

**AS WE SEE IT**

By DAN PATRICK

Whether by coincidence or design, there has arisen a new wave of false prophets trying once again to chain the Church to Fas- cism's falling star.

Why they persist in their mis- taken efforts may be a matter of wonderment to the uninitiated but it isn't much of a mystery to those who have followed the twisted trials of intolerance which these individuals have blazed over the course of years.

Their lie has been nailed time and time again but up it pops for another try. To refute this latest wave, let's take a look into Germany-Fascism's crumbling citadel through the eyes of a Swedish newspaperman.

The newspaperman in question, Arvid Fredborg, has written a most interesting book, "Behind the Steel Wall," recounting his observations in the Reich from 1931 through the summer of 1943. Those whose job it will be to reconstruct a conquered Germany might well ponder his words along with those who persist in arguing that the Church has truck with Fascism. He writes:

"The clergy of the Protestant churches (in Germany) have shown great courage and tenacity in this struggle for freedom of conscience. But the Catholic Church has headed the struggle.

"It is undoubtedly the firm organization of the Catholic Church that has thus far succeeded in saving much of German culture and spiritual freedom from the predatory grasp of the National Socialist Party."

That doesn't sound much like clerical consorting with Fascism.

But let Fredborg continue:

"Even from a purely political point of view the Church of Rome has been able to acquire a good will that is certain to become an important factor after this war. This is chiefly due to the outspoken, daring attitude of many leaders of the Church."

With that statement, the author has hit a hard, heroic fact which has been glossed over too lightly by the press of the United Nations. We know entirely too little and speak even less of the pulpit heroes of the Church in Germany who have flung back the false doctrines of neo-paganism into the very faces of the Nazis who proclaim them.

First there is the Catholic Bishop of Berlin, Count Rainer Preysing who has never hesitated to speak his mind. Immediately after the outbreak of the Russian-German war, according to Fredborg, Bishop Preysing issued a pastoral letter to his flock, telling them that if the question of choice arose for the German Catholic between his country and his faith, faith must be his choice.

Then there is Graf Von Galen, the Bishop of Munster, another

supposedly prelate so powerful with his people that the Gestapo dare not interfere. Fredborg tells of the late Cardinal Schulte, Archbishop of Cologne, who spoke of "the lie that runs through Germany" and, when questioned as to its meaning declared he was referring to the devil and not Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels (who runs slightly).

Another champion of the Church in Germany is Cardinal Faulhaber, Archbishop of Munich, who called the furns on the Nazi philosophy some ten years ago in an historic series of Lenten sermons. Unfortunately neither the Germans nor the rest of the world listened.

One of the tragic by-products of the war is the growing lack of family responsibility. It is reflected in many ways. This is quite obvious to those who have delved at any length into the matter of juvenile delinquency.

There are some women who have gone into war work and left conditions at home which are bound to spawn delinquency and other evils. Although these women can make a greater contribution to the war effort by remaining at home, they won't stay where they belong. The lure of the almighty dollar and their contribution to the war effort is too great. Yet they almost seem to forget that they are swapping a few dollars now for the broken lives of their children in years to come.

And, again, our attention has been called to women whose duties at the bedside of an invalid father or mother. Comes the war with high salaries and the invalid parent is shipped to a hospital or nursing home while daughter takes a war job. She never figures that her action ties up desperately needed nurses and doctors—and hospital bed space. After these invalids pass away, an examination might reveal a broken heart as the real cause of death.

The fire of allied guns is echoing through the Vatican this week and the world's attention again is fixed on the Holy Father. There never seemed to be any question that the Pontiff would accept the "hospitality" offered of his Nazi "protectors" by taking up residence in another location. As Bishop of Rome, there is no doubt that he will remain with his people.

What the world wonders is the course which the Nazis will follow. Will they make a stand at Rome? An affirmative decision will mean the physical destruction of the Eternal City as it becomes another battleground of this global war. But should physical destruction come, the spiritual integrity of the Vatican and its occupant will prevail long after the men and guns of this war crumble into dust.

**The Basis of Understanding**

Catholics and non-Catholics, Jews and Gentiles, persons of all shades of religious, political and economic beliefs and of all racial strains have dwelt together in the United States since the beginning of the Republic with less friction than perhaps anywhere else in the world where conditions are comparable.

Nowhere in the nation have beliefs been more diverse or racial strains more numerous than in New York City and that region of which it is a center, yet nowhere has there been greater mutual understanding or more harmony among those of varying opinions or backgrounds.

This has been particularly true of the relations between Jews and Catholics. There have always been persons who sought to sow the seeds of mistrust between them as between other groups, but any weeds of bigotry they succeeded in sprouting were choked by the luxuriant growth of good-will around them.

In recent times, however, such efforts have received encouragement from organizations and individuals where we have a right to expect the opposite. They have been incited by two of the smaller dailies which attempt to read anti-Semitism into every point of view not in complete accord with their own. Certain Jewish leaders are giving support to a movement purporting to be pro-Jewish but headed by the most notorious anti-Catholic of this area, a movement which attacks such fundamental Catholic and Christian doctrines as the Incarnation and demands that they be revised on the ground that they are anti-Semitic.

Catholics, Protestants and Jews, persons of every religion and of no religion at all, are living here as neighbors. They are going to continue to live as neighbors. They ought to live together as friends. But they cannot do this if the price of friendship is the discarding or revoking of religious or other convictions. We are fighting today in the most appalling war of history because we have rejected the demand of dictators that we conform our beliefs to them on the price of their friendship.

There was no such price demanded for friendship between Jews and Catholics in former days; it is not required now except by agitators who, having no fixed religious principles themselves, do not respect those in others. They are misrepresentatives of the Jewish people as we know them, and the most unfortunate handicap to their efforts to solve the difficult problems confronting them.

