

January 4, 1945

CATHOLIC COURIER, Rochester, New York

SOUND MOVIE OF BELGIUM INVASION, FATHER CUYTEN'S STORY, NOW AVAILABLE

The new sound motion picture, "THE STORY OF FATHER CUYTEN" is now available for showing to adult groups, free of charge or obligation. This motion picture is the story of how Father Cuyten, a Catholic priest in the Belgian city of Ostend, saved the women and children of that city from the Nazis at the time of the invasion of the lowlands.

Inasmuch as practically all of the men living in Ostend are engaged in the fishing industry, they are at sea a great deal of the time - even on Sundays and Father Cuyten regularly broadcasts Sunday services for these men so that they can listen on the radio sets with which all of the fishing ships are equipped. At the time of the invasion of the lowland countries, Father Cuyten was making one of his regular Sunday broadcasts when the news flash came through from England to the effect that the Nazis were pouring into Belgium. Realizing the importance of saving the women and children of Ostend, Father Cuyten cut in on his regular broadcast to announce the invasion of Belgium and to tell the fishermen that if they would return to port at once, he would have all of the women and children ready at the docks so that they could escape in the fishing ships.

The fleet immediately sailed for Ostend and Father Cuyten rushed from home to home in Ostend arousing the townsfolk and arranging to have them meet the ships at the docks. When the fleet arrived, everyone was ready to leave and, thanks to Father Cuyten, were speedily on their way to England.

Upon their arrival in England, a Little Belgium was established and the Church—Our Lady of the Sea — was turned over to the townspeople for their use. Included in the film are a great many official Allied aims of the invasion as well as captured German footage.

Organizations desiring to have this program shown can obtain same by calling Stone 6360, JOHN E. ALLEN, INC. Through the courtesy of the Westinghouse Electric Company, whose new film "On the Air" will be shown on the same program, film, sound projector, screen and a skilled operator will be furnished to any adult group, free of charge. The program has a running time of approximately forty minutes; the Father Cuyten film taking about twelve minutes in itself.

Legion Makes Note on Keys of Kingdom Film

The film "Keys of the Kingdom," classified A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, has been given the following separate notation by the Legion of Decency:

"This film, morally unobjectionable, contains statements by the leading character—the priest, which are susceptible to meaning not in accordance with Catholic doctrine."

Holy Communion is sometimes called Vaticum because it is given to the sick person as food and sustenance for the last dangerous road to eternity.

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A MAESTRO PLAYS FOR GIs



Surprises are many at the American Catholic Club, conducted in Rome by the National Catholic Community Service. When this photo was taken, GIs were enjoying a real treat by the surprise visit of Msgr. Lorenzo Perosi, Director of the Slatine Choir and famed composer of sacred music. On the occasion of his surprise visit, Maestro Perosi played at the piano 45 minutes, addressing extracts from his new Christmas Oratorio. (NCWC).

Sergeant Gives Life In Germany Action

GENEVA—An Army sergeant from here has made the supreme sacrifice in action in Germany and a flying officer, known here, has given his life in China, the War casualty reports announce this week.

Staff Sergeant John M. McGuire,

19, was killed in action in Germany on Nov. 29, according to a War Department telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman M. McGuire, 13 Copeland Avenue.

Staff Sergeant McGuire entered the Armed Forces from Geneva on Labor Day, 1944, just after his graduation from De Sales High School. He received his basic training at Camp Van Dorn, Miss., and was then sent to England, where he participated in the invasion of France on D-Day.

He has been on active duty at the front lines ever since his arrival there with the exception of a three-week period when he was hospitalized following injuries. For this he received the Purple Heart.

Previously he had received the Silver Star for gallantry in action and a personal citation from General McClain. Just recently he was recommended for another Silver Star with clusters. He has also received the Infantryman's Combat medal, which he seemed proud of to possess.

Beside his parents, the young soldier is survived by his sister, Mrs. Donald Hines; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James McGuire; an aunt; three uncles; and several nieces and nephews.

His last letter to his parents was dated Nov. 25, when he wrote of having his Thanksgiving dinner

including turkey, in a fox hole, in the lines, and expressed his pleasure over this fact since it was his warm meal in some time.

On Saturday evening just before the holiday, Christmas packages for his parents and relatives arrived from overseas and were delivered at his home. Some of the gifts he had purchased in Paris during a brief stay there.

A Memorial Mass for the young man will be celebrated at St. Stephen's Church on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 8 o'clock.

Word has been received here that First Lieutenant George Gamble of Rochester, a member of the United States Air Corps and former Geneva ball player, was killed in action over China. He is the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hart, Pultney Street.

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QUERIES and REPLIES

What Effect Has Birth-Control Had On The Birth-Rate in Our Country?

The statistics covering the answer to this question are simply devastating. Since 1920, the birth-rate in the United States has dropped sixty per cent. One half of this decline took place in the years 1921 to 1932. Since 1933 there has been a slight trend upward but at present only the rural and unskilled laboring classes are reproducing themselves.

During the ten-year period from 1930 to 1940 the attendance of children in our public grade schools fell off more than one million. One million fewer school benches in ten years. The tremendous repercussions of such a decline must be evident to everyone giving the least thought to the matter. A few more generations of birth-control and this country will be in such condition that it will not be able to defend itself against any aggressor.

No nation in the history of the world has ever destroyed itself as fast as our own America is destroying herself at the present time.

From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O. S. B., Defender of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.

HOLY SOULS

It is true that the overwhelming love of God bestows upon the soul in purgatory a happiness beyond expression great; but then this happiness does not in the least diminish the pain . . . the more perfect the love of which God makes the soul capable, the greater the pain. St. Catherine of Genoa.

'Released Time' Opposed By Non-Catholic Clergy

ASBURY PARK, N. J.—Eleven Protestant and two Jewish clergymen here have rejected for the second time a proposal by three local Catholic priests that children be excused from school for a weekly period of religious instruction. The question of "released time" first came up at a meeting of the

Asbury Park Board of Education last November. The local Ministerial Association comprising the dozen Protestant clergymen refused to attend, asserting that the move for release time had not been initiated by the Board at the request of any organization in our city without consulting representatives of other denominations.

What prayer should a person say when approaching your pastor into the church? A very fitting prayer is: "My Lord and my God."

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