

Card. Griffin Warns Against Euthanasia

London (NC) — His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, has warned Catholic doctors to be wary of the current tendencies of medical theories and to reject all proposals to permit voluntary euthanasia, abortion or voluntary sterilization.

"Do not be misled by sentimentalism," the Cardinal said in a sermon at the university town of Cambridge. "The sort of sentimentalism I mean is that which would recommend the abolition of the death penalty for murder but at the same time would recommend the abolition of the death penalty for an innocent, helpless human being. A doctor's duty is to save life and not to destroy it and if once it were recognized as part of his duty to inflict death he would rightly deserve to lose any confidence that the public had ever placed in him."

"THE STATE HAS no right whatever to legalize voluntary euthanasia or voluntary sterilization because such practices are against the laws of God. You cannot do evil for a supposed good."

The Cardinal preached during a special service for Catholic students attending the annual convention of the British Medical Association, the official body to which all doctors in this country must belong. "The high standard of the medical profession has been founded on a belief in moral principles," His Eminence added. "There is a danger that moral principles may, in the name of progress, be substituted by mere expediency. We are told that there is a conflict between science and religion, or to be more precise, between medicine and ethics or moral philosophy. Such conflict exists in the minds of those who misunderstand the functions of the one or of the other, or of both."

Reminding that "ethics tells us the principles on which we are to act toward God and our neighbor" and "which acts are good and which are evil," the Cardinal continued: "Remember that you are dealing with man, composed of body and soul, who has definite rights and obligations, and whatever the remedy you propose or apply must never conflict with these rights and obligations which are his. So in prescribing a remedy you must act in accordance with what is in the best interests of the patient, always bearing in mind that he is a human being."

The Cardinal concluded: "If you are to uphold the best traditions of medical practice in this country you must be both proficient in medicine and firm in your belief in God."

Senator Scores U. S. Court On Religious Study

Athens, Ga. — (RNS) — Senator Richard B. Russell (D. Ga.), lashed out here at the ruling of the United States Supreme Court that religion cannot be taught in public schools.

He spoke at an all-day gathering of representatives of Christian churches from all over Georgia, who met to break ground for the first unit of the Christian college. It is to be located one block from the campus of the University of Georgia, and ministerial students will do their academic work at the university.

"WE OFTEN DIFFER on the application of fundamental principles," Senator Russell declared. "The first article of the so-called Bill of Rights states: 'Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.' A recent decision of the Supreme Court holds that this amendment prohibits any religious instruction whatsoever in public schools, even where such a program is maintained without cost to the state on a voluntary basis and is given only to those children whose parents specifically request it in writing. I do not believe that the First Amendment justifies the Supreme Court forbidding any form of religious discussions in tax-supported schools."

"A READING of the decision would lead to the conclusion that the ban imposed by the Supreme Court extends to a recitation of the Lord's prayer in a school, and would forbid any form of teaching which even recognizes the existence of God. There is a serious question as to whether under this decision it is constitutional for school children to sing Christmas carols at school plays in school buildings."

