

# The Age Of Suffering

By Rev. Benedict Egan, of St. Bernard's Rectory

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 Christians, and because it is reprinted here, with the kind permission of the author, as an illustration of the kind of suffering which is being done to the world.

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 nightly 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 dimensions.

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

Bombing of Rome was a sensational example of the lengths to which even our side has been constrained to go in order to attack military objectives. Only Mussolini's refusal, however, to continue using Rome as a military center and to declare it an open city prompted the action of the Allied commanders.

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 whereby civilian populations become the innocent victims of necessary military strategy growing out of the use of a new weapon—the airplane bomber—have found themselves reluctantly raiding enemy cities irrespective of the incidental destruction of human life among the civilians—men, women and children.

### PLEASE, WE WANT WARFARE IN OUTSIDER 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 missing 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 humiliations and tortures as well as a conqueror's yoke.

What will the effect of all this suffering be? We in America, scarcely 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 bombing. 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" amid the brutal tortures of starvation deliberately imposed on the helpless and the innocent.

Something much has stirred and still must be stirring within Christian souls in Axis 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 enshrined in the following Canon laws of the Church.

Canon 1372. 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 religion 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.

The Canon is based on Canon 1113, which reads:

Canon 1113. 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. In every elementary school religious instruction should be given the children according to their age.

In towns where frequent the secondary or higher schools should be given fuller instruction in Christian doctrine and the local Ordinaries (bishops and archbishops) should see to it that this instruction is given by persons and learned priests.

### NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Canon 1374. 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.

# PEACE AT ANY PRICE?

By REV. RICHARD GARDNER

No, sir, not on your life! If we see someone leaping up a man, may help a woman for all that matter, we're going to jump in with both feet. We're going to have peace, all right, even if we have to lay the fellow on the head with a baseball bat. That's why we have a police force, as a kind of civil army, in perpetual warfare with those who violate the law and the rights of others. Although we see what hate trouble us work as a policeman, he still backs up his revolver and takes up his position when he goes on duty.

The military forces of the government can be considered in that same way—as an expanded police force, but in defense of the rights of our country and to subdue those who would invade their rights.

### ALL FOR PEACE

We Catholics are all for peace. Our Lord blessed the peacemakers and called them God's children. Pope Pius XI prayed constantly for the Peace of Christ in the Reign of Christ. But that doesn't mean that we are only to lay the wrist of a government which bombs and property or to trade with international powers which consort with the Old Enemy.

Christ apparently recognized suffering as a legitimate profession—at least He had nothing to say against it. The advice is military given by St. John the Baptist is quoted with the evident approval of the Holy Ghost in St. Luke's gospel: "And the soldier also asked him, saying, 'And we what are we to do?' And he said to them, 'Plunder no one, neither accuse anyone falsely, and be content with your pay.'—III 14. Our Lord Himself commended the faith of the Roman centurion, but He did not ask him to lay down his arms. And the first non-Jew converted to Christianity and baptized by St. Peter (and similarly a captain, or centurion, of the Roman army. Acts 10: 1 ff.).

The great St. Bernard of Clairvaux preached a holy war, a Crusade, against the Moslems for the recovery of the Holy Sepulchre in Palestine—and the Pope blessed the project, because Christians were being hindered from visiting those sacred places.

In fact, the story of the faithful has selected definite persons for the protection of soldiers; St. Martin, St. George, Ignatius and Sebastian, and St. Andrew, one of the greatest prelates in the history of our Church, wrote: "Fortitude which protects the homeland against barbarians in war... is full of righteousness."

We pray for peace, of course, and when this war is over we shall

# STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

On the wall 970 Irish Catholics...  
 THE CHURCH OF MARY, MARY...  
 It is estimated that over 500,000 Catholics...  
 It is the duty of every Catholic...  
 as the proper discipline...  
 of the Holy Spirit...

# Living By A Non Credo

By REV. DANIEL A. LOUD, S.J.

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

The husband in question. The other day she asked him if from her office to get to Mass. Her husband gave her prompt and intelligent permission. But as she was getting on her feet, the girl at the next desk began her string of diatribes.

### Fraternization Campaign

In the mail comes a really impressive booklet telling of the 50th Anniversary of the Catholic Order of Foresters. I wasn't around when the Foresters were organized, but Holy Family Church on Chicago's West Side must have long since lost its forestry surroundings when the pioneers set to establish 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 old 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 "fraternization-minded" in those days. I recall that my father belonged to the Royal Arcanum—which was a word that was resonant and empty until in first year high school 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 shall associate my Mother with fraternalism in forests, royal or otherwise.

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

### Keep Up Fight

The current news interestingly by I am barely conscious of the present before it has become the past, and my eye light on a thing by it holds it steady. The struggle for existence is inevitable, but nothing can justify it in such a way which life is dependent on it.

consider by treating his attending meetings, my own. They stayed home and talked to the radio or went with the family to the neighborhood movie or to the picture show. I know of several Catholics in fraternal organizations which have members in clubs by meetings that were all closed up and had no place on earth to go.

As I was pleased to note that the Foresters have a point, that they are a pretty big and flourishing and apparently without insurance company, so that they will have the Catholic in their name that they have very high in the days of Archbishop Ryan.

### How's These Days

The problem of finding a hotel these days is one that faces the most experienced hotel men. Sometimes their adventures are surprising even to themselves.

The manager of one of the city's biggest hotels stepped into the elevator about one in the morning on his way to his room. He noticed that the elevator operator, a young man, was not in uniform. He when the car was closed he said, "You're not think you ought to be wearing your uniform when you operate the elevator?"

### The Love of the Country

The patriotic mood ran a big paper drive. When it was finished, the basement of the abbey was packed with newspapers which the Sisters with steady hands had laid into transportable bundles. A few days later, one of the sisters had that strange aversion of trouble around the abbey. She finally got down into the basement where the paper was waiting for the trucks. Five youngsters were also piled of papers. They had unpacked and gone through the whole mass, putting the papers all over the place as they searched for comic books and the comic sections of the newspapers. "Anyone want to write an editorial on comic papers?"

# Five and Ten Years Ago

(From the Files of the CATHOLIC COURIER)

From Aug. 24, 1938, 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 decry by New York State members Ancient Order of Hibernians, convening in Rochester.

From Aug. 25, 1938, Edition "The maintenance of a Catholic school requires sacrifice on the part of many even under the best of conditions. 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 inclining 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 Club 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 Manhunt, A-1
  - Empire in Snow, A-1
  - True to Life, A-1
  - Fallen Sparrow, Top, A-2
  - Fired Wife, B
- AT THE THEATRES
- PALACE
- Here to Hold, A-1
  - Alaska Highway, A-1
- LOEW'S ROCHESTER
- Mi Diddle Diddle, B
  - Hiller's Madman, A-2
- CENTURY
- Frontier Badman, A-1
  - Someone to Remember, A-2
- REGENT
- Heaven Can Wait, A-2
  - Spotlight Scandal (Not classified)
- TEMPLE
- I Was a Spy (Not classified)
  - Transatlantic Tunnel (Not classified)
- LITTLE
- Love from a Stranger (not classified)