

Top-Notchers

A review of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 3001 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 creamery. He would wonder how we get water without a handle on the pump, or cooled the milk without ice. He wouldn't even know how to milk a cow—with 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 blizzard hit and around the sod shanty, when the Indiana got little Jason and carried him away, when the ox sled during spring plowing, or the one wagon broke a wheel, Grandpa didn't quit or howl for help. He twisted marsh hay for the stove, 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 farm 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 last pound 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

(Continued from Page 3)

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 consistency 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 conditions 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 Chaplain School, Williamsburg, Va., and Chaplain John R. Mottet, Catholic assistant to the Chief of Navy Chaplains, Washington, who will speak on June 26 and 27, 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.M.)

Catholic Hour Message

Parents Told Of Spiritual Welfare Of Boys In Service

NEW YORK (UPI)—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-wave from Australia. The "Catholic Hour" is produced by the N. C. C. M. and is carried on the National Broadcasting Company network.

Since radio and airplane have annihilated time and space, Bishop O'Hara said, "some of the most serious and most important world conflicts. 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 greeted 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 Vanguard
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 He of Catholics, between battles and American soldiers, and in the result in saving thousands of American lives and had brought immunities 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.

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 Communion table, made not of polished oak or pine, but green bananas, not in 'prominently 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 an exceedingly high plane.

General Approval
"Given a soldier's muscles, quicken his mechanical reflexes, make more cunning his brain but neglect the fact that he has a soul, and that soldier becomes less man and more monster. For he was planned by his Creator to have a body and soul each with its proportioned development." Father Shanahan said. "That neglect does not prevail in the United States Army in the United States Army who have gone before us—soldiers who were ever mindful of the soldier's soul; 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 letters at home could share in keeping Catholic chaplains in supplies by supporting the Chaplains Aid Association and the National Catholic Community Service.

Getting On In The World
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

Various (NY) ...



A BOY WHO SAVORS BREAD AND BREAD

Old Tomper Ale

Catholic Near East Welfare Association
Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, D.D., President
St. Ann, Mount Vernon, N.Y., National Secretary
Rev. John A. Sarrigan, Assistant Secretary

An Altar
Thursday, June 24, will be the Feast of Corpus Christi. It is a Feast of the Blessed Sacrament. Provide an earthly abode 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 "why" of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. We have been and we are to be the people of all nations. Our Blessed Lord commanded His Son to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. This is the mission of the Church, which is to flourish in the evangelization of the world.

Our missionaries are looking for converts of Christ. They are looking for all their energy to bring the people of the Near East to God. To baptize them, to teach them.

The success of our work is measured by the number of missionaries who are sent to the 100 million people in the mission territory. The laborer is few, but God is working our program. Thousands of young men are being trained. Many young men of the Near East are coming to us to become missionaries.

Our problem is to identify, train, and send them. We have 100 million people in the mission territory. We have 100 million people in the mission territory. We have 100 million people in the mission territory.

Do it and there is the command of Our Lord contained in the Gospel of Trinity Sunday. Those who share in the work of an apostle will have the reward of an apostle. A young man will have the greatest joy of all our missionary priests and sisters.

SACRED 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 Fifty Dollars will buy a statue of the Sacred Heart for a poor mission chapel or school. The missionary will appreciate your gift.

MISSALS NEEDED
Every Catholic understands the importance of the Mass. It is the heart from which the priest reads the Mass. Every Mass must have an adequate number of missals. Missals are being sold at a special price. Please buy a Missal. Please buy a Missal. Please buy a Missal.

TO TEACH
We need thousands of catechism prayer books. A Dollar will buy ten copies. Supply a country. We need them to teach the children and young people.

Send all communications to
Catholic Near East Welfare Association
450 Lexington Ave. at 45th St. New York, N. Y.

Final Prayer

Prayer of the ...



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