

K. C. Asks Post-War Consideration For Italy's Catholicism

CLEVELAND (NC)—Two resolutions calling upon the United States Government to insist that the Catholic faith and customs of the Italian people be respected in any post-war arrangements for the administration of that country were adopted at the 51st annual meeting of the Knights of Columbus in Cleveland last week.

Pentiff's Cassock Stained With Blood After Visit To Scene Of Bombing

VATICAN CITY, (NC)—The observance of the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary was marred by the staining of the vestments of the Holy Father when he visited the scene of the bombing of the city of Rome.

Heroic Priest's Death Reveals Sacrifices During Rome Bombings

VATICAN CITY, (NC)—The funeral Monday, Aug. 16, of the Rev. Rafael Mellis, O.M.I., pastor of the Church of Sant'Elena, has brought to focus another story of heroic self-sacrifice on the part of the Roman clergy.

Prayer To 'Man Upstairs' Heard As Plane Blazes

Newest and most dramatic of the "praying soldier" stories is reported by John F. Chester in the New York Daily News: "Lieut. Matthew L. Vinson, 24, of Houston, Texas, pilot on the Flying Fortress Blackheart Junior, stayed without a parachute yesterday and watched his plane built out after two internal explosions ripped his ship.

Vice-Rector Dies

Nicole, Que.—The Very Rev. Chastin Arsenault, Vice-Rector of the Nicolet Seminary, is dead at the age of 71. Ordained 45 years ago, his entire sacerdotal career was spent at the Nicolet Seminary, where he has held many posts.

Whereas certain agencies and groups are now setting about to organize the people for the purpose of imposing the policies and conditions to be imposed upon the people and Government of Italy.

Whereas the placing of the control of the affairs of the people of Italy in the hands of these groups may lead to impose Anti-Catholic philosophies upon the people.

Be it resolved that in the interests of good-will, the Department of State, and any other Governmental agencies concerned in the United States be instructed that it is the desire of the Roman Catholics of America and elsewhere that the control of administering the affairs of Italy be retained and placed in the keeping of Roman Catholics in proportion to the Roman Catholic population of Italy.

A resolution, also adopted by the Supreme Council, introduced by the New York State Council, said, in part:

Whereas Catholicism is the religion of all but a very small portion of the Italian people, and the traditions, customs, codes, and culture of the Italians generally are shaped in that faith; and

Whereas the representatives of the United States Government will exercise temporarily the administrative power necessary to preserve the civil life of the people following the cessation of war until the people can themselves establish their own government.

Be it further resolved, that the Government of the United States be requested, in selecting Italian-Americans for those administrative offices, that gentlemen with religious qualifications that are sympathetic rather than hostile to the people they will serve should be chosen; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be immediately forwarded to the President of the United States.

Touch My Heart! O Sacred Heart that lifted itself up in acts of pure prayer under stress of thy agony, touch my cold heart with a spark of Thy fire, that I may learn to pray in this hour of sorrow and pain.

CONVERT DIPLOMAT GETS L. A. AWARD UNION CITY, N. J.—Jefferson Caffery, United States Ambassador to Brazil, and President Manuel Prado of Peru are the recipients of the 1943 "The Sign" American Awards.

The awards, made annually to a citizen of Latin America and a citizen of North America who are judged to have made the richest contribution to spiritual Inter-Americanism. The announcement was made by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Barry, Chairman of the Committee on Cultural Relations with the American Republics and Canada, together with the editors of "The Sign," magazine published by the Passionist Fathers.

Jefferson Caffery, a convert to the Catholic Church, has spent most of his life in the diplomatic service of his country. Since his appointment to Venezuela in 1931 most of his activities have centered in Latin-American countries. He has been U. S. Ambassador to Brazil since July, 1937.

Now they want us of a food shortage. That's the food we paid farmers not to raise so scarcity would increase prices.—Elizabeth (N. J.) Journal.



QUINTS CONFIRMED. The Dionne quintuplets after their confirmation by Colonel, the Most Rev. Charles L. Nelligan, Bishop of Pembroke and chief Catholic chaplain of the Canadian army. Back row (from left), paternal grandfather, Marie Legoye, their godfather, Monsignor R. M. Clarke, Bishop Nelligan; Father W. H. LaFrance, the parish priest; Mrs. M. Corbett, aunt and godmother; Ernest row, Olivia, Jr., brother; Yvonne, Marie, Cecile, Pauline, Annette, Emile, Daniel. (NCWC).

Marry When 20, Quintuplets Tell Bishop At Confirmation

The Dionne quintuplets, who are now nine years old, believe that the best age to marry is 20! This is what the famous five sisters told Bishop Charles Leo Nelligan of Pembroke, Ont., when he confirmed them Aug. 15 by calendar.

