

'Just Wage' Formula Given by Bp. Haas

Grand Rapids, Mich.—(NC)—A formula on just wages, based on Catholic teaching, was submitted by Bishop Francis J. Haas of Grand Rapids in an address at a mass meeting here, sponsored by the United Automobile Workers of America.

To meet the requirements of "public economic good," Bishop Haas said, "wages must be high enough to permit workers to become property owners. Wages must be kept at a level where they will yield maximum employment. There should be an equitable relationship between wages in different industries and in agriculture. Prices of goods in different industries must stand in balanced proportion to one another."

In submitting this formula on wages to your union, and to the management against which you are striking, Bishop Haas told the automobile workers, "I need not say I hope that the unions and the managements in the auto industry, steel, oil, electric equipment, and the rest will adopt it and put it into operation."

Bishop Haas, while making it clear that he considers himself an "outsider" in the present dispute between General Motors and the United Automobile Workers, and that he was "not going to tell what you should do with respect to your strike," said that the strike involves deeper issues "about which all have both a right and a duty to have an opinion and to express it."

Explaining "the current Catholic position on wages," as set forth in Pope Pius XI's Encyclical "Forty Years After," the Bishop said that "there is nothing distasteful to Catholic about this wage formula in the sense that non-Catholics or even unbelievers cannot or should not accept it. It is a formula that all might well study, and on whose acceptance—and establishment—

here and now all should insist. Three elements must be taken into joint consideration in order to arrive at a just wage. Bishop Haas explained: (1) support of the worker and his family, (2) condition of the employer's business and (3) public economic good.

Regarding the first point, the Bishop said that "a man's wage is not just if it will not buy him the necessities of life, both when the man is working and when he is prevented from working through no fault of his own." He recalled that the Encyclical is "explicit in denouncing the evil in which the mother of a family is compelled to work for wages because the father's wage is too low to provide for family needs."

On the second point, concerning the condition of the employer's business, Bishop Haas had this to say:

"Fortunately, in our country at the present time, the inability of managements generally to pay just wages is not something that we need be concerned about, certainly not in most of the corporations in which major strikes are now in progress or are threatening. The release of the Securities and Exchange Commission of November 7 showed that in the six year period alone from 1939 to 1945, the net working capital of United States corporations increased from \$24.6 billion to \$48 billion, that is, almost doubled, and with a 'substantial proportion' of the total in cash and U. S. securities."

17 Days in All



Father Paul J. Giegerich, Army Chaplain and priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, who recently made an official trip around the world in 17 days. In that time, Father Giegerich visited 75 Army chaplains, many American and foreign missionaries, and American cemeteries. He started and ended at Washington, D. C., making stops at Newfoundland, the Azores, Casablanca, Tripoli, Cairo, Iran, Cebu, Taganan in India, Kuning in China, Manila, Guam, Kwajalein and Johnston Islands, San Francisco and Kansas. (NC Photos).

Return to China Ports
Seattle — (NC) — The Revs. Floribert Blank and Elgar Miradorff, members of the Cincinnati Province of Franciscans, have sailed for China on the *Madras Raven*, a hospital ship scheduled to pick up American wounded in the Pacific.

Action on Moscow Link Postponed

Chicago (RNS) The Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church in the United States has postponed for two years final decision on proposals suggested by Archbishop Alexei of Yaroslavl and Rostov for reunion with the Moscow Patriarchate.

The announcement was made here by Metropolitan Theophilos, head of the so-called dissident American Church, at a liturgical service at Holy Trinity Russian Cathedral.

The metropolitan's statement climaxed a two-day meeting dur-

ing which ten Russian bishops from United States and Canadian dioceses were urged by Archbishop Alexei to reverse a decision made last May rejecting a union by Patriarch Alexei for return of the American Church to his spiritual and legal jurisdiction.

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French Nun Given Croix De Guerre

Paris — (NC) — Mother Saint-Jean, Superior of the Convent of the Holy Agony, received the Croix de Guerre at a military ceremony here, with the following citation:

"From 1940 to 1942, Mother Saint-Jean helped more than 1,000 French prisoners escape from camps in the vicinity of Paris; she furnished them with clothing and money in order that they might reach the free zone."

"In 1942 her convent served as a liaison for the secret network of the Allied intelligence in Paris. There the most important secret meetings took place. Numerous English and American parachutists found shelter therein."

Other Religious of the same convent were awarded the Resistance Medal. The Croix de Guerre was also awarded to the Superior of the Saint-Joseph clinic.

