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## Catholic Verein Peace Plan Discussed At Joint Session

The Declaration on Peace and Reconstruction adopted at the national convention was the chief topic in reports of the meeting at Springfield, Ill., and the state convention at Elmira, made by delegates at the joint meeting of the Rochester Branches, Catholic Central Verein of America and the National Catholic Women's Union.

The joint meeting was held Sunday afternoon, Sept. 19, at St. Joseph's Hall.

Explaining the "Declaration," delegates reported that it is based on the utterances of the Popes for the past fifty years as set forth in the book recently published by the National Committee and entitled "Principles for Peace." It consists of five points: namely: The Dignity of the Human Person, The Supremacy of Law, The Law of Nations, The Will To Peace and The Reconstruction of the Social Order.

The delegates reported that Archbishop Stritch at the national convention mass meeting referred to the Declaration after it had been read by His Excellency, the Most Rev. Aloisius J. Muench, Bishop of Fargo, N.D., as an historic document and one that should be given the widest publicity. Archbishop Stritch and Bishop Muench are two of the three members of the Bishops' Committee for Peace. Reports from the State Convention at Elmira indicated that the convention had followed the example of the National Convention and made the Declaration of Peace and Reconstruction its chief business.

The Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, delivered the sermon at the Mass which opened the State Convention, it was reported. He emphasized the need for organizations such as the Catholic Central Verein of America and the National Catholic Women's Union, and pointed out that they would have to expect to meet the same reception that usually is accorded to teachings that run counter to the evils of the day. He congratulated the organizations on the work that they have accomplished in the past and urged them to continue along the

## Public High Teacher Writes Of Meeting 'Guadalcanal Padre'

Charles N. Stalker, formerly on the staff of Benjamin Franklin High School, Rochester, and now on active duty with the United States Navy, reveals in a letter to a former Rochester associate that he has been the tenant of the celebrated "Guadalcanal Padre," the Rev. Frederick Gehring, C.M.

Mr. Stalker writes: "Credit is due the Chaplains who serve in these far-away places for their continuous efforts to guide us. They don't preach goodness, but rather help lead men to clear thinking and to a better understanding of life."

"My associations include not only Protestant, since I am a Protestant, but also Catholic chaplains. My tentmate is one of the finest Catholic priests you could ever find, Chaplain Frederick Gehring, the Guadalcanal Padre, a former teacher at St. John's Preparatory School in Brooklyn. Men have died in his arms. Thousands have come to him with their troubles and he has always been willing to relieve their burdens. You will find no finer man. He climbed down rope ladders with me and we shoved off together in our landing barge seeking the shelter of dense jungles to hide us from the enemy. Problems never arose for which he did not know the answer. Pitching jungle hammocks, digging fox-holes, rocking in our helmets, and establishing permanent camp were only a part of what we indulged in together. The Chaplain's spirit and leadership were superb in every respect. Here he led Catholics, Protestants, and Jews alike, in an attempt to establish peace and justice throughout the world.

"The highest tribute or commendation should be paid these chaplains of all denominations for their untiring efforts in this great struggle. Father Gehring is an excellent symbol, and example of the ideal Chaplain. He deserves the highest commendation, for he may be looked up to as a leader, a teacher and a friend of men. The Chaplain's part in this world struggle may best be portrayed by this unforgettable character. August 16, 1943.

CHARLES N. STALKER

## ST. BONIFACE PARISH

### PLEA FOR COOPERATION

Three questions are directed to parishioners at this time which should serve as a reminder of some important duties and responsibilities.

"FIRST, in view of the great importance of supporting our Seminary and the necessity for reaching our quota of \$300.00, will you contribute at least \$2.00 next Sunday when the Seminary Collection will be taken up at all the Masses? Failure to make our quota means that your church will have to make up the deficiency and it is the sincere wish of your pastor that your generosity will enable us to collect our full quota in next Sunday's collection.

"SECOND, if your child is in the Public High or Grammar school will you kindly sign a card which your child will present to the school Principal, in order to obtain an excuse and thus enable your child to receive religious instruction granted by our State? During the present crisis your child needs religious instruction more than ever. Please cooperate. It is your sacred obligation.

"THIRD, considering the many urgent improvements which are necessary at this time, will you sign up for the House Card Parties which will be held from October until May? The receipts will be most welcome and you can enjoy entertainment in your own homes during the fall and winter seasons."

### OVERSEAS MAIL

Sgt. Vic Chabante, Co. A, 80th Infantry, APO 9, New York, writes from Sicily as follows: "I am not disappointed with life in Sicily. The people were very glad to see us and you would be surprised to know that many people talk English. Last Sunday I had the opportunity to attend Mass at a Cathedral that was built in the 12th century. Several thousand Catholic boys from our division attended the Mass, also one of the soldiers sang an Ave Maria. Our Chaplain sang the Mass, another preached the sermon. The event is something that I shall never forget. Regards to all."

Pvt. Joseph Hall also wrote a short letter from India in which he tells of many interesting sights and the hot weather. Correct ad-

resses of overseas service men can be obtained from the Club Secretary. The Club will send gifts to overseas soldiers before Oct. 1.

### CLUB NEWS

Bowling will get off to a flying start within two weeks. Eight teams have been formed in the new Club league. Additional bowlers are invited to join the club and participate in the games. Several leagues composed of ladies will also take part. The first general club meeting will be held the second Sunday of October at which time election of officers will be held.

Always remember your end, and that time lost never returns.—Ecclesiasticus, VII, 36.

### ST. MICHAEL'S

869 CLINTON AVENUE NORTH

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MASSSES—Sunday: 6, 7, 8:30, 9:45 and 11, High Mass.

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