

### Backs Right Of Priests To Own Views

QUEBEC. (NC) — In matters outside of dogma and religious teaching, a priest has the right to think according to his own views, says a statement issued from the residence of His Excellence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec.

The statement follows: "Some public papers and certain correspondents have called to the attention of the Ordinary... Without attaching more importance than is due to this kind of blackmail, it is necessary, however, to recall that the opinions in question are not raised by the Ordinary. However, contestable these opinions may appear to them without going to the trouble of judging them with severity, they do not constitute an act liable to ecclesiastical sanction, neither from the point of view of natural law, nor civil law, nor canon law."

"In matters outside of dogma and religious teachings, even a priest has the right to think according to his own views. He has no need for any order to this effect, no more than his opponents; it suffices for all to exercise honesty, justice and courtesy."

"Also, those protesting would be the last to be satisfied if exclusions of this nature were practiced in their camp."

### Defines Forbidden Books, Press Freedom

WASHINGTON. (NC) — "In no proper sense is an index of forbidden books opposed to true freedom of the press," writes the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Hart, director of the Washington Catholic Evidence Guild and associate professor of philosophy at Catholic University, in an article on "Freedom of the Press and Forbidden Books," to appear in the February issue of the National Catholic Welfare Conference here.

Dr. Hart observes that the Church's legislation in large part merely reinforces the natural law which requires us to do good and avoid evil. "Apparently the United States Government," he writes, "is in general accord with the Catholic Church as to right's nature and therefore to the logic of publishing lists of forbidden books."

"Freedom of every kind, including that of the press," Dr. Hart concludes, "must be freedom under law if the common good is to prevail. Lawless freedom is not freedom at all but license. Of course there are not a few today who deny the existence of any natural moral law because they deny the existence of God as Creator of the Universe and the Giver of the moral law which man can know by reason as well as revelation. With them we waste time discussing the Index. We must ask them to meet us on the more fundamental issues which make an Index logical."

### Universality Demonstrated

LONDON — The catholicity of the Church in England is well demonstrated these days in Westminster Cathedral. One morning, recently, at early Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel an ebony-skinned Negro knelt at the Communion rail between a Canadian airman and a British sailor. Mass was being said by an English priest and served by a fair-haired Polish soldier. The priest who said the next Mass was a German. His server was a Dutch airman. In a chapel on the south side a Belgian priest was saying his Mass served by a small, knickerbockered Belgian boy, and in the Lady Chapel an Italian was busy with brush and dust-pan. At the end of Mass, English, French and Irish accents could be plainly heard in the English prayers.

### Priest is Vice-Chairman of War Loan Committee

NEW MARSHFIELD, N. H. — The Rev. Francis O'Connor, Assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Church, is the chairman of the War Loan Committee here.

## Noted Educators Warn Against Government Control Of Schools

WASHINGTON, D. C.—America's free educational system is threatened with the duress of government control, according to the stern warning issued by American educators, including Catholic leaders.

Condemnation of the federal-aid bill, now before Congress, which seeks to provide \$2,000,000,000 for educational subsidy was voiced last week by the Very Rev. Hugh O'Donnell, C.S.C., president of Notre Dame University. "The effect of this legislation would be to place control of education in the hands of a remote committee of education," he asserted. "If you do not think that federal subsidy would mean federal control," Father O'Donnell stated, "may I remind you that he who pays the piper always plays the tune."

The Very Rev. Dr. Edward V. Stanford, O.S.A., President of Villanova College and a prominent figure in the national educational field, writing a special article for The Philadelphia Inquirer, warned just as sternly that "increasing vigilance always has been the price of liberty." He warned also against war-time precedents "which may pave the way for Federal control of education."

Speaking with reference to the after-war plans for education now beginning to take shape through the Armed Forces Committee on Post War Education for Military Personnel, a program which he said has been estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000,000, Dr. Stanford said: "It is my personal conviction that Federal appropriations for such a program should channel through the several States and the program should be decentralized in its administration. Furthermore, I would much prefer to have subsidies for both maintenance and tuition paid directly to the individuals to whom they are intended."

Secular School-Heads Concurring in the stand of the Notre Dame and Villanova heads are Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President of Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. James B. Conant, President of Harvard University.

In his annual report to the trustees of Johns Hopkins, Dr. Bowman approves the Federal Government's postwar educational program for members of the armed services, but cautions against the growing danger of Federal interference in the educational systems of States.

"In education, above all other matters," says Dr. Conant in his annual report, "we must guard the sanctities of local responsibility. The burden of administration should be placed squarely on the State governments."

All of these statements emphasize the fact that the threat of Federal control is always seriously present in the extension of Federal subsidies. All of them stress the importance to the American way of life of keeping education a local concern.

## Articulate Farmers Needed In Balanced Post-War Plan, Avers Rural Life Group

DES MOINES, Iowa — A rural population well-informed in matters of Christian doctrine is one of the greatest needs of our times.

