

# Bishops Pledge Fight to Keep Catholic Schools Open

Members of the National Council of Catholic Bishops have pledged to fight to keep Catholic schools open in the event of a national emergency.

The bishops' statement, issued in Washington, D. C., on April 15, says that the bishops are "deeply concerned" over the possibility of a national emergency which might result in the closing of Catholic schools.

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# HENRY FORD II AWARDED MEDAL



Henry Ford II, son of the late Henry Ford, has been awarded the 1948 Christian Culture Award Medal by the National Council of Catholic Bishops.

The award was presented to him by the Rev. James J. Conroy, bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland, at a ceremony in Cleveland, Ohio, on April 15.

Mr. Ford is a member of the Boy Scouts of America and is a member of the St. Ignace Parish in Cleveland.

# Church for Colored Groups Is Dedicated in Boston

A new church for colored people, St. Bernard's, was dedicated in Boston on April 15.

The church, located at 1000 Huntington Ave., was dedicated by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing.

The church is the first of its kind in Boston and is dedicated to the service of the colored people of the city.

# SURPLUS GOODS GO TO INDIA MISSION GROUPS

Washington — Senator James H. Mead (D., N.Y.), Chairman of the Special Senate Committee Investigating the National Defense Program, announced today that surplus goods in India have been successful in obtaining surplus supplies.

A detailed complaint was received by the Committee about a month ago from the Joint Catholic-Protestant Purchasing Committee in India, representing the American missionaries, setting forth the difficulties being encountered in purchasing U. S. surplus property in India.

plumbing equipment, clothing and other supplies. Protestant missions in India have likewise benefited, particularly by nearly thirty thousand mosquito bars and fifty thousand clothing items.

Interest has also been expressed by the American missionary groups in the purchase of surplus supplies in the Philippines and in islands of the Pacific for use in their missions. This matter also has been called to the attention of the Foreign Liquidation Commissioner, with a request that full information be furnished to the Committee regarding steps taken to satisfy these requirements.

# Arctic Missioner Becomes South Pacific Chaplain

Diomed — (RNS) — Probably the last missionary can equal the travels and experiences of the Rev. Thomas Patrick Cunningham, 40-year-old Jesuit now in Japan to succeed the chaplaincy of the U. S. Army's Kimpoo Airborne at Seoul. His work has taken him from the frozen upper reaches of the Arctic to the sultry climate of the southwest Pacific.

In 1935, Father Cunningham arrived alone at the tiny barren island of Diomed in the Arctic sea to establish a mission for the Oregon Seaside Province. For ten years he preached the Word of God to the Eskimos, cared for their sick and taught adults and children. Then one day the U. S. Army came to Diomed to set up an air-sea rescue station for American bombers flying being down across the top of the world to Russia.

# Virgin of Pillar Statue Given Submarine Base

Madrid — (RNS) — An imposing statue of the Virgin of the Pillar has been installed in the submarine base at Cartagena to commemorate Isidro Peral, 19th century Spanish inventor who is reputed to have built the first submarine. Peral invariably carried an image of the Virgin of Pillar during his under-sea expeditions. The statue, donated by Zaragoza Catholics, was blessed by the post chaplain, who also said a special Mass.

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# Decision of Episcopate

The entire French Episcopate, the bishops' statement said, "has resolved to preserve freedom of education with all the means at their disposal."

"In defending this freedom the bishops are clearly related to one another. In some cases, the rest soon will be shaken with it."

"The example of the totalitarian States is a tragic proof of this. Under no circumstances should we approve an educational monopoly, no matter under what name."

"Families are determined to pursue insistently, without undue aggressiveness but with an ardent conviction, the campaign they have undertaken to enlighten public opinion on the justice of their cause, which is now too much ignored. May they persist in defending their rights. May they stress, above all, the valuable service rendered to the country by their schools. May they organize family school committees around their schools."

"Whatever freedom of education is recognized should be established by law which would prevent the freedom from being reduced in practice to a mere illusion, and limited to families favored with wealth."

"As we said in our statement of February 28, 1948, we stand ready on this point to consider any honest solution which would insure the rights of the family and of the Church as well as of the State."

# 500,000 Food Cans Sent from Canada

Ottawa — (NC) — In response to Pope Pius XII's appeal for the starving people of Europe, particularly the children, Catholics of Canada are shipping overseas more than 500,000 cans of food. The present shipments are expected to be only the beginning of such aid from Catholics to the needy of Europe.

In the Montreal archdiocese some 300,000 cans were collected during one week following an appeal made by Archbishop Joseph Charbonneau. Some were collected at the churches as were funds to defray shipping costs. But the appeal was directed mostly through the schools to make the children aware of the plight of the children of Europe, and many of the children brought more than 10 cans each. In the Ottawa archdiocese more than 40,000 cans were collected following a special appeal made by Archbishop Alexander Vachon.

# Pope Honors Chinese Layman

Washington — (NC) — The honor of Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great has been conferred by His Holiness Pope Pius XII upon Dr. Stephen Fan, Chairman, secretary general of the Catholic Cultural Association of China, according to an announcement received here.

The announcement came from the Chinese Embassy in Washington, D. C., in a cable message to the Chinese Embassy here. Dr. Fan recently arrived here from Rome where he attended the public Consistory ceremonies. He acted as secretary for Bishop Paul Yung, Vicar Apostolic of Nanking, at a number of the Pope's visits to the United States.

# Calls Anti-Semitism Mental 'Marijuana'

Minneapolis, Minn. — (RNS) — Anti-Semitism is "psychological marijuana," the Rev. Francis Gillman, professor at St. Paul Seminary, declared here at a Lenten Institute service at Minneapolis Catholic Youth center.

Fr. Gillman, who is chairman of the Minnesota Interracial Commission, said:

"There is a necessary contrast between the Jews and the Gentiles. The Sacred Congregation of Rites is considering miracles advanced in the cause of canonization of Bl. Catherine Laboure, a French nun of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. She lived in the early part of 19th century and founded the miraculous medal which was revealed to her in a vision."

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**Retreat May 31 Auburn**  
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Complete h obtained from the Jolow Church, Charl ally, Andrew- phonus, Fra Aloysius, Geo Hyacinth's, R witz, O.M.C., Francis, Josef Peter and Pau The week- diocesan hon will begin M until Nov. 10  
**10 Aut Leave!**  
Auburn — Ho were granted. Announcements th Rev. Daniel A. St. Stanley W. Leahy D. Bazar St. James E. Corrie Charles E. Gray First Last, All may be to on ten Frank Williams St. Thomas Robert A.  
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