Vindicate Los Angeles Racial Groups In 'Zoot-Suit' Rioting

LOS ANGELES (NC)—Making clear-cut recommendations to prevent recurrence of the disturbing clashes between "zoot suit" youths and service men in this locality, the Citizens Committee named by Governor Warren and headed by the Most Rev. Joseph T. McGucken, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, said the real causes of the difficulties must be reached and that one of the causes was the "failure properly to present the facts."

Urging immediate steps to curb juvenile delinquency, the Committee said the problem is one of American youth, not confined to any racial group.

"The wearers of zoot suits," the Committee asserted, "are not necessarily persons of Mexican descent. Many young people today wear zoot suits."

Group Charges Condemned

All juvenile delinquency has increased recently in Los Angeles, the Committee found, yet the "increase of delinquency in the case of youths of Mexican families has been less than in the case of other national or racial groups."

Charging that "group accusations foster race prejudice," the Committee recommended that "arrests for criminal or gang activity should be made without undue emphasis on members of minority groups;" that "law enforcement agencies should provide special training for officers dealing with minority groups;" that "a juvenile forestry camp should be established by the probation department to care for delinquent youth under the age of 16."

Archbishop Speaks

The Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, Archbishop of Los Angeles, has addressed to all Mexican parishes a letter recalling the necessity of maintaining the great Catholic traditions which have added so much to the glory of California's history.

Recalling that Mexicans were the original settlers in California, the Archbishop was saddened by recent incidents which "have threatened to throw a blot on your good name, glorious and illustrious for generations."

The Archbishop made certain specific recommendations to the Mexican faithful. He called for the exertion of every effort to "maintain intact the paternal authority" in the home, "whatever the age or condition of the children." He called for special vigilance to keep all children in their homes and off the streets after nightfall and away from contacts with "gangs" or "leagues."

He said that parents should strive assiduously "to prevent their sons and daughters from appearing in public in ridiculous or extravagant garments which attract to them the suspicion and the contempt of orderly and responsible people; that with respect to the protection of their daughters, the parents "should continue to maintain that tradition of your ancestors that you do not permit them to be out at night alone;" that all unite in prayer for the preservation of the home and families, for "peace and tranquillity within our nation."

Auxiliary Elevated In Buffalo See Amid Ancient Rites

Consecrated on Tuesday, June 29, at deeply religious ceremonies of ancient tradition, the Most Rev. Joseph A. Burke began immediately his duties as first Auxiliary Bishop of Buffalo. The [illegible]-year-old prelate, first Buffalo native to be elevated to the hierarchy, will continue as pastor of St. Mark's Church in that city.

It was estimated that upwards of 2,000 people witnessed the procession and consecration rites in St. Joseph's New Cathedral by the Most Rev. Amleto G. Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States. The papal representative was assisted by the Most Rev. Thomas J. Walsh, Archbishop of Newark, N. J., and the Most Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons, Bishop of Albany, both former Buffalo priests, as co-consecrators.

Diocese Represented

The Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, and the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, were among the seven archbishops, twenty bishops and one bishop-elect who attended the ceremonies.

The newly consecrated Auxiliary of Buffalo and Titular Bishop of Vita in Tunisia, "once a flourishing See but now a pile of ruins," prayed that God, "in His infinite mercy and goodness, have pity on humanity." In his remarks at a dinner tendered him at the Hotel Statler, he begged that "no prejudice this time silence the only neutral voice in all the world. The nations of the earth desire peace," he continued, "may they prove by their readiness to follow the voice of the Vicar of Christ that they deserve peace."

The Most Rev. John A. Duffy, Bishop of Buffalo, delivered the sermon from his episcopal throne. "Once again," Bishop Duffy said, "Christianity is brought to trial, with Herod and Pilate, multiplied a thousandfold, sitting in the judgment seats. They are changing familiar institutions, abrogating laws, uprooting moral standards. They threaten us with as ghastly vision as the mind of man can conceive; a return to a world without Christ—without God."

"Sin and selfishness and folly," His Excellency continued, "are at the tap-root of our modern problem. Against this sin and selfishness and folly, the Catholic Church is, for the new age, both the antagonist and remedy."

Bishop Burke was escorted from the Cathedral Rectory by full uniformed and sword-bearing Fourth Degree members of Buffalo Council 184 Knights of Columbus. Costumed in the manner of the Vatican's famed Swiss Guards page boys heralded the approach of the bishops who immediately preceded the Apostolic Delegate.

Fr. Kleintjes Enlists As Chaplain

Enlisted as Chaplain with the rank of Lieutenant (jg) in the United States Navy, the Rev. John B. Kleintjes left last Sunday for training at the Navy Chaplain's School, William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va. He is the 24th priest from the Diocese of Rochester now in the Chaplains' service of the armed forces.