### Conversion Ends Priest's Quest Of Soldier Overseas

WASHINGTON, D. C. — From Fort McClellan, Alabama, to Bougainville Island in the South Pacific is a long jaunt but Chaplain Joseph B. Delahunt got his man.

This modern war version of "the shepherd going forth into the wilderness to find his sheep" is reported by Lt. Jack M. Tucker, Army Public Relations officer and former golf champion and newspaperman in Rochester, N. Y.

The first thing that Father Delahunt, a priest of the Diocese of Syracuse, did upon arrival at a South Pacific base was to look up Lt. Howie Cole of Danville, N. Y., and for a good reason. It seems that Father Delahunt had been giving instructions in the Catholic Faith to Lieutenant Cole when both were stationed at Fort McClellan, Ala., and the Lieutenant was moved out before the instructions were completed. Shortly after their meeting on the other side of the world, Lieutenant Cole was received into the Catholic Faith.

Father Delahunt's present station is just what he wanted—in the muck, intense jungle heat and insect-infested hot-spot which is Bougainville Island.

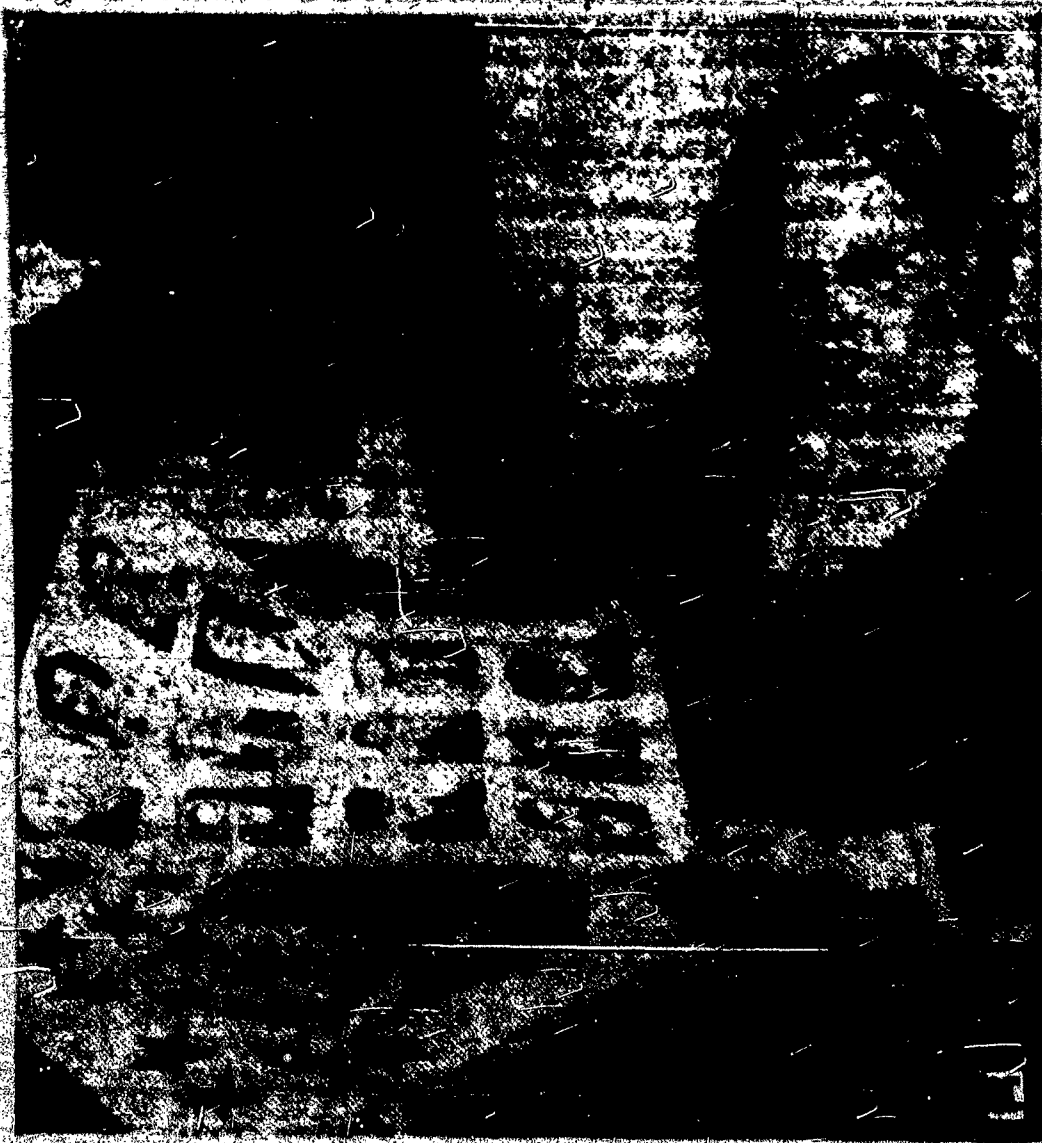
"It is what I want," Father Delahunt told Lt. Tucker. "I'd hate to come out of this war, if I do come out, without seeing actual combat. By combat, I mean administering to men under fire in the front lines."

