

### VATICAN AID EASES WORK AT WAR TRIAL

Washington — (NC) — Deep gratitude to the Vatican for making available to the Nurnberg trials documents touching upon the charges of persecution of religion in Germany and Nazi-occupied countries was expressed by Justice Robert H. Jackson of the United States Supreme Court in a statement to the N.C.W.C. News Service here today.

Justice Jackson, who was chief American prosecutor at Nurnberg, recently returned to the United States. He said the Vatican cooperation was not intended, of course, to indicate an attitude toward the guilt or innocence of any particular defendant. "But it did reflect, I think, an approval of our policy of not punishing the prisoners until we had given them a fair hearing on the evidence," the justice added.

The part of the Nurnberg trial that was concerned with proving the persecution of the Churches was greatly expedited and aided by documents provided for us by the Vatican. Justice Jackson's statement said. "It would have been a very slow and difficult task to go into all of the various communities of Germany and assemble information as to the suppression of religious freedom, the sending of priests to concentration camps, and other outrages against religion."

Since we had no purpose to prove except to lay the truth before the Tribunal, there was no reason why the Vatican could not properly provide us with information in its possession.

"We received from that source a number of documents of unquestioned authenticity which furnished the basis of our case. Many other items of information were collected by Reverend Father Edmund A. Walsh, of the faculty of Georgetown University, whose studies and researches were of great value to us. "The cooperation was not intended, of course, to indicate an attitude toward the guilt or innocence of any particular defendant. But it did reflect, I think, an approval of our policy of not punishing the prisoners until we had given them a fair hearing on the evidence, and an appreciation of the fact that we were endeavoring to adapt the procedures and principles of International Law to the needs of a Christian civilization. I am very grateful for this helpful attitude at the Vatican."

### Present Bells to Lisieux Basilica

Paris — A set of 44 bells, to be dedicated on September 24, has been given to the Basilica of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus at Lisieux by a group of former prisoners of war and deported persons from Normandy. The ceremony will mark the opening of the Theresian Jubilee Year. The Basilica, as is known, was undamaged although the greater part of Lisieux was destroyed by bombardments and raids during the war. All monuments of St. Therese likewise were saved.

### NEW YORK 300 YEARS AGO



Mayer William O'Dwyer of New York City, receives a copy of St. Isaac Jogues' letter describing Manhattan as he saw it in 1614, from Rev. Calvert Alexander, S. J., National Director of the Jogues Tercentenary Celebration, and Rev. John J. Hoopes, S. J., Associate Director of the National Shrine of North American Martyrs, Anacostia, N. D., where the 300th Anniversary of St. Isaac Jogues' martyrdom is being observed this summer. The original letter, written in Three Rivers, New France, is in the archives of St. Mary's College at Montreal. (NC Photos)

### Vatican Led Search For Prisoners of War New Report Reveals

London — (NC) — More than 1,000,000 messages a year were sent out from Vatican Radio to relatives of prisoners of war between 1939 and 1944, Archbishop William Godfrey, Apostolic Delegate to Great Britain, reveals in a record of Papal war relief, "Charity Abounding," published here.

### Bishops Study Deaf Mute Aid

St. Louis — (NC) — Bishop John Mark Gannon of Erie, who was recently chosen supreme spiritual adviser to the Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association, has expressed his gratitude for the establishment of a fund by the association at its 1946 convention to provide the Holy Sacraments each year for the deaf and dumb. "Bishop Gannon, who is a member of the committee appointed by the American Hierarchy to study the religious needs of the deaf and dumb, told the association that 'one of the most serious problems considered by the Hierarchy at its conference in Washington was the necessity of supplying religious instructions for deaf mutes in the United States.' He suggested that 'some national organization sponsor the work.'"

### Catholic Rural Life Conference at Green Bay

Green Bay, Wis. — (NC) — Thirty Bishops and at least 1,000 priests and nuns are expected to attend the 24th annual convention of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, which will be held here from October 11 to 15. Bishop Stanislaus V. Bona of Green Bay will be host to the meeting.

### Catholic Verein Scores Forced Migrations

Newark, N. J. — (RNS) — Resolutions condemning "barbaric forced migrations" and the use of "slave labor" by the Allied powers were adopted at the annual convention here of the Catholic Central Verein of America.

The resolutions called upon the American government to use its influence to end the actions which "we so loudly condemned when they were practiced by the enemy."