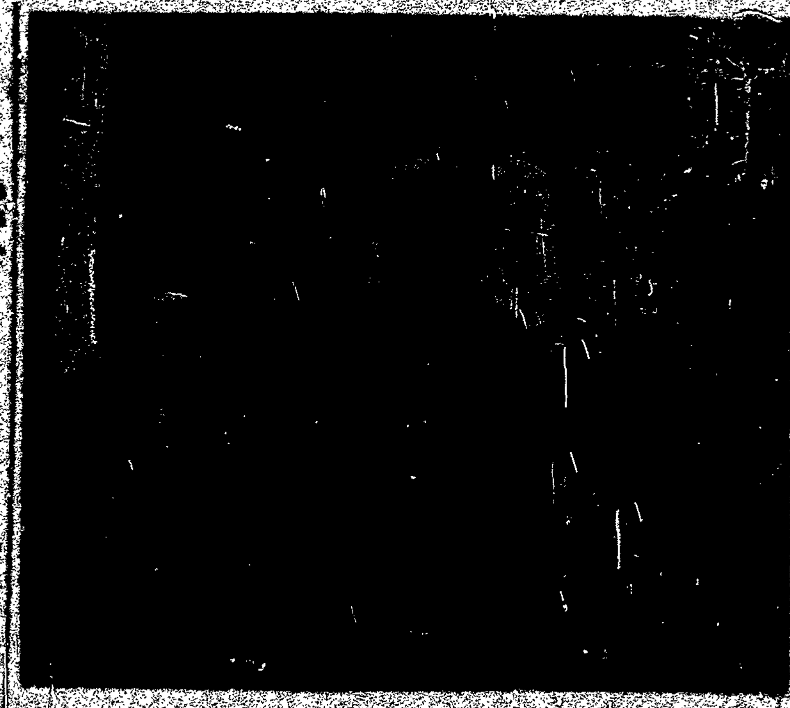
Father Kleintjes, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kleintjes of Auburn, was graduated from St. Alphonsus School and Auburn High School, Auburn, St. Andrews' and St. Bernard's Seminaries, Rochester.

He was Assistant Pastor at St. Andrew's Church, Rochester, when he enlisted. Ordained June 2, 1938, the new Navy Chaplain served as Assistant Pastor at St. Michael's Church, Rochester, before going to St. Andrew's.

Interested in youth he was active in directing affairs of the Junior Holy Name Society, the Young People's Club and the Sodality at St. Andrew's.

AFFILIATE MONSIGNOR

New Iberia, La. — Brothers of the Christian Schools conferred affiliation with the congregation on the Right Rev. Monsignor J. M. Langlois, of St. Peter's Church. As an affiliated member Monsignor Langlois will share in the spiritual goods of the congregation of the Brothers.



TWO OF OUR OWN. [illegible]

25 Pct. Of WAACs At Georgia Post Are Catholics

(The following story was written by a staff member of the N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE, who was one of a small group of women newspaper and magazine writers invited by the War Department to serve for five days at a WAAC training center to gain first-hand knowledge of the training and life of members of this branch of the Army).

FT. OGLETHORPE, Ga. (NC)—Well over 25 per cent of the WAACs stationed here are Catholics. The Catholic population of the entire personnel at Fort Oglethorpe is estimated at one-third.

Three Masses are celebrated on Sunday, and weekly Masses are at 6 a. m. and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. Sunday mornings are free for all WAACs except those on special detail, and all services, non-Catholic as well as Catholic, are well attended, the chaplains report.

The Acting Director of the WAAC Training Center, Second Officer Mary Danforth of New York City, is one of a number of Catholics among the officer personnel. She entered the Corps when her husband, a Naval officer, was lost at sea. Third Officer Sarah N. McClendon of the Diocese of Galveston is attached to the Public Relations Office of the WAAC Center here. A current [illegible] instigated by Axis agents to [illegible] class is conducted by another of the Catholic officers, Third Officer Mary Cole of [illegible], N. Y., who was noticed at the Communion rail on Sunday.

Tribute to WAACs

The Rev. George E. Labonte, Post Chaplain, comes from Somersworth, N. H. He has been at Ft. Oglethorpe since the WAAC Training Center opened and is fully qualified to comment upon the morals and general character of this group. Father Labonte revealed indignation when he discussed recent attacks and [illegible] questioning the morality of this rapidly increasing organization. He says that such attacks indirectly pay the highest possible tribute to the WAAC's and may be regarded as "a gigantic nation-wide sabotage this really efficient outfit."

The fact that the WAAC members have been under attack led Father Labonte to say: "Our WAAC's must be really accomplishing a man-size job. In other words, every one released from behind a typewriter means another man available to be put behind a deadly machine gun."

