

Editorials

By Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. M. Hart, P. A., V. G.

Saint Maria Goretti

At a time when the world seems to have gone out wholeheartedly for the sordid, the material, the pagan aspects of life, the canonization of St. Maria Goretti emphasizes the pure, the spiritual, the Christian values personified in the brief career of our newest Saint.

It places before an awe-struck and admiring generation the appealing picture of a modern martyr, of one who would rather die than commit sin. It arrests the wholesale weakening of the horror of sin that should be part of the Christian spirit; it calls world-wide attention to the evil of sin, to the obligation of resisting it, to the supreme duty of obedience to God and to God's law.

Today's world is made-up of pagans who publicly sin against faith and against the material, the pagan aspects of life, the canonization of St. Maria Goretti emphasizes the pure, the spiritual, the Christian values personified in the brief career of our newest Saint.

In a word, for old and young, there has been too close an association with sin, too ready a habit of belittling the malice of sin, too cross a surrender to every form of temptation, Saint Maria Goretti is the saint of the present day to bring back to stronger faith and holier living her brethren in the world.

Her heavenly career is just beginning; The Holy Father gives us the assurance of the Church that she is in heaven. Her saintly mother assists at the rite of canonization. Hundreds of thousands crowd the great square of St. Peter's in Vatican City to assist at the unique ceremony. Her power of intercession already attested by several miracles in the physical order, the curing of bodily ailments, shall now extend daily to those of good will who will strive to emulate her resistance to temptation, her aversion to sin. May our generation make its constant prayer: Saint Maria Goretti, Pray for us!

Hostilities Without War

Our President has said we are not at war, but are taking steps to prevent war. The enemy of world peace, the Communist, begins hostilities against the people of South Korea; the friend of world peace, the U. N., immediately condemns the bandits of North Korea so ably armed and trained by Russia. Our nation answers the appeal of the U. N. to defend the rights and the freedom of the beleaguered country by force of arms. Hostilities are now on; our cooperation goes out to the President and our armed forces in the righteous cause they are called on to espouse.

Hostilities without war! That is the American program. All fighting will cease as soon as the act of the aggressor is exposed. War is on South Korea and on us in the actions of the pagan aggressor. May our prayers be that the same liberties so clearly belonging to all men by God's bounty and so clearly set forth in our own Declaration of Independence, be restored to the people of South Korea by the united action of the decent nations of the world under the leadership of the United States.

The Rosary For Peace

What an army of devout people assail the courts of heaven every day in the recitation of the Rosary over Station WSAY! Bishop Kearney had led the thousands of men and women, old and young, in the program's earlier days; he led them in increased num-

bers last Sunday evening, when other Stations in Geneva, Elmira, Auburn and Hornell added their listeners to those of WSAY.

The program is on the air every weekday and Sunday evening at 10 o'clock. Devout laymen lead their brethren in the recitation of the Our Fathers, the Hail Marys, the Glorias; while each individual client of Mary goes over in mind the five mysteries of the one-third part of the Rosary up for meditation.

One can only urge more and more of those who look for and pray for peace to join in this great crusade. It is so easy to tune in each night at 10 o'clock to tell our beads as we mentally unite ourselves with so many devout clients of the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary throughout the diocese. Christ has said that wherever three or four are gathered in His name, there is He in the midst of them. Here we have not three or four, not just a church full of pleaders; here we have unnumbered thousands all praying for peace! Surely, Christ is present in the midst of them!

We pay deserved tribute to Station WSAY and the other cooperating Stations for their courtesy in broadcasting this significant program. Great good comes to our country and its people, great comfort to all who look to common prayer as a means of securing lasting peace to the nations of the world, from public-spirited Stations such as these, which so generously offer their facilities to further our Rosary for Peace!

Compassion of Christ

Christ's mission was for the souls of men. Because of us and for our salvation He came to earth. For men's souls He preached His doctrine, bestowed His graces, instructed His apostles, wrought His miracles. For men's souls He lived, suffered, died. For men's souls He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, sent the Holy Ghost. His love was for the souls of men, His zeal to bring those souls to heaven.

But Christ was ready also to help men's bodies. He healed their diseases, restored their powers of sight and speech and hearing, overcame their palsy and paralysis, called some back from death. All that Christ did, He did out of love for men. He had compassion on them. He felt for them, and made His own their sufferings.

In Sunday's Gospel, He finds them hungry. Three days they had been with Him, far from their homes, far from the villages, out in the desert. Signs of weakness from lack of food were already upon them; the journey home would find them falling by the wayside from hunger. They were in need, 4,000 of them. The disciples spoke their word that it was impossible to do anything for them there in the wilderness. But Christ spoke another word: nothing was impossible with the Son of God. Compassion on the 4,000 called for action: Christ acted!

Seven loaves and a few little fishes, Christ took the seven loaves, gave thanks, broke them into pieces, gave them to His disciples to distribute. He blessed the fishes and had the disciples set them before the crowd. The banquet was on, there was food for all and in abundance, there was plenty left over, enough to fill seven baskets. And He dismissed them that had eaten!