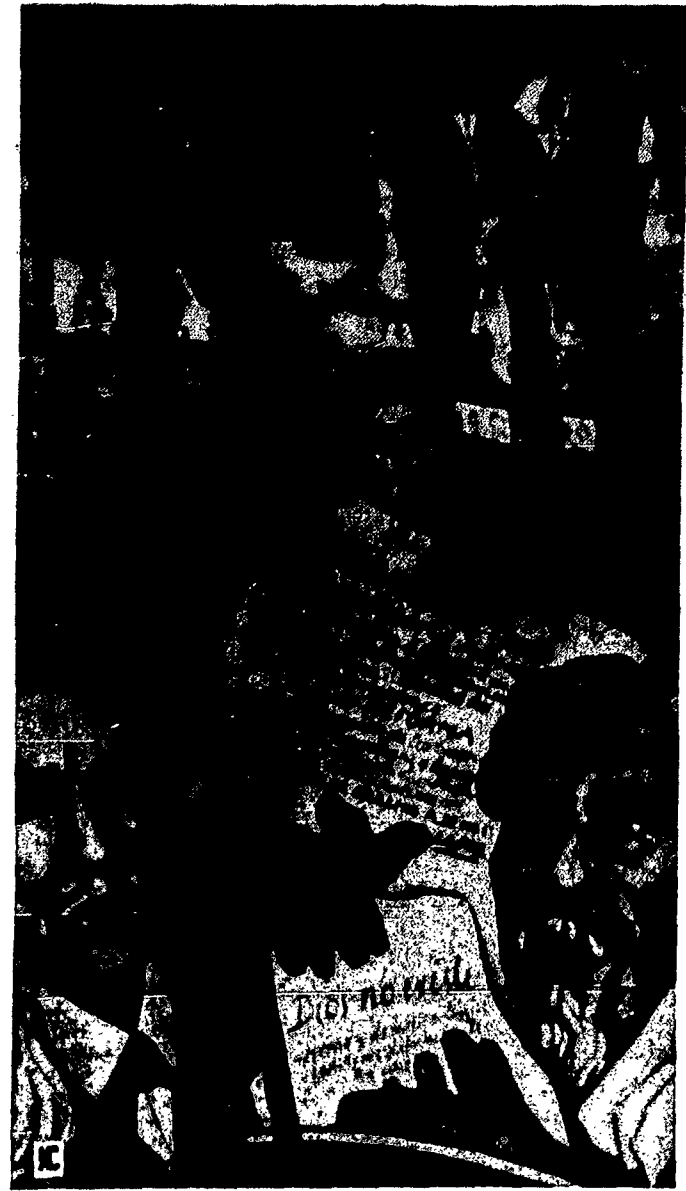
"As an ardent adherent of the fundamental principle of separation of Church and State, I think the Supreme Court has gone too far in this opinion. I think the decision circumscribes the free exercise of religion which is guaranteed by the Constitution. The timing of the decision is especially unfortunate, as it comes when the Communist philosophy is advancing to the very antithesis of religion in every part of the earth. The decision needs clarification, for it cannot stand."

Eucharistic Congress Set for Mexico City

Mexico City — (NC) — Arrangements are being completed for the celebration here of the first Eucharistic Congress of the Mexico City archdiocese on September 25 to 30.

On the closing day of the Congress, which also is the day of his anniversary, Archbishop Martinez will pontificate at a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

RIVERA'S BAD DREAM



A portion of the disputed mural "Sunday's Dream" in the Alameda" by Diego Rivera, in the government-owned building Hotel Del Prado, Mexico City. Students offended by the atheistic phrase, "Dios no existe" erased "no existe" (does not exist) and left only "God." Painted back in again by the artist, it was again obliterated. After a public controversy, the private concern which manages the hotel decided to cover up the mural with a wooden wall, since all works of art are by law government property and cannot be altered. (NC Photos.)

Town Named in Honor of Bishop

Garden City, Tex. — (NC) — The new town of St. Lawrence, located seven miles from here, and the community's new church, St. Lawrence have been named in honor of Bishop Laurence J. Fitz-Simon of Amarillo.

The town grew from a spirit of community planning and cooperation. A little more than a year ago, several young farmers, mostly ex-GIs, seeking new farm lands, decided to settle in Glasscock County. One of their first acts was to seek a parish priest. A real estate dealer, C. T. Mahler, unsolicited, offered a five-acre tract as the site for the town's church. When the offer was accepted, the Rev. John Melser, O.F.M., was named pastor and given four Franciscan friars as assistants. The men of the new community donated their labor and, less than five months after it was started, the new Church of St. Lawrence was completed. The edifice was dedicated at ceremonies by Bishop Fitz-Simon. The store of the new community is known as the St. Lawrence Co-Op and anyone in the new town is eligible to hold shares and receive dividends. A credit union also is being formed.