**STRANGE BUT TRUE**  
Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY



Library Signpost By REV. BENEDICT EHRENN

**SCANDAL OF CHURCH**

After we have answered all their charges, and set them right on the facts of history, our critics will still have something against the Church which we Catholics cannot deny; and that is the fact that he consists of human, and therefore wayward, beings.

That is one "scandal" we cannot above all. In His parable of the cockle and the wheat, Jesus desired to teach us of that God would permit bad to grow among the good in His Kingdom, before the harvest-time. Not only would this bad be among the good; it would also be within the good. The Church is not a Church of the perfect; nor will She be until She becomes the Church Triumphant in heaven. There will always be bad ones among us; there will always be bad inside us. Consult St. Augustine, or St. Teresa, or St. Francis de Sales. Even the life of a Saint on earth was not, is not, in one infallible direction.

It was the primitive Protestant idea that the Church of Christ was a Church only of the perfect—a sort of invisible Church to which only the "good" belonged, and that the visible Church was only an invention of later ages to exercise power and authority. The recent Encyclical on the Mystical Body shows how untrue this conception is to the meaning of the Scripture. It says: "There can be no real opposition or conflict between the invisible mission of the Holy Spirit (within the Church) and the juridical (external) commission of Ruler and Teacher received (by the Church) from Christ. Like body and soul in us, they fulfill and complement each other, and have their source in our one Redeemer, who not only said, 'He breathed on the Apostles, 'Receive ye the Holy Spirit,' but also clearly commanded: 'As the Father hath sent me, so I send you'; and again: 'He who heareth you, heareth me.'

On this side of the grave, it must remain a mystery how a Church, consisting of sinful members, can be the Mystical Body of Christ, and how membership in the Body is not broken off even by mortal sin but can even then continue through faith and hope, if not through charity. But this reality is part and parcel of that whole reality which we call the Incarnation. When God became man, He did not disdain poverty and pain, Bethlehem and Nazareth, the wilderness and the Hill of Calvary, knew His presence. He allowed Himself to be carried in Satan's arms to the pinnacle of the Temple. Staggering mystery, indeed! Only God can fathom it! And are we, out of false zeal, to say to God, "All of that may be all right, but certainly this we can-

notable feature of the  
country in POLAND is the  
**BLESSING OF CHILDREN**  
MASS and its distribution  
of the names of the  
saints and the invocation on the  
young and the healthy bodies.

**QUERIES  
and  
REPLIES**

Why Should Hitler Be Fired Against Hitler and His Allies—As They Are Today? What Is All The Rest of All The Style and Game?

WHY SHOULD HITLER BE FIRED AGAIN? Hitler and his allies have come to us as a terrible inheritance of the great German traditions that grew up during the Middle Ages, the Age of Gothic. With the dawn of the reformed Reformation, heresies of all kinds arose in the fields of religion, science, politics and economics. Finally came the so-called materialists, later known as

Liberals succeeded at first best in devastating Western civilization of that Christianity which had been the source and unifying principle of human peace and law for a thousand years.

The Middle Ages had their differences. But these differences were examined and reconciled by the Catholic Church. When the European nations of that day went to war, Christians fought and Christians principles prevailed. But today that unifying agency is no longer in position to hold these people together. Democracy has parted company with Christianity. And Democracy today is much like a sick man who has neither physician nor nurse to bring him back to health again.

This is not plain theorizing. All of the evils of our day have grown out of the rejection of Christianity, particularly the rejection of the teaching of the Church regarding the rights of man. These rights cannot be defended except on spiritual grounds. Democracy cannot survive except among people who hold to spiritual values.

To bring about real and lasting peace then we must declare war against the false philosophy of Rousseau and Comte in France, of Nietzsche and Kant in Germany and of Locke and Hume in England. This war will not be won with the sword. It can be achieved only by the humble acceptance of the principles of Christ and forth and championed by the old Mother Church of the Ages.

In this way only can men and nations hope to regain that peace and prosperity and happiness of life that reigned throughout the world in the Age of Faith.—From the pen of Father Richard X-M, O.S.B., Defender of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.

**Five and Ten Years Ago**

(From the files of the CATHOLIC COURIER)

From Jan. 25, 1934, edition: Representatives of Catholic organizations, all over the nation, joined in blasting arguments of the advocates of birth control and proponents of the Pierce bill to relax restrictions on the dissemination of contraceptive information and devices at the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives hearing in Washington.

From Jan. 26, 1934, edition: "The need of a reliable news service has never been so evident as in the recent history of events in Spain. The hopeless collapse of most of the foreign news services as sources of unbiased information has disgusted most of us. The information furnished through the CATHOLIC COURIER, our diocesan paper, has fortunately concentrated much of the propaganda which the American public has been forced to read." —Bishop Keating in Catholic Press Month message.

**Feast Days**

Sunday, Jan. 26.—THE SUNDAY AFTER EPHESIANS.

Monday, Jan. 27.—ST. JOHN BONSO.

Tuesday, Feb. 1.—ST. IGNATIUS.

Wednesday, Feb. 2.—PURIFICATION ON CANDLEMAS DAY.

Thursday, Feb. 3.—ST. BRACE.

Friday, Feb. 4.—ST. ANDREW CORSE.

Saturday, Feb. 5.—ST. AGATHA.

**Sudden Change**

You never know how the human voice can change until you hear a woman stop reading her husband in order to answer the telephone. —Paul Foster, Jr., in Midwestern Post.

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Becoming Attractive  
I have yet to see the man or woman who did not become more attractive and more alive for saying aside their too-prized reserve and mingling on equal terms with other members of our common struggling, hungry humanity. —Henry Morton Robinson