Compassion of Christ! When shall we understand how much Christ loves us? He blesses us constantly with graces for our souls. He ministers day after day to our bodily needs. Today's miraculous act was but the unusual counterpart of the many usual acts of compassion that make up the program of Christ's dealings with us. Always He has compassion on the multitude!

STRANGE BUT TRUE Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY Copyright, 1950, N.C. W.C. News Service



More Prayers than Bullets Korean Ambassador Begs for Prayers Against 'Anti-Christ'

By DR. JOHN M. CHIANG Korean Ambassador to the United States Dr. Chang is the first Catholic ever elected to the Korean National Assembly and the first Ambassador to the U. S. named by the present Korean Republic. Former editor of a Catholic daily in Seoul, he also was the first head of the Korean delegation to the United Nations. He wrote the following message to American Catholics at the invitation of the NCCW News Service.

The hour in my country is dark. But with the strength of her heart and the support of the free world, Korea will yet prove to be a beacon, a bold fire lighting the truth that free men must remain free. Since the forces we abhor—the forces of anti-religion, of dictatorship, of tyranny began their onslaught, we have done our part to oppose them in our own sphere to the limit of the capacity with which God has endowed us. We have done our human best.

But in the solitary hours of prayer, I have been awesomely conscious that here is no fight to be won by man alone. It is a fight to be won by the prayers and faith of all men. If it is to be won at all, I am deeply grateful to the National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service for this opportunity to appeal for the prayers of all my fellow Catholics knowing that my people are ever ready to respond to any call shown to my countrymen.

I cannot begin to express the immensity of the contribution that the Catholics of the world, and particularly those of the United States have made to my people. At every turn in the road we have been guided. At every obstacle we have been helped. At every small accomplishment for human good we have been rewarded gratefully. At every disappointment we have been heartened. Since 1923 when the first American Catholic mission priest, Maryknoll, came to my country, their part in our life has been one of magnificent endeavor.

Opposed to us in Korea is not a local enemy. I believe this fearful foe should be borne foremost in the Catholic mind. The battle being fought thousands of miles from Amer-

Guest Editorials

Vatican Mission

While we would not agree with the opinions of Columnist David Lawrence on some national legislation, especially as it pertains to certain phases of labor-management problems, we believe that he deserves commendation for pointing up some issues regarding the appointment of an American representative to the Vatican.

Six months ago Myron Taylor resigned from his post as "personal representative" of the United States government to the Vatican. President Truman has not indicated whether he would resume formal relationship with the Holy See.

Unfortunately, some unthinking anti-Catholic forces in this country have consistently opposed an American representative at the Vatican. Can it be that such countries as Great Britain, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland — all predominantly non-Catholic — retain fully accredited diplomats at the Vatican?

With all the talk we hear about using all possible resources in the "cold war" against Russia, the fact still remains that only Russia and the United States do not have legations or embassies at the Vatican. Thirty-nine other nations do.

In his observations on the issue, Lawrence discussed quite frankly even the baldly political angles involved, indicating that the Administration would probably gain as many votes as it would lose by reappointing a representative to the Vatican.

Certainly, there are "delicate problems involved," as Lawrence says, but only unthinking bigotry will ignore the fact that all the moral forces possible must be marshaled to withstand the tide of godless propaganda and pressure which can engulf all of Europe and spin the entire world into catastrophe.

We trust that some of the American opponents of the Vatican mission will ponder over the statements by Columnist Lawrence. They make sense about America's role in the world picture. —Western Michigan Catholic

American Banner

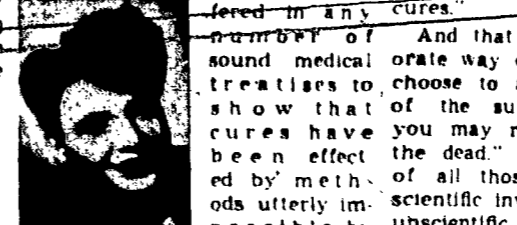
When God made the oyster, He guaranteed him absolute economic and social security. He built the oyster a house, a shell, to protect him from enemies. When hungry, the oyster simply opens his shell and food rushes in for him. But when God made the eagle, He said, "The blue sky is the limit to build your own house." The eagle built on the highest mountain crag where storms threaten him every day. For food he flies thru miles of rain, snow, and wind. The eagle, not the oyster, is the emblem of America. —G. E. News

Top Of My Mind

By Gretta Palmer

Lourdes Is an Example of the Power of The Blessed Mother in Answering Prayer

Gretta Palmer is now in Europe and her columns are arriving by air mail from Lourdes she will go to Rome as a Holy Year pilgrim. Lourdes, Away from Lourdes, is only the Grotto's miracles that we hear. Elaborate documentation is of little value in any number of sound medical treatments to show that cures have been effected by methods utterly impossible by natural means. The apologetic value of these reports should be enormous. Unbelieving men of science should, one would imagine rush from the offices where such reports are filed, in search of a priest to introduce them into the Church.



