

The Age Of Suffering

By Rev. Benedict Humann of St. Bernard's Seminary

The following is a most thoughtful editorial written under the above title by Mr. David Lawrence in The United States News, July 26. Because of its relevance to all Christian men and women, it is reprinted here, with the kind permission of the editors, in order to give it wider attention. Because of its length, it had to be given in two installments.

The people of China more than four years ago began to feel the impact of Japanese bombs—millions of men, women and children were killed or maimed.

Then came the horrible devastation of Warsaw and the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of innocent people in Poland by the Nazi air force.

Shortly afterwards we witnessed the frightful massacre of the people of Holland and Belgium followed later by a mighty Nazi bombing of the people of Britain.

These are not the only civilian populations that have been bombed. We recall the grim list—Norway, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Jugoslavia and France as well as Russia.

On the battlefields hundreds of thousands of Germans and Italians and British and French and Russians have fallen—and still the

war goes on to a stage of perhaps even larger casualties.

Now it is we, bombing Japanese, Italian and German cities, who are inflicting on the civilian populations the misery that comes from aerial warfare.

Bombing of Rome was a sensational example of the lengths to which even our own air forces are strained to go in order to attack military objectives. Only Mussolini's refusal, however, to cease using Rome as a military center and to declare it an open city prompted the aerial attack of the Allied bombers.

Like a pestilence or famine of old, the epidemic of war has swept the globe. Even nations which have had a horror of engaging in a struggle wherein civilian populations became the innocent victims of necessary military strategy growing out of the use of a new weapon—the plane bomber—have found themselves reluctant to raising enemy cities irrespective of the incidental destruction of human life among the civilians—men, women and children.

PHRASE 'HUMAN WARFARE' IS OUTMODDED NOW

We are at grips with enemies who give no quarter and do not hesitate to use the U-boat as well as the airplane to accomplish ruthlessly the objectives of total war. The phrase "human warfare" which was so much in our vocabulary in World War I is almost wholly outmoded today. The only exception is that as yet gas attacks have not been employed on any organized basis. And these may come before the war ends.

In America World War I brought us relatively few casualties. In a corresponding eighteen months of World War II our casualties have not been even as high as then.

But Americans are shedding their blood on all continents and on the seven seas. We have mobilized many more men this time and the area of combat is truly world-wide. We see ahead another year or more of war, and that means more casualties in the theaters of actual conflict and more suffering in the homes of our people.

WAR'S HORRORS PORTEND CHANGE IN HUMAN SPIRIT

The residents of belligerent areas have suffered far more than we. The suffering of the German and the Italian peoples is heavy. That of the Russian and the Chinese peoples probably exceeds anything experienced by other nations. The people of Britain have stood staunchly under air raids and have watched ship after ship go down in the icy waters of the North Atlantic with loved ones aboard.

The peoples of France and Poland and Czechoslovakia and Holland and Belgium and Norway and Jugoslavia and Greece have suffered not only the agonies of attack by land and air but they have felt the humiliation and tortures as well of a conqueror's yoke.

What will the effect of all this suffering be? We in America, sorely touched by World War I, entered a period of unexampled prosperity and riotous living thereafter. It will not be the same this time. For the casualties will be heavier and the damage greater. Already we perceive in the attitude of the British people a profound change—an awareness of war as a leveler of mankind. Class distinctions vanished as human beings were huddled together in the overcrowded air raid shelters of London's underground, waiting in terror for the end of the bombings. Only in Germany or in territories controlled by Hitler and Mussolini are demarcations of race or religion retained. And even within those zones kind hearts risk their lives to befriend the victims of "racial superiority" and the brutal tortures of starvation deliberately imposed on the helpless and the innocent.

Something must have stirred and still must be stirring within Christian souls in Aisle domains. There could hardly be a worshiping of Christ on Sundays or an adherence to the gospel of the Brotherhood of Man if no pity were manifest during the week as other creatures of God were being subjected to cruelties and crimes so flagrantly violative of Christian dogma and Christian philosophy. (To be continued)

Laws, Duties Of Catholic Education

The laws and duties of Catholic education are discussed in the following Canon laws of the Church:

Canon 1377. 1. All the faithful must from childhood be educated in such a way that not only they are taught nothing contrary to faith and morals, but that religious and moral training takes the first place.

Not only parents but all those who take their place, have the right and the solemn duty to provide a Christian education for their children.

This Canon is based on Canon 1311, which reads:

Canon 1311. Parents are under the gravest kind of obligation to provide to the best of their ability for the religious and civil education of their children, and for their temporal well being.

Canon 1373. 1. In every elementary school religious instruction should be given the children according to their age.

Youths who frequent the secondary or higher schools should be given fuller instruction in Christian doctrine and the social Ordinaries, bishops and archbishops should see to it that this instruction is given by serious and learned priests.

NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Canon 137. It is for the local Ordinary bishop or archbishop to decide according to the instructions of the Apostolic See in what circumstances and with what precautions attendance at other schools may be tolerated without danger of perversion to the pupils.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

Out on the way 970 MEN CATHOLIC! 8% of ALL CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES ARE IRISH!

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST. BORN 400 YEARS AGO.

It is estimated there are nearly 600,000,000 Catholics in the world.

It is among the members of the Bishop's Council on the subject of the Catholic Cross. Symbolical of the calling of all for Christ's service.

Living By A Non Credo

By REV. DANIEL J. LOED, S.J.

