

Cardinal Spellman Praises U. S.-Vatican Envoy Link

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...relationship with the Vatican in any way implies an official endorsement of the religious... of the Roman Catholic Church or an encouragement of its temporal ambitions.

"Nor would the American principle of separation of church and state be compromised by such a mission, any more than in the diplomatic missions to other countries which have established churches... or whose heads of state combine the functions of spiritual and temporal rulers.

"The proof of this is to be found in the fact that the governments of Protestant and anti-clerical and even non-Christian countries have found it to their advantage to engage in diplomatic relationships with the Vatican. The Imperial Japanese government, for example, retained its embassy at the Vatican until the moment of its surrender to the American forces."

The Post recalled that the

United States maintained a consulate at Rome from the time of the adoption of the Constitution until the collapse of the Papal States in 1870. The editorial mentioned that a full legation was established in 1848 and maintained until 1867, proving extremely beneficial to the Union side during the Civil War period. Congress withdrew the appropriations maintaining the mission in 1867 over the protests of high national officials, but the mission never was recalled formally, the editorial stated.

THE EDITORIAL pointed out that in 1939 President Roosevelt named Myron Taylor as his personal representative to the Holy Father—a post continued by President Truman until Mr. Taylor's resignation early this year by President Truman. It also mentioned the benefits this country derived from the set-up during the war years.

"It is possible, perhaps even probable, that prejudice may even at this stage of affairs be strong enough to block senatorial confirmation of Mr. Truman's plan to nominate a regular diplomatic representative," The Post said. "But this is the sort of prejudice that the country can now ill afford. Those who are familiar with the operations of diplomacy know very well that matters frequently arise upon which consultation with the leadership of the Catholic Church is either necessary or desirable. These consultations are now held indirectly and unofficially and often through the mediation of members of the American Catholic hierarchy. But it would be far more satisfactory on all counts if they were held directly with the Pope himself."

A DP EYES DOUGHNUTS



Audrone Pleckauskas, 1 1/2-year-old Lithuanian DP, is all eyes as the Red Cross volunteer worker gives out some doughnuts, as the U. S. Navy Transport General Han arrived in New York. The youngster will make her home with her parents and twin sister in Manapeth, Long Island. The trip arrangements were made by War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Eight Speakers Scheduled On Thomas More Forum

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DENER, R.J., from the field of literature, will come on Tuesday, Feb. 15 to discuss "The Great Books and The Christian Tradition." Book reviewer for "America," Father Gardiner will present a Christian appraisal of the Great Books from a critical aspect. He will cautiously avoid a too platonic approach.

GRETTA PALMER, noted Catholic convert, will speak Tuesday, March 13 on "What's Right With Women." Miss Palmer whose syndicated article "Top of My Mind," appears in the Courier Journal and other Catholic newspapers served by NCWC News Service, is author of "God's Underground." She will explain the Woman's Apostolate as outlined by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Membership in the Forum, entitling each bearer of the card to all lectures, is \$5.00. The memberships are obtainable at 35 Solo St., around the corner from East Ave. office of the Catholic Courier Journal.

HIS EXCELLENCY, Bishop Kearney is honorary chairman of the Series. Officers are: Emmett V. Norton, president; Louis A. Langle,

lecture chairman; Miss Zelde Lyons, corresponding secretary; Miss Helen DeP. Little, patron chairman; Joseph J. Myler, membership chairman; James P. B. Duffy, legal counsel. Monsignor Randall, executive director. Board of Directors includes: Mrs. Francis E. Cunningham, Louis A. Langle, Mrs. David F. Lawless, Theodore F. Lemm, Mrs. J. Mallory Loos, William J. McLaughlin, Mrs. Angelo A. Mastrella, Emmett V. Norton and Frank E. Wolfe

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Chinese Reds Free U. S. Maryknoller Maryknoll, N. Y. —(NC)— The Chinese communists have released the Rev. Edward Moffitt, Maryknoll priest from Newark, N. J., after holding him in prison for ten weeks.

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Disc-Jockey Plays Blessed Virgin Hymn On Program

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If anyone objects, they haven't told Joe about it. IT WAS A few months back when Joe tried "Our Lady of Fatima" on the listening audience. "I thought a little religious music was in keeping with these trying times," Joe explained. Then it happened. The switchboard at the studio lit up like a Christmas tree. The mailman dumped bag after bag of requests at Joe's feet. And Joe kept jump-

ing to keep up with the demand. It all seemed to indicate a trend. "There is proof, minute as it might be, that religious music is what the public wants," Joe said. Of all the requests, "Our Lady of Fatima" has taken the lead by many lengths. The recording Joe first used was by the Friedling Sisters, whose services were enlisted by the composer, Mrs. George R. Gollahon. The King Cole Trio recorded it, too, with a narrative of the story of the miracle of Fatima on the reverse side of the record.

THE STORY of the song is as unusual as the instant success the hymn-like ballad has garnered in popular channels. In Cincinnati, Mrs. Gollahon, a Catholic, knowing the devotion to the Mother of God as she appeared to the three Portuguese children at Fatima in 1917, wrote "Our Lady of Fatima" as a private prayer. When a friend sent the recording, which Mrs. Gollahon and semi-professional singers had made, to a cooperative Cincinnati disc jockey, requests rolled in for repeats and information where the song could be bought. Within half an hour, the Robbins Music Corporation had signed Gladys Gollahon up for sheet music publishing rights. Record companies began waxing the tune, and to date eight firms have released "Our Lady of Fatima." Listeners to various disc jockey shows throughout the country have heard the brand new religious song, and it was Joe Deane here in Rochester who dared, amid misgivings, to put it on the same show with "Hill Billy Blues."

Missioner Named To Rome Post

Union City, N. J. (NC) The Rev. Constant Shanahan, C.P., veteran China missioner and one of the few foreign correspondents who has interviewed Mao Tse-tung, China's communist leader, has been appointed guest master at SS. John and Paul Monastery in Rome. It has been announced here by the Very Rev. Ernest Welch, C.P., Passionist provincial. The monastery church is the 1,600-year-old titular church of His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York.

Father Shanahan was one of 15 correspondents who interviewed the Red leader in the caves of Yenan during World War II. On his return to the United States in 1948, Father Shanahan wrote a series of articles on the interview and his experiences in Red China for The Sign Magazine, published by the Passionist Fathers. Father Shanahan served as a missioner in China for 14 years. A native of Brockton, Mass., Father Shanahan joined the Passionists in 1919 and was ordained in 1925. He has left here to assume his new duties at the Rome monastery, which is the mother house of the Passionists.

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