

Loyola Cited by Army Chicago — (NC) — Loyola University here has been cited by the Surgeon General of the United States Army, Maj. Gen.

Norman T. Kirk, for its efforts in sponsoring and staffing the 100th General Hospital, which operated in Normandy and Paris during the war.

### Belgian Vote Notes Catholic, Leftist Gains

Antwerp — (NC) — An analysis of the vote in the Belgian general elections shows that the P.S.C. — Parti Social Chrétien, or Christian Socialists — the successors to the old Roman Catholic party, made the largest numerical gains, but that a shift to the left was the characteristic note of the elections, with striking progress made by the Communists.

The Christian Socialists made their gains despite the fact that the Van Acker Socialist government made use of semi-legal and extra-legal means to reduce the number of Catholic voters.

It has been said here that the Christian Socialists merely took over the seats left open by the Rexists and the Flemish Nationalists, but it should be noted that 322,000 Belgians were deprived of the right to vote in the elections, most of them adherents of the two dissolved parties.

Women Vote Banned — The Belgian women were not allowed to vote, the franchise having been withheld from them until January 1, 1947. Women were among the most enthusiastic promoters of the Christian Socialist cause in the pre-election activities. Another group which gave support to the Catholic party was La Releve ("Rescue"), an association of young men from Brussels and Wallonia who distinguished themselves in the clandestine liberation effort.

Several measures by the government tended to impair the representative character of the election. All men over 40 were required to give evidence of their loyalty before and during the war in order to obtain the right to vote, and it is declared that anonymous revelations were used as formal accusations by government authorities in order to disfranchise many members of the Catholic opposition.

Christian Socialists point to the example of the arrest of three Benedictine fathers of the Affligem Abbey in Brabant on election eve, just in time to deprive them of their vote. Soldiers were not allowed to vote, and it is charged that many young men were called into service hurriedly to prevent them from casting their ballots.

The impasse in Belgian politics, now that the Christian Socialists have the largest representation in parliament but not a majority, doomed the efforts of the Christian Socialist leader Auguste de Schryver to form a Cabinet, and frustrated the first efforts of Socialist Paul-Henri Spaak. The Cabinet which Spaak eventually organized on March 11, by order of Prince Regent Charles, is expected to have a short and stormy life.

Special Consistory Issue Madrid — (RNS) — A special 50-page edition to commemorate the recent consistory in Rome was published here by Signo, organ of the youth branch of Spanish Catholic Action. The issue contained several articles describing the New North American cardinals, especially Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York.

### Gov. Dewey Kin Is Convert to Faith

Dublin, Mass. — (NC) — Navy Capt. Charles E. Dewey, who was in command of the cruiser Pensacola when it was sunk off the coast of Okinawa, has been received into the Catholic Church here. He is a graduate of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and spent three years as a Bible preacher before joining the Navy in 1932. His naval decorations include three Silver Stars, the Bronze Star with an Oak Leaf Cluster, and a second class of God. Thomas E. Dewey, of New York.

### 'Family Weeks' Success

Ottawa — (CIP) — "Family Weeks", a new form of the Catholic social apostolate, were so successful in the Archdiocese of Quebec in 1945, when they were tried out for the first time, that already 42 such "Weeks" are being planned for the time between September and December 1946. The idea of "Family Weeks" is to acquaint the Catholics of a parish in a thorough way with the problems and tasks of a Christian family and of Christian education.

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