

TRUE STORY

Heroic Youth in Poland

The story of a Polish boy who, under the Nazi occupation, risked his life by carrying the Holy Sacrament to those who needed it is told in the Vatican magazine "Ecclesia," issued by the Vatican Information Office, by the Rev. Dr. Valerian Meynadze, in an article on the "Heroism of Polish Youth."

In one area, all churches had been closed, a large diocese which counted hundreds of priests had only one left. They resided in the city. In one parish, the church had been transformed into a warehouse. The pastor and the assistant priest had disappeared. The Sisters were dispersed. Only few people knew that a young man, who had recently come to the village, was wearing secular clothing, lived on a farm and was working on the land. From time to time an old man came secretly to the farmer's house. He stayed only for one night and left early in the morning. Every time he was present, the people from the village went to the farm after he had begun to get dark. Men and women went to talk to the old man, not after the other, in secret.

In the morning, when the old man left for another village, he was accompanied by a boy who showed him the way and who walked sometimes ahead of him, sometimes after him, to warn him whenever a patrol appeared in the neighborhood. Nothing much seemed to have happened. But in the night Holy Mass had been said on the farm, in the presence of two or three persons, and the man who had become a farm worker had a box of gold medals filled with white hosts which were no longer hosts but the Body of the Son of God.

From time to time, during the night, somebody knocked at the window of the man. There was whispering. And the Sister went to awaken the boy who would then go out all alone in the night, through the fields and the woods, through snow and rain, over hidden paths, carrying on his breast, in a little silk bag, the Blessed Sacrament. He would be back at sunrise. He never told anybody about his nocturnal errands. He never refused to go. And he knew what was in store for him if he were caught.

This story of the Vatican magazine closes without a tragic end. There are, however, two other examples of the heroism of Polish

youth. One is about a boy who distributed an underground Catholic newspaper in Warsaw, when the Polish capital was under Nazi occupation, and who, when caught and tortured, did not reveal the place of the printing shop. The other story is about a 15-year-old girl who died under the Nazi torture, refusing to surrender to the command of the Gestapo, an old priest, who was also imprisoned, to sign a document which the Nazis wanted to use as an accusation against his Bishop.

Father Meynadze concludes his article in the Vatican magazine as follows: "The true stories of the boy who distributed the Holy Sacrament and of the other boy who distributed the newspapers are not isolated cases but typical examples similar to thousands of others. When I am asked why God permits great disasters to come over the world, I always reply: In order to let all that splendor and greatness come forth and manifest itself."

Movie Guide

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Right now the biggest business in this country for everybody in the war. And you—all of us—can help greatly in this business by the purchase of War Bonds.

DONATE TO THE HEROES

Puts Zest into Boys' and Girls' Party

By SHEILA JOHNS DALY

TAKE an even number from two to ten of high school fellows and girls, and some hot-cold cube or popcorn, perhaps five or ten Harry James or Frank Sinatra recordings, and a little careful planning and you have had a party that's fun. But when a group of guys and girls get together, there's no need for anything fancy and music is just an added touch. It's difficult to stop them from having a wonderful time. So whether for the whole crowd, a buffet lunch for two or three couples, or just a hot snack after a rough ride, all the party gives has to be to make a few simple arrangements and then fall in to enjoy the party with every one else.

If you're having the fellows and girls over for the evening with no special plans for entertainment, if you've neglected to buy, beg, or borrow a few records, or if you've picked an evening when the radio programs are more chatter than good dance music, it leaves your guests with choice except to play drop the clothepins in the bath or going to Jerusalem. And you can't blame them if they begin to gather in groups of two or three off in the corner and make excuses about having to leave earlier to meet an old friend's train or hurrying home to watch a victor's baby.

