

# Vandals Desecrate Tabernacle, Statue In 'Anti-God Move'

Vandalism attributed to a rising "Anti-God movement" has resulted in the desecration of a tabernacle and the destruction of an outdoor statue of the Madonna in the neighborhood of Rochester and Syracuse.

Shocked by the theft and desecration of the Tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament from St. Anthony of Padua Church, Hancock, N. Y., Catholics of the Triple Cities area immediately offered solemn reparation for the act of sacrilegious vandalism.

As reported in The Catholic Sun, Syracuse Diocesan newspaper, the Tabernacle, containing the Blessed Sacrament and sacred vessels, was pried loose from the thick wooden surface of the altar to which it was attached by four heavy bolts.

Tabernacle Recovered

Entrance to the church was effected through a window attacked by the thieves. After a day-long search the Tabernacle and the Sacred Hosts were recovered about 8:30 on Sunday evening about 20 feet off the roadway near Upper Main Street in Birmingham.

Angry by discovery of the desecration committed by unknown vandals early on Saturday morning (Nov. 8), Catholics from the entire area crowded the violated church continuously on the following Sunday (Nov. 7), and in the evening offered the Solemn Act of Reparation as ordered by the Most Rev. Walter A. Feary, Bishop of the Syracuse Diocese.

On hearing of the sacrilege, reported to him by the Rev. Filomeno Gorman, pastor of St. Anthony's Church, Bishop Feary ordered Sunday to be set aside as a Day of Reparation with Solemn Procession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

The prayers and official Act of Reparation were read in St. Anthony's Church by the Rev. Robert E. Dillon, representative of the Bishop.

Discovery of the dismantled and violated Tabernacle in the neighborhood of Birmingham on Saturday evening was made by Joseph P. Monahan and his men who were returning from a hunting trip.

Recognizing the bronze Tabernacle and vessels as sacred property, Mr. Monahan hurriedly notified his pastor, the Rev. C. D. Shughnessy of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Father Shughnessy immediately recovered the Sacred Hosts and vessels.

Afterward the ground where the Tabernacle was found, a space about three or four feet wide, and about ten feet in length, was soaked with water and later the ground was burned.

Desecration of the Madonna of the Highway statue at Old St. Mary's Church, Washington Park, Rochester, on Nov. 8, has resulted in arrangements by the Rev. Dr. George F. Kettell, pastor, of an act of reparation for a month to continue until Dec. 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

A vandal, as yet uncaught, struck the statue with a heavy instrument which broke an arm from the Infant Jesus and smashed the eyes and nose of the Madonna. Vandalism was perpetrated the same night on several Rochester Protestant churches.

That the destruction was motivated by "Anti-God" elements was the belief of Dr. Kettell who expressed himself at the Armistice Day Mass in Old St. Mary's Church.

Prayers are being offered before the side altar of the Blessed Virgin in Old St. Mary's where many of the faithful pause to light a candle in act of reparation.



# SOME MEMORIES OF BISHOP McQUAID

By Rt. Rev. Mose James J. Hartley, P.A., Rector Emeritus of St. Bernard's Seminary

## Chapter II

It may be asked why this wealthy and populous country had no native clergy for a century or more? The answer to this question is that the bishops of the United States were

as a rule born and educated in foreign countries, and a good part of the faithful were immigrants.

... of Boston, a far-sighted prelate was the first to seek a remedy for this regrettable condition. Early in 1864 he purchased the property of a defunct Methodist seminary in Troy, N. Y., for a provincial seminary and then hastened to Belgium to get a teaching staff to which he would add two or three priests of his own. He called first on the Bishop of Ghent, who to his great surprise offered him four distinguished graduates of the University of Louvain, including the rector of his own seminary. This good bishop had intended as a young priest to go on the American mission, but local conditions changed his career. Bishop Fitzpatrick hurried with the new professors to Antwerp to get the next boat leaving for New York; and the boat was on its course but a few hours when the bishop of Ghent suddenly expired. His last official act was one of generosity to the young church of this country.

