

Courier Journal

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MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D., President
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Fr. Higgins Says: St. Francis Started a Christmas Custom

An Old 'Fascist' Custom
George Morris, labor editor of the Daily Worker, is a likeable sort of fellow personally. He's popular with his fellow-scribes. He has the makings of a first-rate labor journalist if only he could tear himself away from the Communist 'line' which he follows so slavishly, not alone in interpreting the news but also in reporting it.

Mr. Morris is rather unhappy about the fact that the address of Archbishop Howard of Portland (read by the Rev. Thomas Tobin, Vicar General of the Oregon Archdiocese) emphasized the importance of the Industry Council program. The Communist Party doesn't like the Industry Council program; therefore, Mr. Morris doesn't like it either.

Mr. Morris knows, too, that there isn't anything specifically Catholic about the Industry Council program. He knows that it was advocated by the CIO as far back as 1940 -- on its own and not at the instigation of ACTU or the Pope of Rome -- and that since that time it has been vigorously advocated by Walter Reuther and other prominent non-Catholic leaders of the CIO.

IF HE thinks that the Industry Council program is a fascist program, let him have the courage of his convictions. Let him be logical enough to say that Philip Murray and Walter Reuther and John Brophy are fascists. He probably won't say anything of the kind, for he's shrewd enough to know that even his fellow-Communists wouldn't believe him.

So have I followed with unwearied ken
Fourth-faring youth, as Galilad the pure when
Forth he fared, his quest the Holy Grail.

Christmas Prayer
O Infant Divine, on this Thy Natal day,
Our hearts to Thee we lift
And most fervently we pray
That Thou wilt grant a gift --
To all in this drear world -- Thy grace



THE YOUNG IN HEART
(Illustrated and written for NCWC by Ellen Sobotka)

AYRE you have at home a small statue of St. Francis. Even if you haven't you have probably seen one and know what it looks like. He was a little man with a scraggly beard and gentle eyes. He always wore the same shabby brown robe with an old piece of rope tied around his waist.

Francis could have had many fine clothes because his parents were rich, but he gave up all the things that money could buy. He did this because God had given up so much for us and he wanted to give up something in return.

TO BEGIN with there is a legend that an angel appeared to the mother of St. Francis eight before his birth and told her that she should go to the stable of their estate and stay there until the child was born.

Washington (NC) - Moscow's contradictory actions in the Berlin situation and Washington's search for an effective way of stopping the communist advance in China currently are the outstanding events in the field of East-West relations.

Utah Trappists Choose Abbot
Huntsville, Va. (NC) - The Rt. Rev. M. Maurillus Luns, O. C. S. O., was solemnly elected the first Abbot of the Our Lady of Most Holy Trinity Abbey here.

NOT MANY grownups would have thought of anything like that. St. Francis was young in heart and he used the idea. Pope Honorius III must have been young in heart, too, because when the saint was in Rome and asked him if he could make a scenic representation of the Nativity, the Holy Father readily gave his consent and blessing.

MIDNIGHT MASS was offered over the manger and Francis, who was a deacon, sang the gospel. When he had sung the words, "and laid Him in a manger, he began to think how wonderfully good our Lord was to become a little child so that He might save us."

Reds Focusing on Berlin To Befog Far East Aims
Washington (NC) - The new Chinese Premier, Dr. Sun Fo, declared that China needs some outstanding U. S. military figure, such as General MacArthur, to advise her in the war against the Chinese communists.

OTHER EVENTS bearing on the East-West situation:
(1) Andrei Y. Vishinsky told the United Nations that they could not survive "one day" without the Big Power veto.

Do You Remember?
10 Years Ago - Dec. 8, 1938
In the light of 100 years experience the Church is obliged to look with suspicion and even disdain upon some of the current social work theories.

Fr. Gillis Says: War and the Catholic Conscience

Now the election is over and time enough has elapsed to permit partisan passion to cool down, if not to evaporate entirely, it is opportunity to face one big problem for which none of the candidates dared offer a solution.

No candidate made any such speech. But we the citizens, who in the past analysis must make or should make the decision on war or no war, should accept the duty of thinking clearly and speaking boldly on what may turn out to be the most fateful decision ever made by any people and any government in all the history of the race.

SO, IF THE readers of this column will not find the strain on their patience too great, I shall devote not one of these small articles but two to the subject of the possibly impending war and to the moral rules governing the conduct of that war.

THIRD: To broaden the inquiry, what is our foreign policy anyway? Is it our duty to mankind to wage war in behalf of the afflicted in any part of the world? For a hundred and fifty years we thought we had done our duty if we offered a refuge for afflicted mankind.

TO speak not of philanthropic duty, still less of divine vocation but of self-interest, do we the people accept the theory that our boundaries are no longer our own seawalls, but the Rhine, or the Elbe, or the Yangtze Kiang, and that what happens at any one of those remote outposts is as much our business as what happens at the mouth of the Hudson or on the Potomac at San Francisco Bay or on Puget Sound?

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Who Art Thou?
The question put by the Pharisees through their priests and levites to John the Baptist, was a reasonable one. All Judea was wrought up by the coming of John the Baptist into the region about the Jordan, near Bethany.

Appointment of some policemen by the City of Rochester was suggested by Miss Mary Sheehan, vice principal of Monroe High School following recommendation by U. S. Attorney Goodman A. Sarachan that an 11 o'clock curfew for all under 20 be established.