### Prayer For Morning

"Most Holy Trinity, I accept this day with its work, trials and joys and I give it back to you through the Immaculate Heart of Mary in appreciation of Thy love and for Thy greater glory. Amen."

"SORSUM CORDA"—By Fr. Gillis, On Editorial Page

### 'SORRY--SUPPLY IS EXHAUSTED'



"Sorry, but the source of supply is exhausted." So wrote Mrs. Emma Van Courten, of St. Louis, to President Roosevelt after her twelfth and last child entered the U. S. Armed Forces. She is pictured looking at a photo layout of herself and eleven of her sons and daughters, and the star-spangled service banner which hangs in her Catholic home. The three daughters are serving in the WAC. Mrs. Van Courten has gone to New York to enlist as a "minute woman" in the Fourth War Loan Drive. INP photo. (N.C.W.C.)

## Fighting Men Of China To Hear Of Christ

NEW YORK. — The Story of Christ will be preached to China's fighting forces and that by order of Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek. Christian missionaries in China have been asked by Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek to preach the "truth of life" to members of the Chinese armed forces, particularly to those who have been wounded or otherwise incapacitated, according to a new policy inaugurated with the beginning of the present year.

In a radio address delivered to wounded and sick officers on Christmas Eve, excerpts of which have just been received in this country, the Generalissimo announced the new policy, reminding his hearers that he was speaking to them on the eve of Christmas, the birthday of Jesus Christ.

"I have decided that beginning from New Year's Day," Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek said, "Christian missionaries in various parts of the country interested in your welfare shall be invited to preach to you the 'truth of life' in order to raise your standards of knowledge, to soothe your mental outlook and reduce your suffering."

After discussing the virtues of faith, hope and love as taught by Jesus Christ, the Chinese leader concluded: "I hope that all of you, my beloved wounded and sick officers and men, will try to cultivate yourselves in the virtues of love and honor. I pray to God and Jesus Christ that you may soon be relieved of your distress and brought back to health to help complete our great task of resistance and national reconstruction."

### Parish Loyalty

Be steadfast in upholding the sublime principles of which your parish church is the symbol. Reverence your priests and be truly grateful for the generous bounty of God.

The consistent purchasing of War Bonds and Stamps will help prevent inflation.

## Credits Catholic Church With Saving Spiritual Freedom In Germany

PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.—The Catholic Church has so far saved what is left of culture and spiritual freedom inside Nazi Germany.

That the organization of the Church and the resistance of Catholic leaders to Nazism in Germany has been the principal influence in saving thus far what is left of German culture and spiritual freedom, is the opinion expressed by Arvid Fredborg, a Swedish journalist who left Germany a few months ago, in a condemnation of his volume "Behind the Steel Wall," appearing in the January issue of The Reader's Digest.

Mr. Fredborg was Berlin correspondent for The Stockholm daily paper Svenska Dagbladet. His journalistic record of events inside Nazi Germany is the first to reach this country since the American correspondents were recalled in December, 1941. In the condemnation in the Digest, Mr. Fredborg writes:

"It is undoubtedly the firm organization of the Catholic Church that has thus far saved what is left of German culture and spiritual freedom. It is also Catholicism which is reaping the main advantage of the religious renaissance which has been noticeable throughout Germany."

"This is chiefly due to the outspoken, daring attitude of many leaders of the Church. For example, copies of anti-Nazi sermons delivered by Graf von Galen, the Bishop of Munster, have been passed from hand to hand all over Germany, and the cathedral in Munster has been packed with listeners whenever the Bishop preached."

"The Gestapo did not dare to interfere. Every morning during the period when Count Galen's arrest seemed imminent, peasants came into town in their carts and called for the Bishop to show himself at the Residence. They wanted to be sure that he was there and not in a concentration camp."

Buy War Bonds and Stamps

## 'Protestant' Checked On Nation's Catholics

The anti-Catholic periodical, "The Protestant," asserts that the Catholic Directory exaggerates the Catholic population of this country.

In answer to this accusation the "Michigan Catholic," weekly of the Detroit Diocese, states: "On the contrary, the total given in the Directory probably is several millions short of the actual Catholic population."

"The negligent Catholic who seldom or never attends church is not counted by any pastor. On the other hand, there are millions of practicing Catholics who are never included in the reports of pastors either because they are unknown to the pastors or because they never formally registered at the rectory. Many pastors count only those who actually assist in supporting the parish."

Reports of chaplains and an analysis of the first draft figures indicated that at least 30 per cent of our army consists of Catholics. Yet on the basis of the Directory total, Catholics would constitute only about 16 per cent of our armed forces."

### Archbishop Given Fund To Educate Seminarian

MILWAUKEE. — A check for \$450 was presented to the Most Rev. Moses E. Riley, Archbishop of Milwaukee, by the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin for the education of some needy student for the priesthood. The Catholic Knights have assured Archbishop Riley that additional contributions will be made.