But such a thing seldom has occurred. The instantaneous conversion of an unbelieving doctor is not numbered among the miracles of Lourdes. They come, they gravely study X-rays and verify the medical reports made by independent, non-Catholic physicians. And then they go away.

What do they report after they have left these sceptics? Well, one such group visited Lourdes in 1935. They were known as the Joint Committee on Religion and Medicine of the Federated Council of Churches of Christ in America and the New York Academy of Medicine.

A report on the existence (and rapid dissolution) of the committee can be found in the New York Public Library; this refers to "a report on sixty cures at Lourdes." But where is the report? Two days of tedious searching in New York City last month, failed to discover it or any record of its having been given to the public. The physician who headed the committee, far from being converted, is now a practicing psychoanalyst.

FURTHER LIGHT on the mystery of medical minds confronted by a miracle is offered in the recent, posthumous book of Dr. Alexis Carrel. This relates, in elaborate detail, a Lourdes miracle he himself observed through all its stages. He examined the patient before and after the cure.

Dr. Carrel (who entered the Church many years later) at this time explained the evidence his scientific mind had observed by saying, "Perhaps a vast crowd united in fervent prayer could release a natural force, not yet understood, which in itself had undreamed of therapeutic value."

From Other Papers

News 'Slant'

In the years since the end of the formal hostilities of World War II there has been considerable international discussion of freedom of the press, coupled with debates on the ways and means to secure other freedoms, basic or incidental which men in Christian nations hold sacred.

The subject has been taken up by a committee of the United Nations, but like all other projects of that body any attempt at a solution was foredoomed to failure by the obstructive tactics of the Russians and their satellites. However, laying the entire blame for failure in the broad lap of the Kremlin is not completely honest. It might be well for the nations of the West to examine their own press and their own policies in relation to dissemination of the truth.

If the nations of the free Christian West wish to advance the cause of freedom to disseminate the truth, they should put their own Houses in order. Obviously, freedom of the press must be rigidly distinguished from license.

Truth is the key word in any discussion of freedom of the press — the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth which will make men free and keep them free. No one has any right to publish lies, slant the truth or to present half-truths in a deliberate attempt to mislead. This latter device is the contemptible practice of yellow journalists.

A striking example of the use of a ravened shroud of truth twisted in an attempt to mislead was carried on the front page of one of Florida's largest daily papers recently. The headline was also slanted, which placed dual blame on the editors for the prominence they gave the story and the evident bias in the caption.

"Free Vogeler Plan Hurt By Vatican Move," the headline read. The news syndicated story which followed was purely speculative in nature, employing the aside reportorial device of quoting indirectly a "usually well informed source," to the effect that the Holy See preferred to have the Crown of St. Stephen remain in safe hands rather than see Robert Vogeler released by the Hungarian Reds.

On the tenuous evidence cited, the story accused the Vatican of "disrupting delicate negotiations" between the U. S. Department and Budapest. Thus the Vatican which for centuries has tried to reach the world the ideal of diplomacy — Christian courtesy in international relations — was personified as a blundering bull in a china shop. Except for the tragic background, the story would be comical.

Such journalistic trickery must be eliminated from the newspapers of free nations. No press has a right to publish anything but the truth, honestly and completely presented. Violation of a strict adherence to the truth brings censorship. Only under the flaming banner of truth can the press remain free. —Florida Catholic

Look At Labor

By A. C. Tuohy

Labor Unions Are Not Created Merely To Provide Higher Wages For Employees

A worker without a union does not realize what he can mean to his unit. He can mean to them, until his job is threatened. In an eastern city the workers in a large drug store chain, a chain which makes more money on its hardware than it does in its drugs, were scheduled to strike July 2. Their wages are low and their working conditions leave a great deal to be desired.

Unfortunately for these workers their union is left-wing and recently was expelled from the CIO. The office workers who belong to the same chain are being groomed by management into the place of striking drug girls who were bribed by the union to accept the terms of the drug store management. The union is a change agent, and will change jobs and sell out.

APART FROM the justice of the demands of the store employees, this girl feels that the office workers should be free to decide their own role in this strike. But they are not free. As Margaret Ryan used to say, this lack of freedom is a form of industrial feudalism.

She feels that if left to themselves the majority of the office workers would not want to help break the strike. She agrees that she was hired to type, not squeeze orange juice. But management is making it very clear that the office workers have little choice in the matter. Management, of course, is prepared to say that the cooperation of these office workers is "voluntary." But this girl knows better. She knows that her job is at stake. She knows too that some of the men with families do not dare refuse to comply with the request of management. Others in the office will use the embarrassment and reluctance of the conscientious workers to advance themselves and to establish themselves in the favor of their employers.

THE AMERICAN workers, even those who do not belong to unions, are more sympathetic to unions than they ever have been. Unlike Westbrook Pegler, they have not let the failings of trade union leaders blind them to the advantages of organization. The trend now is more to the expansion of unionism than to its decline. In the drug store case, an office workers union, were it a reality, would have forced management to solve their differences with their store employees on their merits.

PUTTING HIS FOOT DOWN



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