

A Look at Labor
A Look at Election

By A. C. Tuohy

No column on labor worthy of its name can ignore the stunning victory of President Truman in the recent elections. As a matter of fact since November 2 many correspondents have asked me to comment upon the significance of this victory.

Perhaps the best explanation of what happened was given to me by a waiter. The day after the election, as I was eating in a popular restaurant, I asked my waiter what he thought of Truman's victory. Without hesitation he answered: "Thank God, we little fellows who work for a living are safe for four years more."

This waiter was expressing his own conviction, and the conviction of other workers, that the well-being of the poor would be protected by Harry Truman. The millions who voted for Truman must have felt the same sense of security with him in the White House. One housewife, after the elections, expressed to me her surprise that anyone could believe that Truman would lose.

IT SEEMS clear now to our hindsight that the political campaign just ended involved issues rather than men.

The people who voted for Truman were not concerned with the fact that he had made mistakes, that his own party was cool to him, that the newspapers were against him, that it was time for a change, that the Communists must be rendered impotent. Nor were they aroused to intense feeling one way or the other over the person of Truman as E. Dewey.

If ever anything could be said about an election, it seems true in this one at least, that personal allies did not count. The voters were concerned with issues.

WHAT ARE those issues? Harry Truman himself said many months ago: "I am not running against a seventy-five cent lamb chop."

The people naturally wanted assurance that they would continue to have high wages. They also wanted goods priced within the range of those wages. The young wanted homes to live in.

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Pope Pius Tells Italian Association
That Christ Is 'Supreme Blood Donor'

Rome — (NC) — Christ, as "the supreme and divine Donor of His blood," is "your example in a particular way," His Holiness Pope Pius XII told 1,500 members of the Association of Italian Blood Donors at a special audience in the Hall of the Swiss.

The organization, made up of both men and women, wished to pay homage to the Holy Father at the outset of its 10th national congress. At the right of the pontiffal throne stood the association's banner. The Pope addressed the group as follows:

"YOUR NAME, 'Blood Donors,' gives you by itself alone, beloved children, a special right toward Our paternal welcome. A special right, because in turning Our gaze of pleasure toward your so numerous group, we see in spirit and adore the figure of the supreme and divine Donor of His blood, Jesus, Redeemer, Saviour, Vivifier of men."

"Example of all charity. He is your example in a particular way. Undoubtedly, it is an admirable proof of generosity, love, devotion, to pour one's own blood in fighting for a noble and holy cause, and it is just and dutiful to award to such heroes the palm of glory."

"HOWEVER, to give one's own blood for the health of people unknown, or perhaps ungrateful, who may forget or else may not even try to learn the name and features of the savior, to donate one's own strength solely to communicate or give back to others that which they have lost, to reintegrate afterward one's own exhausted strength only to start again and to renew the same gift and the same sacrifice such is the purpose toward which you have generously devoted yourselves."

"Is it not perhaps that same thing which, in an infinitely loftier way, Jesus did and continues to do, Jesus Who shed His blood in His mortal life, during His passion to His death on the Cross, to the piercing of His heart whence spilled the last drop of His precious blood; Jesus Who, having entered into His glory and eternal beatitude, renews upon the altar the offering of His same blood for each and all of men, His brethren?"

"Yes, Christ in this is, pre-eminently the example and in spirit, but He is also more than that."

"We like to think that all of you here present voluntarily blood donors know how to find in Christ more than an example



Holy Name Society Blood Donor Committee of members of Blessed Sacrament Church, Rochester, "drew first blood" in a campaign for blood donations being undertaken among parishioners. Standing, from left, are Eric Smith, committee chairman, Robert Benedict and John Carey, HNS president, is giving blood, with Red Cross Nurse Genevieve Swilck in attendance. The Red Cross Mobile Unit will be on the Church grounds from 3 to 8 p.m. of Wednesday, Nov. 24.

to imitate, more than an ideal, whose beauty stimulates and spurs you. His action upon you and in you is infinitely more profound. Not content with a noble, though purely human, philanthropy, you rise to the heights of true Christian charity."

"TO THE SICK and wounded who owe to you their regeneration you do not give the material drops of your blood as any common remedy would be given. This, in other words, is not given as a simple dose of medicine but through a transfusion, such an admirable transfusion allows the transfer from you to them, by your blood, of the strength which you donate, of something of your own life which confers upon you in their respect, so to speak almost a sort of paternity."

"Their blood will later well renew itself, but it will always remain in a certain way, be your blood,

like that of their fathers, which shall continue to run through their veins and circulate, under the action of their heart vivified by you throughout their body."

