

Boys Discover Slab, Part of Spina's Tomb

Watkins City—(NC)—A section of marble slab, believed to be a part of the sarcophagus of St. Monica, mother of St. Augustine, and containing a portion of an inscription attributed to Anicio Ausonius, has been unearthed in Ontario, Ontario, Ontario reports.

The discovery was made in the courtyard of the Church of St. Aurea, by two boys who were digging a post hole for a sports game, the report said. Because of old and recent fractures, the marble section was broken into three parts. Excavations are continuing in an effort to locate the rest of the slab.

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

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chancellor in Berlin. The voice that filled Europe and even the world with terror for so long is heard no more.

Mussolini, too, once the proud and haughty master of all that he surveyed, came to a shameful and sorry end when he was beaten down by the cruel blows of a merciless mob. Who ever thought that Il Duce, always so eloquent and so self-assured, would find death in a gutter?

And the year of 1945 also brought a swift change of fortune to the former warlords of Imperial Japan. All their dreams of earthly conquest have melted in the withering heat of an atomic bomb.

General Yamashita, Premier Tojo, and his followers are now weak men, tired and defeated. For them the sun of glory has set and they stare blankly at a shadow which is the shadow of the gallows.

In the dock at Nuremberg sit the gaunt and gloomy men whose word ruled and terrorized Europe only yesterday. These Nazi warlords are tragic figures who dreamed wicked dreams and forgot that "only God can dream and make dreams come true."

The lust for earthly power is a terrible thing. Always it leads men to disaster. This is the obvious lesson taught on the world stage of 1945.

"Vanity of vanities, and all is vanity, except to love God and to serve Him alone."

This dictum of the ancient wiseman is confirmed by the dramatic events of 1945.

Even the world's greatest heroes despite their renown and prestige, must suffer the temporality of life and the emptiness of earthly achievement.

Time and death breath the pure spirit of democracy. They are no respecters of persons. In its swift passage the year of 1945 changed many things.

In a few hours of this dying year we have seen the greatest of our war leaders pass from the stage of life, if not forever in death at least for the moment in a reversal of worldly fortune.

On the very eve of the great victory which he had planned and directed President Roosevelt passed away quickly in a "little white house" in Georgia. Few men, if any, ever enjoyed the honors and applause of the world as did America's famous war-president. But as Lincoln and Wilson before him, he steered

the Ship of State through the storms of the night to find that his energies like those of other men were still only mortal.

And the colorful and vibrant General Patton! Only yesterday he was the hero of Africa, and Sicily, and Germany, and now he sleeps in a drab soldier's grave next to an American private in the little Duchy of Luxembourg.

He conquered where no other military leader ever conquered before, but almost a year to the very week that he broke the Battle of the Bulge he slept forever beneath a cross. The only battle he ever lost was the battle of death!

During the fleeting weeks of 1945 we also saw the fickleness of human popularity under the great Winston Churchill, Britain's bulwark of wartime morale, from his high post of Prime Minister. The man who a few hours ago, it seems, was defending England with only raw courage and fiery eloquence now sits glumly in that part of Parliament reserved for his majesty's loyal opposition.

In its passage, the year of 1945 touched even the shoulder of that most enigmatic of all world leaders — Joseph Stalin. Reportedly in ill health the Soviet dictator may now suspect that power is a myth and that earthly conquest is an empty boast. Even now, this master of vast lands and many peoples, seems to be relinquishing the sceptre of power to others.

So it is that all men and women pass across the stage of life and eventually they play their final role—a meeting with death!

And in man's final hour the only worthwhile treasures are those stored up in Heaven. This is the lesson of 1945.

Man's world like man himself is mortal. All things — wealth, power, honor, and achievement — pass away. Nothing remains except God and God's love.

"Vanity of vanities, and all is vanity except to love God and to serve Him alone."

This is the wisdom of 1945. It will also be the wisdom of 1946.

U. S. Isolation Trend Seen in Britain

London — (NC) — "Disquieting signs that in America the forces of isolationism are gathering strength," are cited, says the Catholic Times, an American idealism being shocked by evidences of the cynicism of international policy.

"Less than ever is isolationism a possible American line," the paper says. "Its effect can be only to destroy the causes for which the war was fought. But it is the standing American temptation, to which our own geographical position renders us immune.

Italian 'Y' Hit For Red Support

Watkins City — (By Radio, NC) — A pamphlet entitled "Return to Civil Life," published by the so-called "Italian Committee for Social Culture" in collaboration with the Y. M. C. A., was denounced by *Quotidiano*, independent Catholic daily published here, as "nothing more than thinly disguised, vulgar Communist propaganda."

The article implies that the Y. M. C. A., a Protestant Christian organization, should lend its name to such propaganda, calling into the suspicion of a vague "Committee for Social Culture" and in the name of democracy to Soviet Union, which the writer regards as certainly an enemy of our country and of our people. The article also implies that the Y. M. C. A. is a tool of the Soviet Union and that it is a tool of the Soviet Union.

Maryknoll Bishop Flays China Reds

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generation, has nursed it through all the dangers that beset the infant Republic, has unified it and evoked its national spirit, and has finally guided it to victory in a global war.

It has its reactionary and its radical elements. It has its petty despots and its unprincipled opportunists. It has its inefficient officials and even its dishonest grafters.

But in this it differs from no other political party on earth, no matter how democratic, honest and otherwise enlightened the general group may be.

We have almost reached the half-way mark of the Twentieth Century, and it is safe to predict now that when the history of our age is finally assessed and written, the present leader of China and her people will stand revealed as one of its greatest men.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek is a man with the virtues of the enlightened ruler.

A wise and kindly father, he knows how to keep his family in order, encouraging here and correcting there while carrying out the national policies that spell progress for all. He is neither a dictator nor a figure-head; he is simply a determined man with a conscience, a sense of responsibility, and a deep love of country. He is a first class military man without being a militarist.

Such is the present government of China and such are some of its leaders. Neither government nor leaders have been chosen by popular vote. But both leaders and government have the solid backing of the vast majority of the people — much more so than any elected administration or President in the whole history of this country ever had.

Meanwhile the people have been promised the vote by this government and they confidently expect it, but they neither want nor expect it overnight. They want peace and unity and order first as prerequisites to rehabilitation and progress. They want a chance to regain their homes, resume their trade and agriculture and lick their wounds. Then they will be ready for the machinery of democratic government. Yet if they were obliged to hold a national election tomorrow morning, they would vote almost to a man for their present leaders.

Almost to a man — but not quite. While a united China was fighting for its life against Japanese militarism in the severest struggle the country has ever known, there remained an enemy in its own household.

Representing at most one fourth of one per cent of the Chinese population, with roughly a half million soldiers at their command and perhaps another half million sympathizers of various hues scattered here and there, the communist group took advantage of their own people's misery and their own country's extremity to rebel, seize large areas by force, impose themselves on great sections of the population who despise and fear them, establish a separate state, divide the nation, sabotage the war effort, threaten curbing their power by the Japanese invaders and push all their efforts to bring their own country's government government soldiers and their own brothers in arms to take more territory and to be in their dishonest hypocrisy, to broadcast around the world, with the aid of a foreign power, that is either unbalanced or unprincipled or both that they are a spontaneous movement of Chinese people.

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