

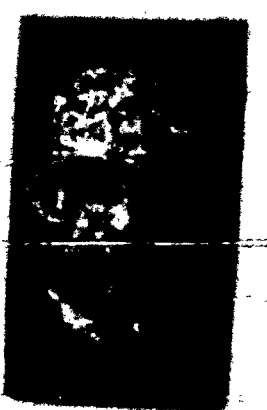
RESPECT FOR RIGHTS OF MINORITIES IS ESSENTIAL TO PEACE INSISTS PIUS XII

By the Rev. Raymond Nolan
Principal of DeSales High School, Geneva

"The guilt of beginning and prolonging a war is no graver than the making of an unjust and breakable peace." These words were uttered by His Holiness Pope Pius XII in an address to Archbishop Spellman. The Pope strongly stated on this as on many other occasions that the right of a nation to live was as sacred as the right of an individual.

This supreme truth must be recognized at the peace table. If the peace itself is not to be the result of another more terrible war. The Holiness for many years has been teaching the principles of a just and lasting peace to the leaders of nations. His voice has been like a voice crying in the wilderness of a war torn world. His voice alone can be heard above the crashing of guns and the terrible thud of bombs. Based upon the teachings of the Saviour whom He represents, the words of Pius XII represent the only hope of a war-weary world ever attaining a just and lasting peace.

Foremost among the principles which the Pope insists are essential is a respect for the rights of minorities. In His Christmas message of 1939 His Holiness emphasized the necessity of bearing in mind, in connection with a new international order, the needs and just demands of racial minorities. "A point which should



be given particular attention is a better order in Europe is desired, concerning the real needs and just demands of nations and peoples, a well established international law."

These words are unable to establish a strict legal right, they deserve to be examined in a friendly spirit with a view to meeting them wherever possible, and if necessary to revise treaties to achieve this desirable result. No peace can ever be successful unless there is assurance for all nations great and small, powerful and weak, of their right to life and independence. The will of one nation must never mean the sentence of death passed upon another. When this has happened justice demands that reparation must be made not by force of arms or arbitrary decision but by the rules of justice itself.

In his Christmas message of 1940 the Pontiff looks that a necessary promise for a new order in the world is victory over the dismal principle that utility

is the foundation and aim of law, and that might can create right. This principle is bound to be a constant source of ambiguity in international relations and can never be acceptable to warring nations. Hence the Pope exhorts the nations to return to honest, serious and moral international relations. This conception does not exclude the right to defend oneself if powerful life has been attacked, or to retaliate the damage sustained by such an attack.

Again at Christmas 1941 the Pope states in no uncertain terms that in a new order founded on moral principles there is no room for the violation of the freedom, integrity and security of other states, no matter what may be their territorial extension or capacity for defense. It is inevitable that the powerful states shall play leading roles in the formation of economic groups, including not only themselves but the smaller states as well. It is also most imperative that the rights of the smaller states in political freedom, to economic development and to the adequate protection, in case of conflicts between nations, of that neutrality which is theirs according to the natural as well as the international law. His Holiness further states: "There is no room for moral principles within the rights of a new order

founded on the open or secret oppression of the cultural and linguistic characteristics of national minorities. For the hindrance of their development and for their limitation or abolition of their natural fertility. The more conscientiously the government of the state respects the rights of minorities, the more confidently and the more effectively can it demand from its subjects a loyal fulfillment of these civil obligations which are common to all citizens."

The aim and substance of these papal pronouncements could be formulated briefly: (1) the exclusion of every form of oppression of the national rights of minorities, such as the right to preserve their peculiar culture (religious, historical, education, etc.), their economic possibilities, their economic capacity, and their natural fertility; (2) Affirmation of the necessity of a reciprocal sense of loyalty between the state and racial minorities within it.

INTERNATIONAL LAW
In their recent statement on Peace, the Catholic Bishops of the United States have insisted on the necessity of following the provisions of the Atlantic Charter without reservation or exception. In speaking of a possible international community as a solution to the war of the world, the Bishops state, "International law must govern in-

ternational relations. Might must be subordinated to law. An international institution, based on the recognition of its objective moral obligation and not on the binding force of a sovereign decree, is needed for the preservation of a just peace and the promotion of the common good of the international community. The international community must guarantee to the weak and poor nations economic opportunities and reasonable standards of living. In this international organization an organization by the American Bishops, there must be a World Court whose authority must not only be advisory but also judicial. The World Court must have the foundation of an up-to-date code of international law achieved by the best legal minds of the age. It must have all, have the backing and sanction of every member of the international organization. It's word must be the final word. Its decision must be law in international affairs. The Bishops' Statement re-affirms the Papal pronouncements regarding minority groups. "We hold that if there is to be a genuine and lasting world peace, the international organization should demand as a condition of membership that every nation guarantee in law and respect in fact the sacred rights of men, families and minority groups in their civil and religious life."