Oblates Ask Papal Decree On Assumption

Montreal — (NC) — Further indication of the desire of Catholics for promulgation of an article of faith of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven is contained in two recent statements, one a pastoral by Archbishop Joseph Charbonneau of Montreal, announcing a series of special Marian days; the other a petition by 90 Oblate leaders from many parts of North America. The Oblate petition was placed at the foot of the statue of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary at the shrine of Cap de la Madeleine. Following the ceremony the petition was forwarded by air to His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

A GROUP OF OBLATE Missionaries of Mary Immaculate, the petition states, "representing their religious provinces of Canada and the United States, united about their Superior General in the National Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Cape in Canada to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the dedication of this sanctuary of the Most Holy Rosary, prostrate themselves at the feet of Your Holiness, humbly to solicit of Your Paternity the definition of the truth of the dogma of faith that teaches that the Most Holy Immaculate Virgin Mary after her death was transported body and soul into heaven there to receive a reward conforming to her eminent dignity as Mother of God."

Confraternity Pilgrimage Scheduled for August 14

Washington — (NC) — Bishop John J. Wright, Auxiliary of Boston, who went to Europe earlier this year to make arrangements for a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine pilgrimage to Rome, will present the Holy Father with the spiritual bouquet for the cause of the beatification of Pope Pius X during the pilgrimage. It was announced at the national center of the confraternity here.

Apostolic Delegate Here Sixteen Years

Washington — (NC) — When the Most Rev. Russell J. McVinney was raised to the fullness of the Priesthood as Bishop of Providence in the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, Providence, R. I., this week, he became the 32nd member of the United States Hierarchy who has been consecrated by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.



ABP. CICOGNANI

Archbishop Cicognani recently passed his 15th anniversary as the Pope's representative in the United States. The 65-year-old Italian-born prelate has held the post longer than any other person since the Apostolic Delegation to the United States was established in 1893.

HE WAS APPOINTED by Pope Pius XI on March 17, 1933, was consecrated Titular Archbishop of Laodicea on April 23 in Rome, and arrived in this country a month later. At the time of his arrival, the U. S. Hierarchy numbered 120. Today the number is 180. During that period about 80 Bishops died. The increase in the number of Bishops is due in great part to the creation, within the last 15 years, of new dioceses and seven new ecclesiastical provinces, and also to an increase in the number of Coadjutor and Auxiliary Bishops.

In addition to his appearance at episcopal consecrations, the Apostolic Delegate has delivered addresses at many national Catholic conventions, university and college commencements, and dedication ceremonies. He has touched upon many subjects, among them Catholic Action, Catholic hospitals and physicians, the Catholic Press, the growth of the Church in various parts of the United States, Catholic education, and, particularly, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Recently, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine published a collection of addresses and letters by Archbishop Cicognani on the various phases of the Confraternity's work. These consist chiefly of messages or addresses to conventions of the Confraternity held in various cities of the United States.

ARCHBISHOP CICOGNANI has traveled to all sections of the United States. There are but few dioceses which he has not come to know by personal visits. During the recent war, he also traveled extensively to prisoner-of-war camps throughout the country, and worked actively to carry on the vast programs of charity of the Holy Father and of the American Bishops in behalf of suffering peoples.

The Archbishop, known as a scholar, historian and canonist prior to his appointment to Washington, has continued his work in these fields. In 1939 he completed "Sanctus in America," a series of sketches of American candidates for sainthood, which appeared in a second edition in 1941 and a third edition in 1945. In 1944, his study "The Priest in the Epistles of St. Paul," was published in two editions. His three-volume "Jus Canonium" has been translated into English and published in this country under the title "Canon Law."