"Is it not — in an infinitely higher reality — that same effect that the blood of Christ works within Christians? And who better than you could understand so sublime a mystery, in so far as it is possible to understand? By this blood we have been redeemed and saved; in this blood we are washed of the stains of our souls, the voice of this blood pleads in our favor before the throne of eternal justice."

"All this, which Sacred Scripture teaches us, fills with admiration and gratefulness the spirit and heart of those who glimpse it and pause to savour it in the Faith. Still, it is not yet enough to satisfy the love of

Jesus. In the most holy Eucharist we receive together with His body all His blood and with His blood His life, His strength; for this reason the Apostle St. Paul exclaimed: Yes, I live but no longer is it only my own poor life; Christ lives in me and of Him I myself live (cf. Gal. 2, 20).

"Like your blood in the veins of those who owe their life and health to you, Christ's blood transmits in you that participation of the divine life, which — we call sanctifying grace and which truly makes us children of God (1 John 3, 12).

"Should there be any among you who did not yet possess that life, because they have not known it or have lost it may they receive from the great Donor of His Blood, Jesus Christ, as a reward for their generosity and natural goodness, that divine life which buds down here to blossom fully in eternity. "Thus, while imploring for them this grace and for all of you an ever larger abundance of celestial favors, We impart from Our heart to you and those who are dear to you, Our paternal Apostolic Blessing."

Arab Priest Named Transjordan Bishop

Rome — (NS) — Father Michel Assal, a well-known Arab priest-journalist, has been named Archbishop of the Melchite (Eastern Rite) exarchate, or diocese, of Transjordan by Pope Pius XII. It was announced here. He succeeds Paul Salama, who died last June.

Born at Damascus in 1887 and ordained in 1912, the new archbishop has been a frequent contributor to Catholic periodicals published in Transjordan.

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'Ensign,' National Catholic Weekly, Started in Canada

Kingston, Ont. — (NC) — The first issue of "The Ensign," with a circulation of 110,000, has made its bow as a national Canadian weekly newspaper, the first such under auspices of a trained Catholic lay newspapermen. The publisher is R. W. Keyserlingk, former general manager of the British United Press in Canada.

THE NAME "Ensign" is depicted as a flag covering Canada "a mari usque ad mare" from sea to sea, and the words of His Holiness Pope Pius XII are quoted as follows:

"Can there be anything nobler than to unfurl the 'Ensign of the King' before those who have followed and still follow a false standard and to win back to the victorious banner of the Cross those who have abandoned it."

The paper's policy is explained in an editorial: "THE NEED has long been felt for a more flexible medium through which Catholic thinking on questions both religious and secular might be presented to the public without involving the Church officially. The Ensign's objective is to supply this want. All that concerns the life of man will be within its franchise, but the judgments it will bring to the problems of the day will be those of Christians. The Ensign will be general in scope, unofficial in nature, and Catholic in faith and aim."

"The Ensign" is a 12-page tabloid and contains dispatches from the N.W.C. News Service, the AP, the Canadian Press, the British United Press and Reuters as well as from special correspondents in many parts of the world.

Konnorsreuth Stigmatic Sees Ecstatic Vision
by MAX JORDAN
Munich — (NC) — Theresa Neumann, the stigmatic of Konnersreuth, Bavaria, "saw a wondrous light descending upon the newly-consecrated Bishop of Eichstätt at the moment where the three consecrating Bishops laid their hands on his head," reports the Passauer Bistumsblatt, diocesan organ of the Passau diocese, in its October 10 issue.

Theresa, who is in excellent health, was present at the consecration of Bishop Joseph Schroeffler last month, Eichstätt being close to her home town.

She herself later described the experience in these words: "A very special light, not an electric one, but one more extensive than during an ordination..." The stigmatic repeatedly has had similar ecstatic experiences during ordinations.

Willing Named To Library Post

Washington — (NC) — The appointment of Eugene P. Willing as director of the Catholic University of America Library has been announced here. Since the death of the Rev. Francis A. Mullin in January 1947, Mr. Willing has been acting director. He is a native of Dubuque, and graduate of Loras College. From 1938 to 1941 Mr. Willing was executive secretary of the Catholic Library Association and editor of the Catholic Library World. In 1941 he became co-founder of Best Sellers, a semi-monthly book reviewing magazine of general literature. His compilation, "The Index to American Catholic Pamphlets," describing over 4,000 titles, has been published regularly since 1937.

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