... sent all their students to the Provincial Seminary, and if the other dioceses following the student list would have numbered over two hundred fifty instead of one hundred twenty or occasional by a few more. Bishop McQuaid had made a thorough study of the enactments of the Council of Trent, the greatest of all the councils of the Church, and he noted with surprise that as early as the middle of the sixteenth century the Church advised the bishops to seek recruits for the sanctuary not among the nobility or the aristocracy but among the children of the common people. Therefore the clerical students should be children of the diocese, not of a foreign country. But in the year 1864 a large eastern diocese had four excellent candidates for the subdiaconate, and as they had paid all their expenses through college and the seminary they hoped to receive a call to orders, but only one was chosen, whose pastor was a personal friend of the bishop, and the other three had to seek a new diocese. This was not an isolated case but a condition quite prevalent.

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... A TRUE FRIEND Bishop McQuaid on the contrary wrote in his pastoral letter that he would receive any suitable student of the diocese and enable him to continue his studies for the priesthood, and if there were no need of his services here he would secure a place for him in another diocese. He was a true friend of the American priesthood.

... A peculiar condition obtained in Troy in 1863 when there were only nine dioceses for ordination, as if the saturation point had been reached. There were two for New York, a marvellous supply for a great archdiocese, none for Boston or any eastern diocese, two for Albany and five for Rochester. The annual boatload of clergy from Ireland arrived in time.

... That year Rochester did not need a new priest, but four of these were ordained the following year and one in 1865. It must not be inferred that Troy did not have students from other dioceses than those mentioned. In the class of ordinands for the year 1864 the writer was the only subject of Rochester, but there were two from Peoria and one from Chicago; New York had twelve, three of whom were ordained in June, 1865. The Rochester candidate also was deferred.

## RESPECT FOR PROFESSORS

Bishop McQuaid always paid great respect to the professors of the provincial seminary at Troy, as he was personally acquainted with all of them, invited them as guests to his rectory on Frank St., Rochester, and to his summer cottage at Hamlock Lake.

At times he visited the seminary and addressed the students, but he was the only bishop who did this: the other bishops came when it was their turn to ordain.

In those two years the Troy professors, if they had been alert, might have grasped a golden opportunity. There was no Catholic University in the country and they could have instituted a department of university studies, as distinguished graduates of the Louvain institute could be easily procured, and many bishops would have been eager to have a select group of priests to supervise educational work in their dioceses.

The saturation point will soon be reached in many dioceses and one may wonder if in the future the professors of St. Bernard's will be content to address a dwindling number in their classes or resolve to seize the grand opportunity Troy missed. There are now several Catholic universities in this country: the Catholic University at Washington; the St. Louis University; three in Chicago, Loyola University, De Paul University and Mundelein. The celebrated Notre Dame University has no department for priests, except its own members on account of its proximity to Chicago. Two of these are located in southern cities where the climate is so warm as to make study difficult a notable

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MILLIONS of radio listeners will hear for the first time on December 7, second anniversary of Pearl Harbor, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman's "An American Creed," inspired by his memories of visits with thousands of American boys he met and led in worship on his recent overseas tour of 34 countries. As a background of inspiring music, Archbishop Spellman, head of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York City, will recite the tribute on NBC's weekly "Salute To Youth" broadcast over a nationwide network at 7:30 p.m. (EWT).

# Chaplain Flays Phrase On 'Fox Hole Atheists'

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—That the popular phrase, "there are no atheists in a fox hole," is "untrue and an insidious statement," was the belief expressed in an A. P. dispatch by Chaplain Thomas M. Rowden of the U. S. Navy back from Guadalcanal.

Speaking at an Armistice Day ceremony, the curate said, "many have gone into fox holes without God and have no found him there."

"Those words have done much harm," the chaplain said. "They console many in thinking they can do as they please before the bombing and fighting and cause them to presume upon the mercy of God in those terrible moments of battle, which may be their last." Lieut. Rowden told interviewers he was among the first men to land on Guadalcanal.

One group which seized a Japanese position and forgotten to provide itself with a United States flag and a marine placed a pocket-size flag on the pole which had borne the Japanese rising sun. The little emblem "Bew there for a month before it was replaced. He is undergoing treatment for malaria and black water fever.

# Hail German Bishops' Defy of Nazi Tyranny

LONDON—Courageous resistance against Nazi tyranny by German Catholic bishops is reported by writers in the British press.

