

# On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman gives us some very valuable advice about Communism in the current pages of *The American Magazine*. Entitled "Communism is Un-American," the Cardinal's article is the first he has written since his elevation to the Sacred College.

Concerning himself with the problem of Communism in the United States, the Cardinal does not hesitate to warn us that Communists, "wielding their weapons of intrigue and infamy, are imposing on our country their profane pattern of serfdom." Apathetic Americans, many of them Catholics, usually describe statements like this as "alarmist." But surely no one can call the well-informed Archbishop of New York an "alarmist."

Those of us who have already grown tired and weary from our efforts to rally our fellow Americans against the menace of Red fascism can find vindication in the forthright and timely warnings of the Eminence.

There are Americans who scoff at the suggestion that Communism is a serious danger. But Cardinal Spellman has seen it in action and here is what he says:

"Too many Americans consider Communism only a nuisance, and in their blindness, become like moles that cannot see or stretches that will not see, while others, in apathetic ignorance, consider it merely a philanthropic movement to improve the conditions of the poor and underprivileged. If this were true, Communism would be a pattern for perfect and peaceful living. But I have seen the tragedy of the fulfillment of glowing Communist promises. I have seen cringing farming people who had been deported from their country, and on their faces were etched not the happy imprints of the Four Freedoms, but the terrible footprints of the Four Horsemen."

Communism can happen here. There are Americans who admit that Communism in Europe is a bad thing, but of course, it could never happen in the United States.

To those who say, "It cannot happen here," His Eminence replies:

"It can happen here, and anywhere, and everywhere that Communism, with its goal of rash promises, takes root."

Cardinal Spellman leaves no doubt as to his mind. He insists that "it can happen here." But more important is His Eminence's charge that it is happening here.

"In America," he writes, "the seeds of confusion and disunion are sown and spreading, and Communism is growing in their efforts to weaken our ties from Americanism. Communists unanimously revile and defile everyone whose opinions and convictions differ politically, socially, or morally from their own. Their subtle, sinister schemings sway and mislead Americans who, in ignorance or weakness, yield to Communism their loyalty to God, to Country, and to their fellow man."

"Today," the Cardinal continues, "Communists, suppressing and distorting truth, are intimidating men and inflicting despotism on America, trying to convert Americans to Communism."

In government, in industry, in labor unions, in our political and educational systems, even in the armed services of our country, Communists and Communist sympathizers hold responsible positions, while members of their party use the press, the radio, and the films to influence and divide us against ourselves."

Like the late Pius XI, His Eminence credits the Communist program to a "conspiracy of silence." The Red menace to America, states the New York prelate, "is known not to me alone, nor is it news to many in high places and in low, but most of those who know the facts speak in fearful whispers or in private round-table talks. This method will not cure the creeping paralysis of inertia attacking America nor arouse Americans to the actual menace of Communism."

Americans of professional and political influence, particularly Catholics, will be shocked to hear that their silence is promoting the Communist destruction of our free nation. But if they wish to avoid the sin of silence, then they should adopt the spirit of Cardinal Spellman who states:

"I feel that I could not to a true American if I catered into the complacency of silence and did not express my voice above those who, privately and in whispers, tell about Communism. When I am asked not to speak publicly against this insidious enemy of Americanism."

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# THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

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READ  
I Chose Freedom  
Victor Kravchenko  
Story of Inside Russia  
(On Page 10)

57TH YEAR ROCHESTER EDITION ROCHESTER, N. Y., THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1946 14 PAGES FIVE CENTS

## France and Italy Head Pope's Plea, Check Red Surge

Voters in France and Italy this week answered the appeal of Pope Pius XII to "continue to rest on the firm rock of Christianity." By a decisive vote both nations rejected Communist bids for control of their interim governments.

## Rochester Priest Blesses U.S. Flyers' Belgrade Cemetery

Washington (NC) — The Catholic priest in Memoriam Day consecrated the little cemetery in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, where 103 American airmen are buried in a little cemetery on a hillside overlooking Belgrade.

Father Dalley, who had been named Rector, interim of the Apostolic Nunciature in Belgrade, blessed the graves of these American soldiers who lost their lives in the war.

Father Dalley, a native of Rochester, N. Y., was ordained for the Diocese of St. Augustine in 1912.

Son of Mrs. Myles J. Tierney, 102 Pontiac Road, Rochester, Father Dalley celebrated his First Solemn Mass in St. Margaret Mary's Church in June, 1942. He is a graduate of Aquinas Institute and St. Michael's College, Toronto, and attended St. Bernard's Seminary. After assignment to St. Augustine Diocese, he attended the Harvard School of Journalism.

