the U. S. cause. He also stated that the Catholics among the U. S. forces had gained the high favor of the natives by the generosity both in funds and in work of repairing churches, chapels, missions and schools, which had been damaged in warfare.

spiritual father of three hundred million Catholics who come to him for guidance; he is the trusted confidant of countless Bishops and priests who minister to his flock. No one else in the world is in an advantageous position to feel the pulse of mankind as is the Holy Father."

Father Shanahan declared: "Your men in the United States Armed Forces in the Southwest Pacific, as you would have them, are continuing to know Our Lord at Campionville, made not of polished oak or pine, but grown bamboo, not in primitively placed churches, but in hidden jungle chapels."

He related a number of instances of chaplains being assigned where action was the most severe, and of finding the religious fervor of the Catholics on an exceedingly high plane. General Approval: "Given a soldier's mission, quicker his mechanical reflexes, make more cunning his brain, and neglect the fact that he has a soul, and that soldier becomes lost man and mere machine... For he was planned by his Creator to be a body and soul each with its pre-ordained development." Father Shanahan said, "That this need does not prevail in the United States Army is due in part to the chaplains of the United States Army who have gone before us, soldiers who were ever selected of the soldiers' needs; to commanding generals of other wars who have seen the work of these chaplains and approved."

Father Shanahan asserted all the Rosaries and prayer books available in Australia have been purchased and distributed to the servicemen. He declared that the faith at home could share in keeping Catholic chaplains supplied by supporting the Chaplains Aid Association and the National Catholic Community Service.

Getting On In The World

Foverello's Prayer

The whole world and everybody in it would get on very well if all people, or even only all Catholics, prayed and lived the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

"Lord, make me an instrument of peace! Where there is hatred, let me sow love! Where there is injury, let me sow pardon! Where there is doubt, let me sow faith! Where there is despair, let me sow hope! Where there is darkness, let me sow light! Where there is sadness, let me sow joy! O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying that we are born to eternal life!"

Status Unveiled

Valencia City, National... of the Sacred College of Cardinals, together with a large representation of the Pope's Court...



Old Topper Ale

Catholic Near East Welfare Association

An Altar Thursday, June 24, will be the Feast of Corpus Christi. It is a Feast of the Blessed Sacrament. Provide an altar for our Eucharistic King. Erect by your gift of fifty Dollars an Altar in a mission chapel.

WE NEED MISSIONARIES

The Gospel of Trinity Sunday is the "Key" of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. Our Blessed Lord commanded His Apostles: To go just like Our Lord, to evangelize the Holy Land, which is to evangelize the entire world.

SECRET HEART MONTH

June is the month of the Sacred Heart. Help us bring people to a knowledge and love of the Sacred Heart. Your donation of \$2.00 Secret Heart Month will buy a statue of the Sacred Heart for a poor mission chapel or school. The missionary will appreciate your gift.

MISSELS NEEDED

Every Catholic understands how important a Missal is. It is the book from which the priest reads Holy Mass. Every chapel must have one. In case of our mission, our priests are using torn or worn missals. Perhaps you will send Ten Dollars to buy a Missal.

TO TEACH

We need thousands of catechism prayer books. A Dollar will buy ten copies. Supply a supply. We need them to teach the children and converts.

FINAL REQUEST

Hundreds of children in our orphan homes are to be made Holy First Communicants. The priest and nuns have prepared them well. They will be making it the happiest day of their lives. Do you see how they are waiting for you? Please send a gift of \$1.00 to help them.

FOR YOUR INTENTIONS

Ask our missionaries to pray for you for your intentions. Your offerings will help maintain them. For \$2.00 we will pray for you in the Holy Land for your intentions.

ONCE A YEAR

We write our members but they don't read and don't really know our needs. Monthly dues is the main support of our mission. Join our Association. One Dollar a year for individual membership. Ten Dollars for Family Membership.

STUDENTS HELP CLUB

If you wish to share in the privilege of work of training young men to become missionary priests, join our Student Support Club. The more you send, the more you can do. Twelve Dollars for a year. A group of ten members can contribute for a year.

THE THING TO DO

For the reason of the need of a distressed person in (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, etc.) every day, we have a special appeal. You can help by your generous gifts. You can share in better service of your love and thoughtfulness.

YEAR'S SUPPLY

Eight Dollars will buy the complete set of all services in a year's church for a year.

Send all communications to Catholic Near East Welfare Association, 400 Lexington Ave., at 40th St., New York, N. Y.