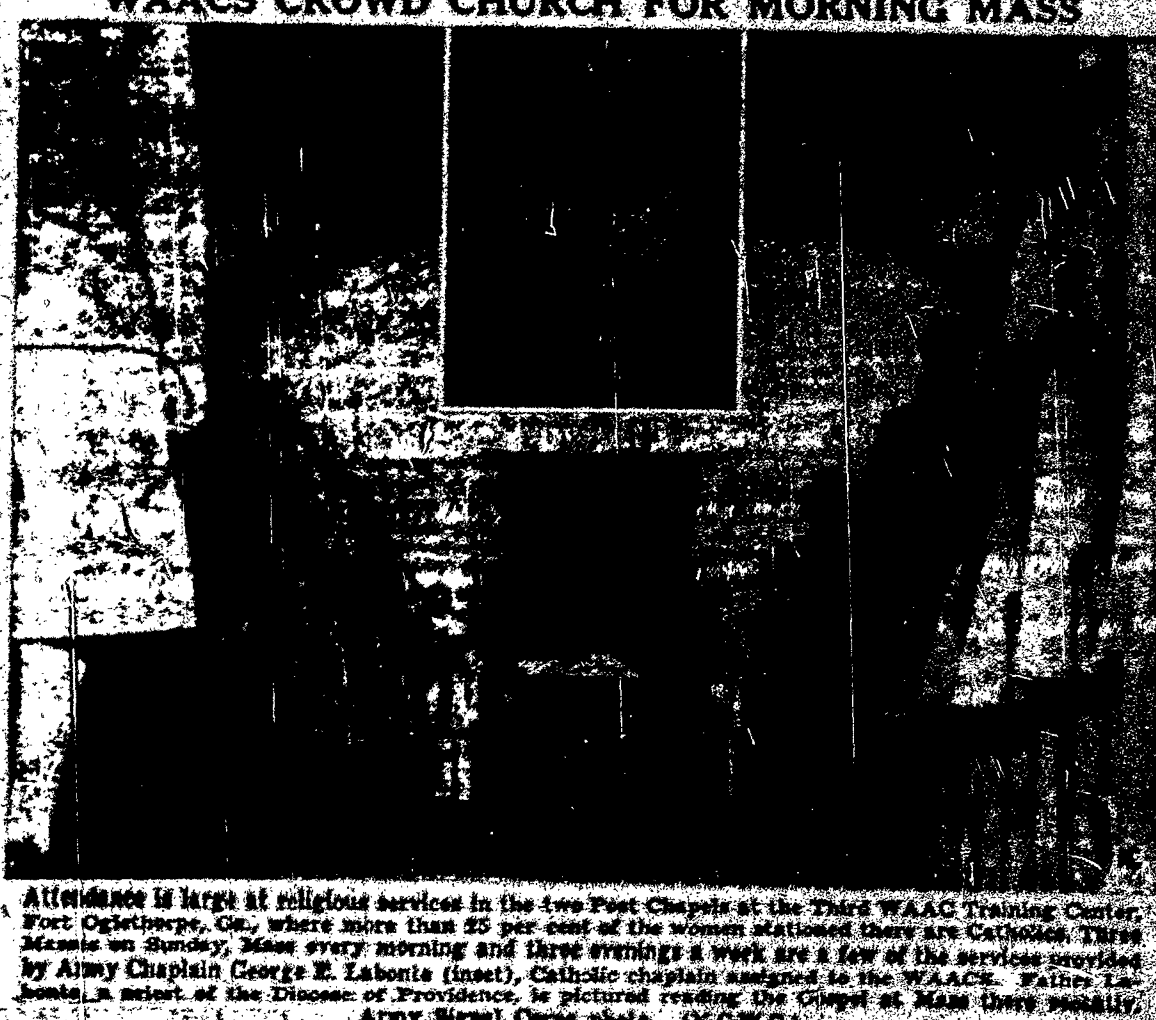
Well-Regulated Life

Father Labonte emphasized the fact that the men and women in service are the same boys and girls they were back home, with the same virtues and faults. "The Army is not a reform school," he said, "therefore one cannot expect the Army to reform bad characters any more than it deforms good ones. Rather, the Army through its well-regulated life, its discipline and its Chaplains' Corps, is conducive to a higher degree of morality, morale and religious aspirations, as experience will attest.

Any unwholesome conditions surrounding our posts are caused by

(Continued on Page 8)

WAACS CROWD CHURCH FOR MORNING MASS



Attendance is large at religious services in the two Post Chapels at the Third WAAC Training Center, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where more than 25 per cent of the women stationed there are Catholics. Three Masses on Sunday, Mass every morning and three evenings a week are a few of the services provided by Army Chaplain George E. Labonte (inset), Catholic chaplain assigned to the WAACS. Father Labonte, a priest of the Diocese of Providence, is pictured reading the Gospel at Mass there recently. Army Signal Corps photo. (N.C.W.C.)

Offices Close Over Holidays

Diocesan Offices will be closed from Friday evening until Tuesday morning (?) the week ends of July 4 and Labor Day.

During July and August, Diocesan Offices will be closed all day Saturday.

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