Totalitarian systems, including Communism and National Socialism, were termed false religions which insist that even the things of God belong to Caesar. The delegates asserted that such systems aim at control over the spirit, and that even democracies have become tainted by them.

The convention also charged that undermining of the family has increased juvenile delinquency and crime, and that these conditions are the natural consequence of a society in which many millions no longer believe in the sacramental character of marriage.

"A shocking increase in divorce, birth control and similar practices notorious in all decadent periods of history, threaten the existence of the family," the resolution stated.

Another resolution urged that business and government be conducted on the basis of immutable moral rules. It was said that present loose codes of convention result in misunderstandings, quarrels, and ultimately decision by might.

Bishop William T. McCarty, of New York, military delegate of the armed forces, called for a return to the commandment of Christ: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Preaching at a pontifical solemn high Mass, he declared the commandment is the most necessary law for national and international relations as well as for feelings between individuals.

### Italians Deceived by Reds Says Franciscan General

New York — (NC) — Many Italians were deceived by Communist propaganda and induced to support its ticket in the recent election because they were uninformed on basic principles of communism, the Most Rev. Valentin Schaal, O.F.M., Minister General of the Franciscans, said upon his arrival here from Rome to conduct an official visitation of Franciscan provinces in this hemisphere. He said that many farmers especially were victims of deceptive propaganda and had voted for the communist ticket without knowing that they were offending the Faith.

Father Schaal, who has spent seven years in Rome, emphasized that his knowledge of communism in Europe was based on personal observation and on information supplied by refugees from lands now under Soviet domination.

The first American-born Minister General of the Franciscan Order is spending a few days at St. Francis Monastery, here before going to Washington and other cities.

### POPE ADVISES ARAB VISITORS

Rome — (RNS) — Pope Pius XII, in an address to a delegation of the Palestine Arab High Commission, which came here seeking the Vatican's intervention in the Holy Land, gave assurance that the Vatican would do its utmost to bring about peace in Palestine. He said that all efforts to get news of his whereabouts and condition have been without success. He stated that almost no news of the Church has come out of Russia and that news from any Russian occupied zone is "very scanty."

Although hard hit by the war, the Franciscans are continuing their work, the Minister General said. Several friars and 18 Poor Clares were killed in one bombing in Italy, he related, adding that the number of Franciscan monasteries destroyed by bombing totaled 90, in addition to 100 Poor Clare convents.

Father Schaal, the 11th Franciscan Minister General in a line that begins with St. Francis of Assisi, has jurisdiction over 21,000 friars and over 12,000 Poor Clares throughout the world.

### Books Corrupting Youth Should Be Banned Says Prelate

By BISHOP JOHN F. NOLL, Chairman, National Organization for Decent Literature, South Bend, Ind. — (Special) — The involvement, within the past year of six million American youths in criminal acts of various kinds represents an increase of nearly 500 per cent. This suggests action against the publishers and purveyors of books and periodicals which feature the salacious, all the mind with filth, corrupt the heart, identify lust with love, provoke hasty marriages and their early dissolution.

Prosperous America leads all the world in crime and divorce, for which there must be a corresponding cause, not substantially different from that which the historian attributes to the complete disintegration and destruction of other civilizations.

Behind the constitutional guarantee of "freedom of the press" hides every subversive, degrading and corrupting influence, of which indecent literature is the chief.

Investigation has disclosed that organizations designed to promote infidelity and irreligion also attack morals on the theory that after one's heart has been corrupted one will not bother about religious practice. Magazines catering to man's lowest instincts put the American market, and their obscene circulation represents at least one for every home in the nation. Against this pernicious effect the good press, the parent, the Sunday school, are powerless.

By "freedom of the press" the authors of the Bill of Rights had in mind the "freedom to disseminate information" as is clear from the wording of the law which governs distribution of the workbooks of a school of the Holy Cross school and other books.

It has been long recognized that to protect the innocent from physical blighting an innocent opinion is essential to the health of the Nation and the good of the individual. The National Organization for Decent Literature has directed its attention chiefly to the same field and to supporting the literary censorship laws which have been enacted, and to supporting the children, especially to support their health.

But such an idea can be put into effect only if the law is enforced as well as if it is not. We believe in this movement, and we believe that every citizen should be free to express his opinion on matters of public concern, and we believe that every citizen should be free to express his opinion on matters of public concern.

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