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## RUSSIANS BAR CATHOLIC RELIEF

New York (INS) — A Catholic priest accused Russian occupation forces in Hungary of refusing admission into that starving country of more than one million pounds of relief foods collected by Catholics in the United States.

The charge was made by the Rev. Frank Fulop, who spent the past eight years in Hungary. Father Fulop, who was interned by the Germans shortly after the start of the war, declared:

"I saw the Germans do many dirty things but what the Russians are doing today in Hungary is 100 per cent worse."

He said the Russians are "liv- ing off the fat of the land," and added bitterly:

"About the only way a person can get along today in Hungary is to join the Communist Party. If you don't you'll starve."

The priest asserted the Russian refusal to admit the food supplies was because they came from a church, to which they are opposed.

## Quints Give Birthday Funds for Needy

Callander, Ont. (NC) — The Dionne quintuplets, who observed their fifth birthday here, did without presents at their own request in order that the money might be sent to the suffering children of Europe.

The contributions which would have been spent for presents will be sent to the Vatican for distribution among the needy by the Holy Father. Msgr. Henri Martel, recently named chaplain to the Dionne family, offered Mass for the quintuplets in their private chapel and all received Holy Communion to mark their birthday.

## Vatican Opens Phone Service to Argentine

Vatican City (NC) — On the occasion of the inauguration of direct telephone service between Argentina and Vatican City, Archbishop Giuseppe Piatina, Apostolic Nuncio to Argentina, spoke with the Msgr. Giovanni B. Montali, Substitute Secretary of State, and delivered to him in the name of the Argentine Hierarchy and laity a message of homage to the Holy Father.

Attention Order! For the correct flowers for your wedding both in style and price, see CLARENCE FLORESTA, 58 Lake Avenue. Estimates cheerfully given. Phone Main 1995.

## AS ELMIRA FOUGHT OFF DISASTROUS FLOOD WATER



Pictured above is a scene at Elmira's St. Joseph Hospital where, despite flood conditions, Dr. John Powell and Sister Maurice are giving typhoid injections to some of the 800 city residents. At the right is an air view of the flooded east side. The swollen Chemung River is at the left and Water Street, living up to its name, is at the right.

## Elmira Flood Causes \$350,000 Damage to Hospital, Churches; Bishop Tours Stricken Region

Elmira—Damage totaling nearly \$350,000 was caused to Catholic institutions here when flood waters of the rain-swollen Chemung River swept through the city in a 24-hour rampage which left a wide trail of muddy ruin in its wake.

Hardest hit are St. Joseph's Hospital and the hundred-year-old St. Peter and Paul's Church.

His Excellency Bishop James E. Kearney who visited this stricken Southern Tier area of the Rochester Diocese on Friday, promised full support to the work of rehabilitation.

Authorities here estimate that the hospital loss involving essential equipment and electrical services will run close to \$300,000.

At St. Peter and Paul's Church flood water covered the church pews and damaged heating systems in the church, school, rectory and convent. Damage was estimated by the Rev. William J. Naughton, pastor.

St. Patrick's School suffered impairment of its heating boiler when flood waters reached the school basement. It was stated by the Very Rev. William J. Brien, vicar, pastor of St. Patrick's.

Disaster struck swiftly at many Elmira homes when the swirling waters raced through them some times as high as the second floor.

## Bishop Muench Named To Reich Liaison Post

Berlin (NC) — Bishop Aloisius J. Muench of Fargo, N. D., has been appointed official American representative to act as liaison between the Catholic Church in Germany and Military Government authorities in the American zone of occupation.

The Church as a whole stands united and sound without and within," the Pope said in his address. "Wherever because of deliberate and systematic persecutions or as result of the cruel war-time destruction, it was deprived of every visible support and despoiled of its spiritual possessions, it is the spirit of union which among the faithful and their zeal grows more ardent."

## Hitler's Theater Becomes Chapel

BASEL, Switzerland (NC) — Hitler's private movie house on the Obersalzberg near Berchtesgarden, Bavaria, is to become a temporary Catholic chapel, according to Muench.

BERN, Switzerland (NC) — The Swiss daily, *Basler Nachrichten*, reported that the small building at the disposal of the church and it is now being remodeled to fit its new and better purpose.

## SCHOOL LUNCH BILL MADE LAW

Washington — The National School Lunch Act was transformed into permanent law today when President Harry S. Truman affixed his signature to the measure.

The law provides that in situations where State Constitutions prohibit officials from channeling aid to non-public institutions, proportionate amounts of allotments made to such States shall be withheld and issued directly to the non-public schools by the Secretary of Agriculture, who is established by the measure as the administrator of the act.

