

### Delayed Congressman Gets Private Meeting with Pope

LOS ANGELES (NC)—An odd twist of fortune gave Congressman John J. Rooney, of Brooklyn, a private interview with His Holiness Pope Pius XII, it is revealed by former Representative John M. Costello in an interview given to The Tidings, diocesan paper here. Representatives Rooney and Costello were members of the Congressional party which recently made an inspection tour of the European battle areas.

### Members of Two Faiths Join in Prayer Octave

BY REV. RICHARD GINDEN

During the week beginning January 15, Protestants and Catholics throughout the world will be praying for Church Unity. That there may be one flock and one shepherd. And never was there more need for presenting a united front of prayer to Almighty God than right now.

This week of prayer, the Church Unity Octave, as it is called, originated in the Protestant Church about 30 years ago. It started with a group of devout Episcopalians who were saddened at the frightful sight of a Christianity torn to shreds by contradicting beliefs. Looking around, they saw the Catholic Church with its 345 million communicants throughout the world; they saw it as the largest, the most ancient, the most efficiently organized, and the most powerful church claiming to teach God's truth.

Because they remembered the words of Jesus to the Apostle Peter—"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church. . . . And will give unto thee the keys of the Kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (Matt. 16: 18-19) — because they knew that the Holy Father is the only living man who claims to be Peter's successor as the head of Christ's Church, they resolved to pray for guidance during the week included between these dates: January 15, the Feast of St. Peter's Chair at Rome, and January 25, the Feast of St. Paul's Conversion.

Initiated by the practice, together with their Protestant brethren, so that on the morning of the eighteenth, our Holy Father the Pope offered his Mass for Church Unity, together with the hundreds of millions of Catholics all over the earth—not only Latin Catholics, but Greek, Syrian, and American Catholics, together with a number of Greek Orthodox, as well.

In 1940, over 1,800 Anglican ministers joined in prayer, and so of their religious communities. In Northern Europe—before the war, at least—there was a small but increasing number of Lutheran pastors praying along. The Executive Committee of the World Conference for Faith and Order, meeting at Stockholm, Lannane, and Geneva, passed a resolution of commendation.

Join our prayers with those of your fellow Christians. Learn to pray each night.

Let's all do what they mean in the words of the Bible: "Pray without ceasing."

### Sold Officers Inducted At Immediate Conception

Induction of officers of the 1st Battalion of the 108th Cavalry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, was held Monday evening at St. Andrew's Hall.

Major J. J. Conroy, 1st Battalion, 108th Cavalry, 28th Infantry Division, was inducted by A.D.C. Frank J. Schaefer.

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Congressman Rooney, a Catholic, was making a long distance telephone call when Myron C. Taylor, personal representative of President Roosevelt at the Vatican, called for the group of Congressmen at their hotel in Rome to take them to see the Holy Father. The party left without him. He followed hurriedly, but the taxi driver misinterpreted him and took him to the wrong place. When he arrived at the Vatican, the audience was over.

Congressman Rooney was so dejected that Mr. Taylor mentioned the incident to the Holy Father. The Pope agreed to receive Representative Rooney in private audience and called with him for an hour. He also invited the Brooklyn Congressman to go with him to a public audience which he was about to give to members of the Allied armed forces. The Congressman accepted, and stood near the Holy Father during the audience, Mr. Costello said.

Plans for the year will be discussed at the brief business meeting, followed by cards and refreshments. Assisting the business are: Mesdames John Gould, Joseph R. Lars, Clarence Branch, Frank Eyskel, George Andrews, Charles Baker, Edward Zimmer, Edward Belkitch.

### Conduct Final Rites For Mrs. Waters

BY MARY L. BROWMAN

OWEGO — The funeral of Mrs. Joseph Waters, mother of Major Edward J. Waters, Catholic Chaplain with the First Army somewhere in Belgium, was held on Wednesday morning in St. Patrick's Church.

Bolema Requiem Mass was offered with the Rev. J. J. O'Connell, of Rochester, as celebrant, the Rev. Joseph J. O'Connell, of Rochester, as deacon and the Rev. Alexander J. Mac, assistant pastor of the local church as sub-deacon. The pastor, the Rev. Michael L. Hayes, acted as master of ceremonies. Other priests attending were the Rev. Arthur C. Smith, of Elmira, a former pastor of St. Patrick's; the Rev. Patrick Connel, the Rev. Philip McTishan, the Rev. J. Edmund O'Brien, the Rev. Eugene McFarland, the Rev. Lloyd Hogan and the Rev. Joseph Morkel, of Elmira. Final absolution at the grave was given by the Father Malley, assisted by the Fathers Hynes, Smith, O'Connell, McTishan and O'Brien. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery. St. Patrick's parochial school was closed during the funeral and the entire student body, accompanied by the Sisters of Mercy attended the Mass. The Catholic Daughters of America, of which the deceased was a charter member, acted as a group of honor. Besides Major Waters, the other survivors are Mrs. Katherine Horner and Miss Mary Waters, nurses in the Veterans Hospital in Bath; Mrs. Donald Doty, of this village; two sisters, Mrs. Charles Manroe and Miss Ella Trayner of Tioga.

Officers of four companies of the Rochester Regiment, Knights of St. John, will be installed during the coming week at St. Andrew's Hall. As Grand Master will be inducted by A.D.C. Frank J. Schaefer, and A.D.C. William C. Schaefer.

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### Pre-Induction Retreats Draw Boys

Is there yet another spiritual revival going on amongst America's youth labelled "soft" by their enemies and "delinquent" by their elders in many fields? Some observers are noting with quiet confidence that Catholic youth is on the march as never before.

Boys of seventeen and eighteen about to enter the armed forces have been going to Mount Manresa, the Jesuit retreat house on Staten Island, New York, to make a retreat before leaving for the service. Their numbers are increasing month by month.

The idea of a pre-induction retreat is a new one and was started last year at Mount Manresa as an experiment. During 1944 more than 200 boys made these retreats and more than doubled their attendance in 1945.

Although some of the boys' retreats are conducted for the members of the Senior Classes of the various Catholic High Schools of the metropolitan area, it is noteworthy that almost half the boys who have made these retreats have been recruited by other boys who wanted their friends to have the same opportunity that they had before going into the service. The groups from the Catholic High Schools are, of course, sent to Mt. Manresa by the school authorities.

The enthusiasm for the retreats is inspiring. This is especially true of boys who have never attended a Catholic High School. They have been so enthused that they return to their homes and high schools determined "to sell" the idea to their friends. One boy even organized four additional groups in as many months.

### Soldiers-to-Be Make Retreat



17 AND 18-YEAR-OLD BOYS about to enter the nation's armed forces are shown making a retreat at Mt. Manresa, Jesuit retreat house on Staten Island. More than 500 youths attended last year.

### Board Meeting Set by Mercy Guild

Mercy Guild of the Little Flower will hold a meeting of the board of Directors and Standing Committees Thursday evening, Jan. 25, at 7:30 in the home of Mrs. Joseph F. Pitts, 564 E. Main St.

Plans for the year will be discussed at the brief business meeting, followed by cards and refreshments.

Assisting the business are: Mesdames John Gould, Joseph R. Lars, Clarence Branch, Frank Eyskel, George Andrews, Charles Baker, Edward Zimmer, Edward Belkitch.

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