

# POPE ASKS JUST PEACE TO AVERT WAR

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### American Bishops Ask World Bill of Rights; Score Yalta Rulings on Poland, Vote Setup

Washington — (RNS) — Adoption by the San Francisco Conference of an international Bill of Rights guaranteeing civil and religious liberties to the peoples of all countries was urged in a statement issued here by the Archbishops and Bishops of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Signed by seven archbishops and three bishops, the statement said:

"In all history, and particularly in modern history, dangers to world peace have come from the unjust treatment of minorities, the denial of civil and religious liberties and other infringements on the inborn rights of men. To remove these dangers, the nations should adopt an international Bill of Rights in which men and groups everywhere would be guaranteed the full enjoyment of their human rights."

The hierarchy urged that acceptance of this Bill of Rights should be made a condition of active participation in the world security organization.

Major points in the bishops' statement included:

1. The honest good will of the victors of the present war can result in a sound world organization which could begin a new era in international relations.

2. The proposals for the future of Poland made at the Yalta conference were "disappointing." World peace demands an independent and democratic Poland.

3. Current negotiations indicate that the Baltic nations, now under Russian domination, may be absorbed without their consent in "an alien system of government."

4. Present plans for a world organization may result only in an alliance of the great powers driving many nations to isolationism.

5. The statement pointed out that it is evident that the loyalties of men and nations in tomorrow's political world will be divided between the "two strong and essentially incompatible ways of life"—genuine democracy and "an alien totalitarianism."

"Democracy is built on respect for the dignity of the human person with its God-given inalienable rights," the bishops said. "Fascism and Nazism, rampant in their might, sought to destroy this. Fascism is gone, but never, forever. And soon Nazism will be only a horrible historical memory."

"However, we have to reckon with the active, cleverly organized and directed opposition of Marxian totalitarianism to genuine democracy."

"This is, then, the mission under dictatorial leadership, to make their intelligence with us propaganda and controlled press, and tyrannically violate human rights."

Ask More Law Back  
Los Angeles, Calif. — Acceptance of the moral law by the heads of all post-war nations was urged upon the United Nations Conference of San Francisco by the Los Angeles Catholic Church.

The church's statement, signed by Rev. John J. Connelley, pastor of St. Vincent's church, said:

"The moral law is the basis of all human rights. It is the only basis of a just and lasting peace. It is the only basis of a world organization which will be truly international."

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#### St. Bernard Alumnae



Most Rev. Henry O'Brien

#### Auxiliary Named Hartford Bishop

Washington — (NC) — The Most Rev. Henry O'Brien, Auxiliary Bishop of Hartford, is named Bishop of Hartford, and the Very Rev. James Louis Connelley, Rector of the St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., is named Coadjutor with right of succession to the Most Rev. James E. Cassidy, Bishop of Fall River, it is revealed at the Apostolic Delegation here this week.

With the announcement of these two Papal appointments all episcopal sees in the United States are now filled.

Both Bishops are natives of their respective dioceses. Bishop O'Brien was born in New Haven, Conn., which is in the Diocese of Hartford, July 22, 1895. Bishop Connelley was born in the city of Fall River itself, November 15, 1894.

Bishop O'Brien was named Titular Bishop of Sita and Auxiliary to the Most Rev. Maurice Francis Manning, Bishop of Hartford, in 1942. He now succeeds to the See left vacant by the death of Bishop Manning on December 25, 1944.

Bishop O'Brien attended St. Thomas Seminary, Hartford, and St. Bernard Seminary, Rochester, La., where he was ordained to the priesthood by the great Cardinal Mercier on July 5, 1920.

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### Bishop Kearney Asks Prayers for Parley

His Excellency Bishop Kearney in a letter to be read at all Masses on Sunday urges the faithful of the diocese to have a deep concern for the "momentous decisions" of the San Francisco Peace Conference which will convene next week.

Never in history have leaders been charged with such a serious responsibility and so much in need of Divine Guidance, the Bishop states.

At the Bishop's direction all Masses celebrated in the diocese next week will include the special "Prayer to the Holy Ghost." This will replace for a week the special "Prayer in Time of War," which has been said in all Masses since the outbreak of hostilities.

Pointing out that the children will inherit the results of the Golden Gate Conference, the Bishop requests that a prayer to the Holy Ghost be recited each morning of the meeting in all Catholic schools of the diocese.

An effort should be made, he also suggests, to give the students an understanding of the importance of their contribution.

The Bishop concludes with the hope that St. Francis of Assisi, patron of the Conference City "may use his powerful intercession for the welfare of humanity."

#### Special Broadcast On Frisco Meet

An address by His Excellency Bishop Kearney will be delivered on the "Catholic Hour" over WHAM on Monday (Apr. 23) at 12:15 p. m. The Bishop will speak on the forthcoming San Francisco Peace Conference and will include in his address a memorial tribute to the late President Roosevelt.

#### SCHOOL ORATORS IN SEM-FINALS

Students of the diocesan high schools have reached the semi-final competitions of the Bishop's Annual Oratorical Contest, which is under the joint sponsorship of the COURIER-JOURNAL and the Diocesan Education Office.

Student representatives of the four Catholic girls' schools in Rochester will meet in semi-final competition tomorrow evening (Friday, April 20) in Aquinas Institute Auditorium at 8 o'clock.

Schools represented tomorrow evening will be Nazareth Academy, Our Lady of Mercy High School, Academy of the Sacred Heart, and St. Joseph's Commercial School. Each school will be represented by two girls who will be selected to compete in the finals on Friday, May 1st, at the Aquinas Institute Auditorium at 8 o'clock.

Students from St. Andrew's Seminary and Aquinas Institute will meet at Our Lady of Mercy High School at 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening, April 19th.

At this semi-final meeting each of the three schools will enter one boy and one girl.

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### Pius Speaks On Eve of Frisco Meet

Vatican City, April 18 — Pope Pius today issued a special letter to the Catholic Bishops throughout the world, ordering general prayers for peace.

The Holy Father asked special prayers for the founding of a peace organization based on justice. Otherwise, he pointed out, the victorious and the vanquished will one day feel the sorrowful consequences of a new war.

Although the Pope asked for special prayers in May, especially from children, he declared prayers were not enough, but that public and private must be renewed.

The document closed with a moving appeal to the warring nations that war prisoners and other interned persons be allowed to return to their homes as soon as possible.

The full text of the Holy Father's letter on Peace will be found on Page 4.

ed to return to their homes as soon as possible.

The letter was issued in place of the traditional April pastoral epistle, which in other years has been addressed to the Papal Secretary of State and exhorted the faithful to special prayers and rites during May, which is consecrated in the honor of the Blessed Virgin. With the end of the war in sight and the peace crisis near, it is believed that the Pope considered the time sufficiently critical for a letter addressed to the Bishops of the Church.

The Pope's letter bears the date of Sunday, April 15, which is popularly called the "Sunday of the Good Shepherd" because of the gospel read in the Mass of that day.

Observers are significance in the fact that the Pope's letter which urged on "rehabilitation peace" is issued on the eve of the San Francisco Conference at which delegates of the United Nations will meet to establish an international peace organization.

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