Recently he published a brief study of the life of Father Damien, the "Apostle of the Lepers," in remembrance of a visit made to the Hawaiian Islands in 1946. Archbishop Cicognani has administered Holy Orders to hundreds of American candidates for the priesthood, especially at the Pontifical College Josephinum at Worthington, Ohio. He often has officiated at the administration of Baptism and Confirmation to groups of converts.

Near East Missions

Francis Cardinal Spellman, President
Mgr. Thomas J. McManis, National Secretary
Rev. Harry M. O'Conner
Rev. Andrew H. Rogosh

Homeland of Jesus
Won't you give ten dollars to provide a food package for Palestine? Hunger stalks in the homeland of Jesus, where so many of our missionaries have suffered death and wounds.

ETERNAL LIGHT
In the new Shrine Chapel of the Little Flower, which we intend to build in Lebanon, north of the Holy Land, two sanctuary lamps will be needed. One has been provided. Can you give twenty dollars for the other? Write for "THE UNPETALLED ROSE," our illustrated folder on St. Therese.

KERAK'S IRISHMAN
Before the World War, Father John Dunne, missionary at Kerak in the Near East, built a little chapel there. He was day laborer, stone mason, carpenter and plasterer before all his three hundred poor parishioners. With money from Irish friends, he ordered altar and furnishings from Italy, but the ship bearing them went down, and he cannot do any more. Can you give him one hundred dollars for the altar, or fifty dollars for a special chalice? In addition he needs a hundred dollars for sanctuary furnishings.

SACRED FACES
We pray best when we look on the holy faces of Our Lord, Our Lady and the Saints. The chapel at Gedayet in the diocese of Damascus, Syria, needs five pictures, each costing fifty dollars. Can you give one?

EIGHTY YEARS OLD
Mother Guigne of the Ladies of Nazareth has been at her sewing for a long, long time. Eighty years old, she still sews the altar linens for our needy chapels in Lebanon, and during the war she made 100 portable altars for army chaplains. She begs us now to help her. A set of linens costs ten dollars, and she needs many. Please do give at least one, on which the Lord's Body will rest.

PURGATORIAN SOCIETY
Twenty dollars will enroll forever a loved one departed in our Purgatorial Society of Masses, offered daily by Near East missionaries. One dollar enrolls for a year. Have you written for information on arranging for the Gregorian Masses, offered after your own death? Write for our free leaflet.

"YOU VISITED ME!"
The apostolate of the sick reaps the rich reward of Christ. To all who help the American Medical Sisters to care for the sick poor in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Hospital at Mary Gili, India, we send our folder on devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. To everyone who gives a mite to the Damien Leper Fund, so that we can help the Sisters of St. Joseph, who care for our lepers, we send the picture folder on Father Damien, called "Two Faces."

YOUR OWN PRIEST
Six hundred dollars to train a Near East missionary priest is a real sacrifice, but precious in the reward. Your own adopted son at the altar. Can you do this? Even a dollar monthly for the CHRYSOSTOMS, our Student Support Club, helps much.

SON'S LIGHT
Far brighter than sunlight is the Light of the World, and the moonstrance in which Our Lord is enthroned at Benediction has the sun's rays around it. Bishop Paul Chelkoff of Akra, Iraq, has asked for moonstrances. Perhaps you will be able to give seventy-five dollars for one, a very special one.

DOUBLE PROPHECY
When Achille Ratti, the future Pope Pius XI, was a little child, St. John Bosco took him on his knee and told him he would some day be great in the Church. So are the sons of Don Bosco, the Salesian Fathers, and they have just begged us to appeal for their orphan schools in Egypt. Give a little for "ORPHAN'S BREAD." These missionaries need five hundred dollars very badly.

YOUR MASS OFFERINGS
We must send monthly Mass offerings to hundreds of Near East missionaries and also to the refugee priests in Germany, who have fled from Russia. We have beautiful Mass cards for the living and the dead, and we need and appreciate any Mass offering.

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