

## Says Christmas Was Only Ordinary Workday in Russia

LONDON — Christmas observance in present-day Russia is the subject of correspondence in Time and Tide, London political weekly, in which one writer states that Christmas Day is a normal working day and, what is more, the local authorities keep a sharp watch to see that everyone goes

to work as usual. Anyone who does not is liable to a fine and may be sentenced to several months' imprisonment.

The writer, quoting a friend recently returned from Russia, says that the older people remember the festivals of the Church and on Christmas Eve pray secretly before the icons in their homes but the younger people listen with distrust and often with incredulity to the stories of former customs which seem to them like fairy tales.

No church was open in the neighborhood under discussion as there was no question of anyone going to a church service. None of the children knew any carols.

## Wounded Veteran Is Recovering at Tilton Hospital

Mrs. Ariens Kaittel of Buffalo, wife of Pvt. Raymond Kaittel, who was wounded in action Sept. 5 in France, paid a week-end visit to the soldier's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank X. Kaittel, 28 Brooklyn St., New weaver of the Purple Heart. Private Kaittel is recovering in Tilton general hospital, Fort Dix, N. J.

## Walsh Hits Russia's Policy on Poland

BOSTON (INS) — Russia's policy in the Polish situation was criticized severely this week (Jan. 15) by Sen. David I. Walsh (R-Mass.), chairman of the Senate Naval Affairs committee.

The fight for the freedom of Poland is America's fight, he told the Federation of Polish Societies of Greater Boston.

"We ask that the same justice be given to Poland as we expect will be accorded every other country, large or small, that has been our ally in this war," Senator Walsh asserted.

Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, head of the archdiocese, termed Poland a "test case" and pointed out that "without the unqualified independence and freedom of Poland, the outcome of this war is destined to be questioned."

## 'Al's' Brown Derby Now in Museum

NEW YORK (INS) — The brown derby that the late Alfred E. Smith made famous as a political symbol occupies the most prominent spot in the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Exhibition which is now on display at the Museum of the City of New York.

Included in the exhibition are hundreds of mementoes and photographs of the former Salt market salesman who rose from New York's lower east side to become Governor of the state four times and Democratic nominee for the United States Presidency in 1928.

## Confessions of the Great

You may have heard of me that I am cross-grained and disagreeable. Please believe it. Only let me have my own way exactly in everything with all about me precisely as I wish, and a dumber or pleasanter creature does not exist. — Thomas Carlyle.

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## Gregorian Chant By Seminary Choir Applauded

By ANNE BAKER

Only rarely has Kithorn Hall been filled with an eager audience as the one which heard the program of Gregorian chants and medieval music offered on Sunday evening by St. Bernard's Seminary Choir, under the direction of the Rev. Benedict Klumpp, M. S. S. for St. Bernard's, at St. John the Evangelist's Church, provided the accompaniment.

Supplementing the program notes with brief comment on the music, Father Klumpp stressed the spiritual nature of the concert and suggested that the audience offer it as a prayer for peace. The program themselves, taken principally from the liturgy of the Christmas season, were introduced in the beautiful Prince of Peace or to the Mother.

The simple, flowing melodies of the Chant are the perfect accompaniment for the liturgical texts. The choir sang them up as models for all members of church music, declaring that the closer the choir approached the spirit of the Chant, the more appropriate it is for use in the Offices of the Church.

St. Bernard's Church Choir composed of secularists, none of whom are trained singers, gave an excellent and artistic performance offering proof that the Chant is not as difficult to learn as is commonly supposed.

The response of Rochester Catholics to these chants shows a lively interest in the best of liturgical music. It is unfortunate that there is not an opportunity to hear it more often.

The affair was sponsored by the Newman Club of the Newman School of Music.

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