If a fellow or gal takes friends over for a special evening it is up to the host or hostess to have something for the guests to do besides sitting (twiddling their thumbs, twirling their hair chains, or whitening initials in the dining room furniture). When these fellows and girls were still in the short pants and pinafore department, running races, drop the handkerchief and racing pinpoints across the room on a knife at parties were considered king-size entertainment. The games for the same crowd are no longer quite so simple. It is sometimes a good idea to play a few "mystery" until the party gets rolling.

Think up as many famous couples as you can from history, mythology, or current events. Romeo and Juliet, Antony and Cleopatra, Franklin and Eleanor, write down clues about the identity of each

on small cards, and give one card to each fellow and girl. Then make each one guess who he or she is meant to represent and find his mate. First couple to pair off correctly will be the winners.

If many of the fellows come to the party alone and with no strings attached, there's something you can do to remedy that, too. Put the fellows in one room and the girls in another, give each fellow a card with a name written on it and around several tables and chairs, with the other end held by a girl in the adjoining room. Let the boys follow his string till he finds his partner, and presto! the dancing begins. Once your guests are dancing, you might add a little fun by making a large circle of string in the middle of the floor. Put yourself at the musical center, radio or recording machine, any couple caught within the circle when the music stops must sit this one out. All only one couple is left dancing. Simple games often add zest to a party.

Parties can be more fun if you don't limit your invitations to the usual mob, the same crowd with whom you spend time every day. The addition of a few new faces, fellows and girls who have new

ideas and new dance steps, adds variety to an evening. And it always helps to have some other person around just to keep things on the right track. That person need not be dubbed the emcee, and it need not be a stick-clicking and whip-cracking affair that keeps even the most obedient observers shivering in their seats. Just let it flow like the fellows and girls from wandering off in obsessive frowns and making the evening all round.

And after your guests have danced to all your records at least five times, depleted your stock of refreshments, and when the clock ticks round to the next hour, all will agree it's been a party to mark in the books. But before you yourself turn in for a better night's sleep, be sure to pump up the damper curtain, pick up the string points caps and ice cubes, tidy up the dishes, and wipe up the back hall where the girls stored their stadium shoes. Then you can go to bed happy, knowing that your family enjoyed the party as much as you did. It is up right from beginning to end and it will be your mother who suggests next time that you sit "all those nice boys and girls" back for a return engagement.

PRODUCERS FAIL TO CLEAN UP 'SIGN OF CROSS' MOVIE

Suggestiveness still mars the "revised" version of "The Sign of the Cross" now produced by Paramount Film Corporation.

From Hollywood, the Catholic film critic, William H. Moorhead writes: "The view of the fact that the studio people wished to make of this 'Green Book' version, an experiment in very money making, it is strange they did not rectify scenes which caused the film to be original form, a bad Legion of Decency rating and so deprived it of valuable Catholic patronage. Instead they retained the offensive scenes and 'The Sign of the Cross' still is rated 'objectionable in part.'"

INGRID BERGMAN SOUGHT AS NON FOR 'BELLS' MOVIE

LOS ANGELES — Ingrid Bergman is sought by Leo McCarey for the leading woman role in his forthcoming RKO film "The Bells of St. Mary's" which is to continue the adventures of Father O'Malley (John Barrymore) of "The Sign of the Cross."

Bible Group Offers \$2,500 Scholarship

WASHINGTON (AP) — A scholarship in the amount of \$2,500 for biblical studies in the schools of Rome and Jerusalem after the war has been established by the Catholic Biblical Association of America. It has been announced at the Catholic University of America here by the Rev. Joseph L. Laff, O.S.A., general secretary of the Association.

The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of a competitive examination to be held at the Catholic University from June 6 to 8. The examination, Father Laff said, will be open to any priest, deacon, or regular, of the United States or Canada. Further information can be obtained by writing to the general secretary of the Catholic University.

Inner Strength Needed

We must think diligently and work mightily, but who among us does not feel that the more strenuous our thought and work the more we need the inner strength and guidance of prayer. — Rev. John J. Conboy, S.J.