Arvid Fredberg in the Daily Express:

"It is the Roman Catholic Church which has led the way in the fight for freedom of conscience. The courage shown by many individual Churchmen in standing up to the Nazis is exemplified by Bishop Count Galen of Munster whose anti-Nazi sermons, preached to packed congregations, have been printed and secretly circulated all over Germany."

General T. Fin in the Daily Telegraph:

"The Catholic Church is an international world power. Catholic bishops, Count Conrad Preysing, in Berlin, Count Galen of Munster, and the late Cardinal Schulte, of Cologne, have not hesitated in their positions to speak out fearlessly and openly against the Nazis."

# Chaplain Redington Reports From Sicily

Formerly professor of Theology at St. Bernard's Seminary and now chaplain with the United States Army, Rev. John A. Redington reports he has arrived in Sicily.

Chaplain Redington, the Rev. Thomas A. Redington, who is chaplain of the 1st Army, reports that he has arrived in Sicily.

# 'Red' Pamphlet Plots Against Catholic Leaders In Germany

(C. V. HEVINCHE) ST. LOUIS—It can hardly be counted an accident, either of time or intent, that a copy of "The Case of Dr. Bruening" should have been presented recently to every member of Congress. This lengthy pamphlet, written by Bernhard Meune and published in England, is a scathing attack on Germany's pro-Hitler chancellor and other Catholic leaders, including Cardinal Faulhaber.

The accusation does not appear unwarranted that the pamphlet is an attempt to refute the rumor that will not die, a rumor first heard in Europe and more recently imported to our country, to the effect that the Catholic statesman, Heinrich Bruening, currently professor at Harvard, is being considered by the allied powers as the possible leader of an allied-directed post-war Germany.

"The Case of Dr. Bruening" and its present circulation is all the more significant. It is of further interest in the light of the discussion of the question now being asked in various countries: what shall be done with Germany after she is defeated?

At the outset a note on the pamphlet's author is necessary. The booklet's title refers to him as a "former member of the German Communist party, former chief member of the party's official press in Germany." The Red pamphlet was compiled from the year 1933 and for five years

thereafter was a member of the Social Democrat party. His pretense at "reform" from his Communist antecedents reminds one of the doggerel "when the devil is sick the devil a monk would be."

But of Meune's diatribe of Dr. Bruening there can be no doubt. Throughout the pamphlet the words "authoritarian chancellor" appear, while frequent use is made of such terms as "leader of the militarist-clerical conspirators." The author goes out of his way to comment on what he calls the "anti-Bolshevik line (1) adopted by the Vatican during the twenties." Pope Pius XI he considers "the most authoritarian Pope in modern church history."

Bruening's military policy is cited as treacherous and crafty. The economic policy is summed up thus: "The heaviest burdens were placed on the shoulders of those least able to bear them, and in fact the scourge of Bruening's economic policy hit so deeply into the flesh of the masses of the German people that even the patient Catholic trade union leaders cried out in protest."

Quite understandably Meune castigates the "Catholic Center Party" of the German republic along with Dr. Bruening. In this pamphlet such terms as "political Catholicism" recur on almost every page. The present Holy Father, at that time papal nuncio in Germany, is regarded as somewhat of a politician. For instance, his "demonstrative friendship" with the prelate Dr. Kasa, at one time

the leader of the Center Party, is construed as "an encouragement to political Catholicism."

Not until the very end of his 80-page, closely printed pamphlet, however, does Bernhard Meune even intimate why it should have been written at this time. Commenting on Bruening's exile since 1934, the author concludes: "He has retreated into the haven of silence, and from his safety he is cautiously and hopefully studying the rapid swirl of events in the outside world. Let there be no doubt about it: he is waiting for his cue."

Whether Dr. Bruening receives that cue or not is almost incidental to the larger implication of the question: when Nazism goes down to defeat with the military conquest of Germany, what type of government will arise in that country? The choice is rapidly slimming down to one of only two possibilities: a Communist inspired government, or one in which the Catholic element will be given a considerable measure of power. For the German co-operators of the allies inside Germany will not be the three million or so Communists, whose alternative is class war. Nor the occupants of concentration camps: the liberals, the intellectuals, the "uncertain" people. The most reliable element round whom a new unity can rally are the vast numbers of Catholics and others who have kept faith with the permanent values of Christianity.