Calendars Inciting 'Shameful Lust' Hit

Cuernavaca, Mexico — (NC) — Denouncing the "lamentable deterioration" of calendars, Guillermo Ruiz Vasquez, in an article in *El Occidental*, secular daily, maintains that many merchants "concentrate upon prints which offend decency and, far from rendering the objective of the calendar, which is that of recording the days in which we live, they mostly attract attention upon shameful pictures which incite more or less seriously to lust."

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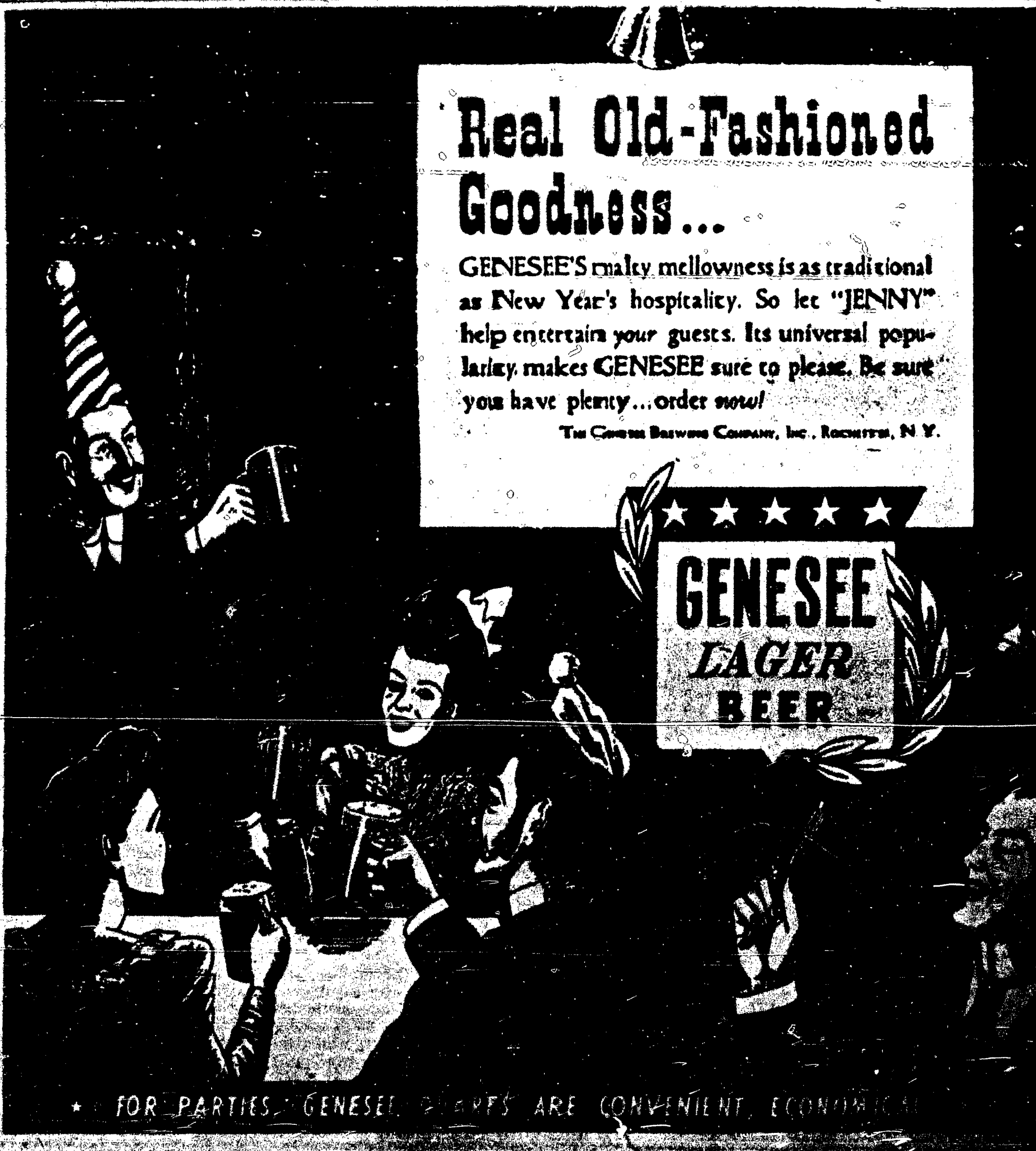
Albany, N. Y. — (RNS) — Enrollment in theology and religious education classes at 14 colleges in New York State shows an increase of 5% over the fall 1944 figure, according to statistics compiled by the Division of Higher Education of the State Education Department.

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