"I questioned the children for about half an hour and found them very well versed indeed in their Catholic religion," the prelate said.

The following is a translation in part of the talk given in French by Bishop Nelligan when he confirmed the Dionne quintuplets:

"My dear children it is three years ago today that you received your first Holy Communion, and I am sure that you haven't forgotten the joy that filled your hearts at that time. Today, on this great feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, you have received the sacrament of Confirmation. It is another great day of happiness in your life.

"You have now been made part of an army, the army of Christ, the army of Our Lord. You have seen soldiers—they carry insignia. As the soldiers of Our Lord you have received today insignia, but it isn't possible to see this insignia with the eyes of your body. It is the insignia which Our Lord made on your souls and which will remain there always, never to be removed. You have received in your souls the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord, and with these is the fortitude to battle the enemies of your souls. As I told you before, you are now soldiers; you have the great honor to be part of the army of Christ, the greatest of all generals.

"One of the virtues of a good soldier is loyalty. This is why you are here, you must always remain loyal to your general, Jesus. You know that a soldier in the Canadian army who knowingly abandons his post is severely punished. That is true also of a soldier belonging to the army of Our Lord. Whoever abandons his post in the army of Jesus commits a great sin, a grievous sin. That's why you must promise today to Our Lord never to sin lest you soil the beautiful mantle of grace which covers your souls at this moment.

"The second virtue of a soldier is courage, bravery. The Sacrament of Confirmation which you have received confers courage and bravery. It gives the courage always to be good Catholics, always to be faithful to one's duty, even to give one's life if it is called for, like Jesus who died on the cross for you.

toward God in loving and serving Him, in saying faithfully your morning and evening prayers, in assisting faithfully at Sunday Mass and in receiving Communion as often as you can. You do your duty toward your neighbor by being always obedient to your parents and your superiors, by being gentle and kind to your brothers, your sisters and your playmates, by always being ready to do something for others. My children, if you do all this you will

please God and he will give generously of his goods in your life and, you yourselves will make others happy.

Cardinal Hails Training Of Polish Priests In U. S.

The proposal of the Bishops of the United States to train future priests for war ravaged Poland at the Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius, at Orchard Lake, Michigan, is acclaimed a "magnanimous offer."

His Eminence August Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland in a letter to the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, and Episcopal Chairman of National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The Polish Cardinal states that whereas the major seminaries of Poland had 2,000 students in 1939, there are today less than 70 students of Theology in the country. All seminaries in Poland have been closed.

The number of priests of the Latin rite in Poland, the Cardinal also reports, has reached the 2,000 mark.

'Living Rosary' At Soldier Field

CHICAGO—Two thousand girls from the Catholic high schools of Chicago will form a living rosary at Soldier Field Sunday evening, Sept. 12, when the Chicago Archdiocesan Union of Holy Name Societies sponsor the Third Annual Holy Name Holy Hour.

As part of the pageantry planned for that evening's ceremonies, the Program Committee, under the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Morrison, Rector of the Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago, and alumnus of St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, has planned to have these two thousand girls go into the formation of a pair of rosary heads while the 150,000 people who are expected to attend the Holy Hour will publicly recite the Hail Marys and Our Father's that compose this devotion to Mary.

Coupled with the rosary feature will be the formation of a huge "V" by approximately one thousand members of the U. S. armed forces.

"They say women aren't qualified for a parachute auxiliary. It's so hard to change your mind after you jump.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Churchill At Rites For General Sikorski Follows Mass Ritual

The recent funeral Mass in London for General Sikorski, Polish Commander-in-Chief, who was killed in an aircraft at Gibraltar, was attended by numerous statesmen and crowned heads, according to N.C.W.C. London correspondent, George Bernard.

The arrival at the Mass of Britain's Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, sent a thrill through the congregation. He was not alone; he had Mrs. Churchill with him as a special mark of their friendship for the Polish Commander. No one in that congregation of 3,000 showed greater interest in the ceremony than did Mr. Churchill; he followed the ritual with a book and stood and knelt at the appointed places as one keenly interested in the unfamiliar but moving rite.

Name Communists To Posts In Badoglio Regime

ROME—Rome's Catholic daily newspaper, L'Avvenire d'Italia, declares that certain nominations that are being made by the new Italian Government in its reorganization of syndicates "demand the fullest reserve on our part."

The paper notes that the new Badoglio Government is naming Socialists, Liberals, Catholics and Communists to posts of responsibility.

All education does today is develop the memory at the expense of the imagination.—Owen Johnson.