Have you ever noticed, written a pleasant and very loyal Catholic correspondent, how many people live by a "Non Credo"?

The other day she asked me off her office to get to Mass. Her words gave her prompt and intelligent permission. But as she was getting into the car she said to me: "I don't believe in hell."

Protestant Insurance Companies

In the past several years I have been a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. I was a member when the Foresters were organized, but Holy Family Church in Chicago's West Side must have long since lost its forestry surroundings when the ground was established their new order. There is something a little ironic in that group of city-folk sitting down to call themselves Foresters.

To me for years the Foresters meant my Mother's own association with any society. She was certainly a non-Joker. But she took insurance in the Women's Foresters, and for a brief period was actually persuaded to go to meetings. Our family was "fraternal-insurance-minded" in those days. I recall that my father belonged in the Royal Arcanum—which was a wave that was resonant and empty until its first year high I learned that Arcanum meant in Latin a secret. I momentarily felt a bit of pride that my dad was in on a Royal Secret. . . . I can't appreciate my Mother with treading about in fraternal, royal or otherwise.

I'd heard at various times that the fraternal organizations had taken a beating. A Mass once told me that even the highest of plugging for a treaty based on Christian principles regarding imperialism, a peace with justice, in other words, but—peace at any price? We don't think Our Lord would like that idea.

Keep Up Fight

The current news commentary by I am barely conscious of the present before it has become the past, and my eyes light on a thing only to behold it vanish. The struggle for existence is inevitable, but nothing can justify an in making our whole life. Absurdities in it.

couldn't be invited into other meetings any more. They stayed home and listened to the radio or went with the family to the neighborhood movie or to the Proletarian Club. I know of several Catholics in fraternal organizations who were members to death by one logic (that were all drowned up) had to place an earth to go.

So I was pleased to see that the Foresters have grown, and they are a pretty large and flourishing and apparently solvent in business company, and that they will meet the Catholics in their name that they took any back in the days of Archbishop Fuchs.

How would you categorize an insurance company? With the hope that its members would live long and die late? Or with the wish that all its members commit themselves to death? Or with the prayer that God may bless their Catholicity and make them the instrument of security to those who put their financial trust in them?

Retain These Laws

The problem of staffing a hotel these days is not that there are too many experienced hotel men. Sometimes these adventures are suggesting even to themselves.

The manager of one of the city's biggest hotels stopped me the other day about me in the morning on his way to his hotel. He noticed that the elevator operator a young man was in his uniform. He when the car was cleared he said quietly: "Don't you think you ought to be wearing your uniform when you operate the elevator?" "Oh," replied the young man, "I don't work here. I'm just picking it up a while until my old boss's regular operator goes to Europe for his fate."

The Lure of the Comic

The partridge school ran a big paper drive. When it was finished, the basement of the school was packed with newspapers which the Sisters with sunny help had taken into transportation/hauler. A few days later, one of the sisters had that strange, somewhat sense of trouble around the school. She finally got down into the basement where the paper was waiting for the trucks. Five young men were also piled up papers. They had snatched and gone through the whole mass, tearing papers all over the place as they searched for comic books and the comic sections of the newspapers.

Medievalism

Cried the little youngster looking at the picture of Jesus sweeping over Jerusalem. "Oh, look, mommy! Our Lord is striking the blackest."

Five and Ten Years Ago

(From the Files of the CATHOLIC COURIER)

From Aug. 24, 1932, Edition Abuse of Irish names and use of Gaelic names by those not of Irish extraction whose misdeeds bring opprobrium on the Irish race were decried by New York State members, Ancient Order of Hibernians, convening in Rochester.

From Aug. 23, 1932, Edition "The maintenance of a Catholic school requires sacrifice on the part of many. Under the best of conditions, even under adverse conditions it requires tremendous sacrifice," declared the Rev. John M. Duffy, Superintendent, Catholic Schools, Diocese of Rochester, in his opening of schools statement.

Find New Strength

"There are many worthy followers of St. Joan of Arc right here in their unstinting service, willing sacrifice and bravery. Many of our women in the WAC are lifting themselves to higher levels of living. They are finding new strength and new satisfaction—a new direction of life and new nobility. Many who have lived for self before are beginning to look and live for God. Out of my own observation and experience, and not just out of expectation, I will say that service in the WAC has been for many a means of grace and the beginning of a new peace and dignity of the soul." —Rev. George W. Casey, Army Chaplain.

Mrs. Spencer Tracy, wife of the movie actor, has established the John Tracy Clinic for Mothers of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Her son, John Tracy, is totally deaf.—The Ohio Chronicle.

Movie Guide

- NEW FILMS REVIEWED**
- Death Valley Mankunt, A-1
 - Passport to Suez, A-1
 - True to Life, A-1
 - Fallen Sparrow, The, A-2
 - Fired Wife, B
- AT THE THEATRES**
- PALACE**
- Hera to Hold, A-1
 - Alaska Highway, A-1
- LOEW'S ROCHESTER**
- III Diddle Diddle, B
 - Hitler's Madman, A-2
- CENTURY**
- Frostier Badman, A-1
 - Someone to Remember, A-2
- REGENT**
- Heaven Can Wait, A-1
 - Spotlight Scandal (Not classified)
- TEMPLE**
- I Was a Spy (Not classified)
 - Transatlantic Tunnel (Not classified)
- LITTLE**
- Love from a Stranger (not classified)