It is further provided in the law that an appropriation of \$10,000,000 annually is made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for "non-food" purposes, which are defined as "equipment used on the school premises in storing, preparing and serving" food for school children.

## Official

His Excellency Bishop Kearney has departed Catholic living in the flooded Southern Tier area of the Rochester Diocese from the law of absence since Friday, and from the laws of fasting and abstinence this Saturday, the Vigil of Pentecost. Catholics who live in the specified flood areas, therefore may eat meat on Friday and Saturday of this week. Neither are they obliged to fast on Saturday.

Churches have closed parishioners are faced with serious property damage in their homes. Includes St. Peter and Paul's, Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Patrick's.

The Chemung flood waters, the worst yet to attack the Elmira area, rushed upon this city a week ago Tuesday (May 28) at the early morning hour of 8 o'clock.

Inundating even the downtown district and rising at the rate of 8 inches in 10 minutes, the brown flood waters quickly paralyzed this city of 50,000 people.

Water Knocked Out — Most seriously endangered was St. Joseph's Hospital conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph. Here 100 patients were under care when the mud-braking water began to pour into the basement level of the institution.

Before noon the hospital's electric power, heating and telephone services were knocked out and valuable stores of food and medical supplies including bandages and medicines were destroyed.

Three operations in progress when the lights went out were completed successfully.

At the same time the hospital's two elevators and two in the Nurses' Home failed when the water hit the motors.

Also inundated with water and silt were the Nurses' cafeteria in the basement of the Nurses' Home, the hospital kitchen and laundry, the physical therapy room, the drug rooms, the morgue and the boiler room.

Physicians, nurses and even patients who reached the hospital after the flood had struck arrived by rowboats or motorboats.

Despite a lack of heat, cooking, laundry and elevator service, the hospital staff under Sister Margaret Adelaide, superintendent, carried on its duties and made extra facilities demanded by the emergency.

Vital laundry needs of the hospital were performed by the Sisters at the laundry of the Jewish Hotel. Meals for the hospital were prepared at the kitchen of the Park Hotel and the Arnot-Ogden Hospital.

Installation of emergency electric and telephone services at the hospital helped ease the critical situation during the first hours of the flood crisis.

When the waters receded after 24 hours, the basement rooms of the hospital were filled with mud, bedding, coats and other necessities were scattered about.

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## Jewish Group Sets Benefit Show for Flooded Hospital

Elmira — A Jewish group the Jewish Relief League, is the first to come forward in an effort to rehabilitate flood-damaged St. Joseph's Hospital.

All proceeds from a Benefit Show will go to help restore the severely damaged hospital.

The speaker for the affair will be Henry Leonard, famous modern playwright and playwright lecturer who held the title from 1927 until 1929. Leonard saw service in the last war as a physical education instructor in the Marine Corps. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant and served at Hoffman Island and Shoup Island Bay and was responsible for the physical welfare of more than a million men.

For his service Leonard was awarded the Edward Nevill medal by the Sports Writers of New York. The plaque is given annually to the individual who does an exceptional job in the promotion of the sport.

A program of movies showing the world's series of 1945 and a boxing film, "Monarchs of the Ring" will be shown. Milton Spiegel is program chairman and Dr. George Johnston is president of the local lodge.

## Rescue of Jewish Children Revealed

Paris (NC) — The heroic role played by His Eminence Pierre Cardinal Gerlier, Archbishop of Lyon, and by the Jesuit Father Chaillet in behalf of persecuted Jews has been recounted before the Court of Justice of Paris, during the trial of Alexander Angel, Prefect of Lyon under the Vichy regime.

The Prefect is accused of having ordered the arrest of Jewish children and of having tried to force them to leave the country. The addresses of Christians who were hiding Jewish children in their homes.

Eighty-five Jewish children of Lyon, who were to be sent to the concentration camp of Drancy by the Germans, were placed by Father Chaillet with different Christian families, where it would be impossible for the Germans to find them. Cardinal Gerlier turned down a request to force Father Chaillet to give the addresses.

London (NC) — Almost 50 per cent of the Jewish children rescued from the Nazis in Poland owe their lives to members of religious communities, according to Dr. Wertheim, Secretary of the Jewish Committee in England, quoted in a *Catholic Worker* here. At least 150,000 Jewish children have been found in Poland hidden among the Catholics.

Dr. Wertheim said: "Religious communities are doing a heroic job in saving the children."

## Holy Father Receives Bishop O'Hara

Vatican City (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has received Bishop Gerald P. O'Hara of Savannah, Atlanta, in private audience.

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