

NCCW Sends 90,000 Items of Clothing

Washington — (NC) — More than 90,000 articles of clothing for children and sisters in the devastated areas of Europe, the Philippines, and China have been contributed by Catholic women's organizations throughout the United States in response to the

appeal issued by the National Council of Catholic Women in cooperation with War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference, a participating agency in the National War Fund.

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

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pendent positions, especially civil servants and school teachers, membership in the Nazi Party often did not mean an inner assent to the awful acts of the Nazi regime. Many joined, knowing little of the activities and aims of the Nazi Party. Many were forced to join and others joined with the good intention of preventing evil.

"It is, therefore, a demand of justice that the guilt be investigated in each individual case and the innocent have to suffer with the guilty. For this we Bishops have always stood and we shall stand for it in the future."

What is wrong or objectionable in these statements of the German Catholic Bishops? Nothing as far as we can see. Communists and anti-clericals would object to them, of course, but what can Americans with their reputation for equity and justice see wrong in them?

Why is it wrong for the Bishops to declare openly their right to open private schools for the education of Catholic children in Germany? The truth is that there is nothing wrong with this forthright stand of the German Bishops, and they would be failing in their duty if they had not insisted on this right. Can it be that some of our occupation authorities are opposed to Catholic schools?

Again why is it wrong for the Bishops to offer spiritual encouragement to the defeated German soldiers? "You were prepared to die for your people," say the Bishops to the soldiers, "now be prepared to live for them." Only the perverted mentality of the Daily Worker or Pravda could possibly read anything Hitlerian or subversive into these words.

The third censured passage of the Bishops' pastoral is probably the bravest thing in the whole document. Here the Bishops plead for the just and reasonable treatment of those rank-and-file Germans who held nominal membership in the Nazi Party.

In a personal interview this week Cardinal Faulhaber told the RNS correspondent that thousands of devout German Catholics, who were forced into the Nazi Party, have been "driven to the brink of despair" by arbitrary dismissal from their jobs. "Every priest knows families

Medalist



John A. Coleman, K. S. G., chairman of the New York Stock Exchange, who has been chosen to receive the 1945 Catholic Action Medal, conferred annually by St. Bonaventure College, Olean, N. Y., to the outstanding Catholic layman of the year. Mr. Coleman has long served as executive chairman of the Special Gifts Committee of the New York Catholic Charities appeal.

(NC Photos)

in his parish who were ardent anti-Nazis but were forced into Party membership in order to retain their employment," the Munich prelate stated. He cited the case of his own grand niece, who was employed by a Munich industrial firm as head stenographer, and joined the Nazi Party when confronted with the alternative of losing her job.

The Cardinal wisely advises the necessity of judging Germans "individually and not in the mass," and he warned that arbitrary dismissal of persons who were not actually Nazis may seriously handicap efforts to rehabilitate Germany.

We can appreciate the Cardinal's mind in this particular case if we only realize how many times even in our own country ordinary people are dragged against their convictions into organizations out of fear of losing their jobs. How many times even Catholics in this country—and we are not approving of it but only noting the fact—will give lip service to a political party simply and solely because they fear reprisal or loss of their livelihood if they refuse. If this can happen in the United States how much more easily can it happen under the despotism of Hitler.

This arbitrary censorship of their Fulda Pastoral must strike the German Bishops as very ironic. After fighting for years against Nazi censorship the Bishops now find themselves facing American censorship.

Remember who these German Bishops are. They are the men who from the first fought Nazism at the risk of their lives. They did not challenge Hitler from the safe distance of a New York newspaper office or radio studio. These Bishops — Faulhaber, von Galen, von Preysing and the others — fought Hitler in the streets of Germany!

In defiance of the high Nazi leaders these Bishops spoke out from their pulpits against the evil doctrines of Hitler and Goebbels. It was the courageous Faulhaber himself who stood in his own cathedral pulpit at Munich and publicly exploded the Nazi preachments of anti-Semitism.

It seems very unfair that these Bishops who were among the first to fight the despotic gag order of Hitler should now be among the first to suffer the gag and censorship of the present American military censorship.

This shocking news together with the sudden removal of General Patton and General Eisenhower's report that Berlin is on the verge of surrendering and the possibility of a German military

MACARTHUR'S JAP POLICY UPHELD

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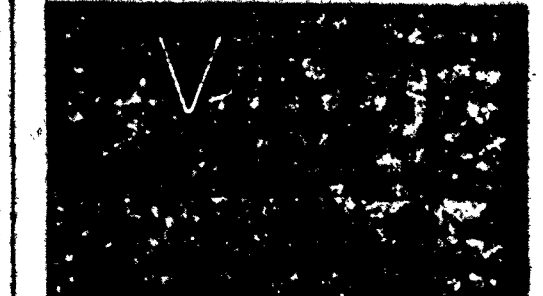
him is the basis of national unity.

"The disposition would overnight transform 70 million orderly, now cooperating citizens into a riotous anarchistic mob. Occupation forces would have to be more than doubled; they would have to stay ten times longer than under MacArthur's eminently practical policy. Incidentally, all religious effort would be hopelessly ruined."

The message asked the good offices of Walsh, who is chairman of the senate committee on Naval affairs, in seeing to it that authorities are impressed with the "vital necessity" of maintaining MacArthur's present policy.

Maryknoll — (NC) — A new Japan is rising from the chaos and destruction of war, opening up "a splendid prospect" for all kinds of religious, educational and charitable activity, the Rev. Patrick J. Byrne declares in a report received here.

Father Byrne describes what has happened in Japan as a "two-fold miracle," and says it is due to "the masterly handling of the situation" by General Douglas MacArthur. The priest says the Japanese have a solidly-grounded respect for the American general and "so long as he is at the reins are quite willing to meet the strictness of the Potsdam terms."



(Address all communications to Catholic War Veterans, Inc., Public Relations Bureau, 1108 Empire State Bldg., New York 1, N. Y.)

Q.—A veteran recently discharged wishes that he wishes to open his own business and requests advice as to assistance he may expect from the federal government?

A.—We have mailed to you a booklet "Business Help For Veterans" published by the Smaller War Plants Corporation, which should be looked over by all veterans contemplating starting or reestablishing a business. The Veterans' Administration may also help by guaranteeing in part a loan to assist in getting you started. For loans, application should be made to your bank or other lending agency and if they approve the loan they will notify the VA of the pending loan and request part guaranty by the federal government.

Q.—Another World War II vet inquires if he can obtain a priority for the purchase of a truck or truck being offered as surplus property by the government?

A.—Yes, your bid will be given preference, providing that it is not too low. Where a lot of trucks are offered a veteran may select one, offering the average price, and it will be sold to him. Some government surplus lots may be purchased by veterans with as little as 15% down and the balance over three or five year periods.

Q.—A mother states that her son lost his left eye and wishes to know that his record shows him to be below the physical standards. She asks why he is not discharged?

A.—During hostilities many men were needed behind lines to assist many times important to assist their leaders who were in mortal combat. At this time we think you son will prove to be a valuable asset to the community.



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