We have in the above tried to summarize the many statements of The Pope and the American Bishops on the minority problem. These statements agree that the peace depends on a just solution of the problems of minorities and that the peace depends on the sacred rights of nations and of men. We must be just to the weak and to the oppressed. As Pope's heart beats at the persecution of the weak and his hands are extended toward all those who are victims of this war in the history of the world. There is a grave obligation on the heads of allied nations and especially on the powerful Big Three to take every means toward the achieving of a just and lasting peace. Recent events have given the millions who are weary of war much cause to wonder whether or not these leaders have ever heard of the plans of Pius XII.

When the Pope's words are read, we find that the only way to achieve a lasting peace is to respect the rights of all nations and of all men.

into practice the moral principles of Pius XII. These hopes were dashed to great disappointment at the conference in Moscow. It was announced that there was already partial agreement and only the present agreement. The conference must practically accept the hope or become it had to do with the right of anyone of the Big Three to vote on a question involving aggression perpetrated by Nazi. The Soviet Union insisted that a nation whose action was up for scrutiny should have the decisive vote in the official review of its own men. In other words, each great power is a law unto itself. "Might does make right," and in every case of this kind the weaker and weaker nations must be on suffering. This would hardly seem to be a strong basis for a just and lasting peace.

THE CASE OF POLAND
The case of Poland is most interesting as an example of what is happening to minorities. Poland as a nation has a right to exist. The original Allies took up arms in defense of that goal. If Poland is destroyed or cut up to create the territorial hunger of larger nations, such an intention will prevent real peace in Europe. The Polish question is more than a minor local question. It has universal implications. It is being treated as though it were the exclusive affair of the British Empire. An ethnic hall of Poland is its own, the remainder with a few acres of German territory, will be given to Poland under a puppet government, subject to the British. The British will create law which will mean that Poland will be a puppet state. The British will not permit Poland to be a free nation. One can see the danger of Poland under British rule. It is a very real danger to the peace and unity of Europe. It is a very real danger to the peace and unity of the world.

It would seem that the leaders of the Big Three would need to give much more attention to the principles of morality contained in the words and teachings of Pius XII, if they are sincere and honest in their striving for a just and lasting peace. Peace can be achieved, it is possible, however, only by putting into practice the principles of Pius XII. The only way to achieve a lasting peace is to respect the rights of all nations and of all men.

ON GUARD

(Continued from Page 1)

Mr. unassuming readers, "are two of Spanish Republicans' greatest leaders." What a tragedy if this leads an informed reader to identify these two Spanish Communists with such (G. O. P. stalwarts as Governor Dewey and Senator Vandenberg.

La Pasionaria is a particularly interesting creature. The editors of COLLIER'S and their author Ted Allen seem to be totally unaware — and this is hard to believe — that she is the "pin-up girl" of Spanish and even International Communism. She was one of the evil spirits during these days in Spain when thousands were in flames and the blood of priests and nuns was flowing in the streets. When the monstrously Calvo Sotelo roared in the Spanish Curia to protect the Red violence, it was Communist member La Pasionaria who screamed at him: "That is your last speech!" It was too! He was murdered a few nights later. Since the Franco victory in Spain La Pasionaria has spent some of her time in Moscow — general headquarters of International Communism — where she writes verbal attacks against Franco. Check the files of the New York Communist DAILY WORKER for proof of this.

The word of St. Joan Negrita is also well known. There is no cause for the editors of COLLIER'S not knowing it. An illustration of Franco in the Loyalty or so-called Spanish Republican Government is captioned as head over to Moscow hundreds of millions of dollars worth of Spanish gold. It was after this piece of treachery that Franco became the sacred golden register of gold in the world, and began to tell that the gold would now gold when they had the gold. The new gold was the gold of the Spanish Republic. It was the gold of the Republic of Spain.

After the Franco attack Negrita became mad and saw the fall of Spain because of his treachery. She was the only woman in the world who saw the fall of Spain. She was the only woman in the world who saw the fall of Spain. She was the only woman in the world who saw the fall of Spain.

long Negrin, assisted by such able agents as La Pasionaria, would have remained the Soviet-groomed puppet of Spain. At the present moment Negrin is in Paris. With Moscow support he is plotting the overthrow of Franco and a return of himself to power. In vain he is not starving either. He cut plenty of money out of Spain against the day when he would have to flee before Franco. Judging from the American press Dr. Negrin has enough money to hire some good press agents as well as pay for his board and keep in exile.

The high of democracy in Spain does not rest with the Spanish Republic. It rests with the Republic in France. The Republic in France is the only one that is not a puppet of the Soviet Union. The Republic in France is the only one that is not a puppet of the Soviet Union. The Republic in France is the only one that is not a puppet of the Soviet Union.

The Republic in France is the only one that is not a puppet of the Soviet Union. The Republic in France is the only one that is not a puppet of the Soviet Union. The Republic in France is the only one that is not a puppet of the Soviet Union.



Tammy

People are waiting for Tammy because they are waiting for a good laugh. They are waiting for a good laugh. They are waiting for a good laugh. They are waiting for a good laugh.

American Book Co. Rochester, N. Y.

Sam Shuster

Life Insurance Cash Value
---At a Savings Bank

BUY YOUR LIFE INSURANCE

OVER THE LONG

PERIOD

If your dependents are

dependent, Life Insurance is

you have need to