

# Editorials

By  
Rt. Rev. Mgr. Wm. M. Hart, P. A., U. G.

## Preach The Word

The Holy Father last week gave to all the world an exhortation to spread the word of Christ. He was addressing himself immediately to a gathering of Missionaries from every part of the world. He urged them to preach the Gospel that men might know Christ better. He spoke of the powerful opposition to Christian teaching on the part of materialists. He lamented the fact that in the world today there are probably one billion people who still await the light of Christianity.

## Bishop Sheen

A fitting setting for the consecration to the Episcopate of the National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith was furnished last week in Rome by the great Missionary Congress meeting there. Most Reverend Fulton J. Sheen was consecrated in the Holy City as Auxiliary Bishop of New York. He will return to New York City to carry on his task guiding the work of this great Society throughout the United States.

## Jubilee of a Redemptorist

The Redemptorists are among the earliest laborers for the Lord in the City of Rochester. Long before the coming of Bishop McManis, look indeed to the very beginning of the 19th Century, members of this congregation opened a parish in Rochester that has been known through the years as St. Joseph's.

## Bread In The Wilderness

Christ came to save all men. His love for us prompted Him to give grace to their souls that sin might be remitted and the friendship of God restored. Christ's interest did not limit itself to the spiritual needs of man. It extended also to the needs of their bodies. We find Him curing the blind, giving hearing to the deaf, enabling the lame to walk, and finding blessing the labor of Peter and James and John with a miraculous draft of fishes and today we find Him mindful of the hunger of 4,000 men who had been with Him three days and now had nothing to eat.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

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**LARGE PAINTED CRUCIFIXES**

COMMON IN 11-12 CENTURY  
ITALIAN CHURCHES. THE BASE REPRESENTING  
CHRIST'S SHIRT, TRUNKETS (CHRISTS HEAD  
THE HAIR, CHIN, TRANSEPTS (CHRISTS HANDS  
WAS AT THE SITE OF THE EXTREMITIES AND  
FINGERS AT THE SIDE SLOPE  
DOWN EACH SIDE CHAPELS.

760 YEARS AGO  
STANIMYR OF POLAND  
(A SLAVE TO THE PORTUGUESE)  
WAS BAPTIZED AT THE  
FONT IN LISBON CATHEDRAL.

THE BODY OF THE  
NEGRO SAINT  
SAINT BENEDICT  
IS STILL INCORRUPT  
AFTER 500 YEARS IN PALERMO, SICILY.  
13 CHURCHES, 7 SCHOOLS, NURSERIES ETC. ARE  
DEDICATED TO HIM IN THE UNITED STATES.

## If Secularism Wins



## GRETTA PALMER

Later editions of the familiar volumes on the spiritual life—Tanqueray's, perhaps, or those of Garrigou—might usefully include a chapter tailored to the special necessities of now. It might be called, "How to Keep from Confessing to Lies in a Communist Daze."



Gretta Palmer

The temptation is no rare or unlikely one for a good many million Catholics today. In China the problem has become so urgent that a recent issue of the China Missionary Bulletin of Hongkong carries a serious, theological discussion of whether forced confessions to patent absurdities are ever legitimate; the answer is "No." Even if torture and martyrdom are the probable result, missionaries are not allowed to "confess" to things they have not done.

ZBIGNIEW STYPLUKOSKI, author of "Invitation to Moscow," tells how he spent 70 days in the hands of the NKVD at the Lubianka prison. He was a non-Communist Pole, a religious man, a member of the Polish underground which worked with the Russians against the Germans during the war. When the war was over, he and his colleagues were arrested, to be replaced by more "dependable" allies for the Soviet. Of the 15 sent to prison, he alone did not "confess" to the false charge of having acted as a German spy.

He very nearly did confess, however, as he admits. Yet he was not actually tortured, and he was not drugged. Forced fatigue, starvation rations, endless questioning may be considered a form of torture, but a mild one. Yet they afforded the Communist interrogators something that these men seem to savor more than any cry of pain. They provide a trial of strength against another person's will.

Styplukowski's account throws a fierce searchlight on a particular aspect of the war of nerves today. The Red interrogations, he thinks, apply to human souls a kind of moral jujitsu. A man's own weaknesses are what may defeat him. If he is afraid of suffering, that fear will make him yield. If he is prone to hate, his own rage will destroy him. If he is deeply attached to comfort, he will abandon his moral purpose to fill his stomach and eat his fill. A prisoner's own

## God's Love Needed In Moral Jujitsu

Imagine that you are a prisoner of a man who is trained to hate, disciplined to hate, in love with hate and all his hatred is centered on the task of making you submit to him. How will you answer him? With a novice's weak hatred in the field where he is expert? With cleverness when he has all the weapons for outwitting you, making your mind too tired to think? Or with the love of God, which alone will make you able to outlast and conquer in the end if your love is more impassioned than his hate?

## Baccalaureates In Schools Declared Unconstitutional

Albany, N. Y. (RNS)—Baccalaureate service in public schools are violations of the state constitution, Dr. Lewis A. Wilson, state commissioner of education, declared in a formal ruling here.

Charles A. Brind, Jr., counsel for the Education Department, interpreted the decision as applying only to services of a clearly religious character. He said school programs having merely an invocation and a benediction were not outlawed.

The ruling was said to affect religious services held at graduation time in public schools of many upstate and suburban communities. In New York City such services are not held.

That is the practical problem that confronts the world today: do those who love God love him with a discipline, a fervor and a steady intensity that can outweigh the force of those who hate Him? It is moral jujitsu, indeed—a jujitsu contest for the world.

## Meditation Book Philadelphia (NC) — One of the most cherished articles in the art museum of the Miraculous Medal Association in Germantown is a 706-page book from which the newly justified Pope Pius XII's meditation six days before his death, August 20, 1951.

## JOSEPH BREIG

## Margaret Truman In London Tower

It was entirely normal and natural, it was altogether to be expected, that Margaret Truman, upon being shown the implements of torture in the Tower of London, should have exclaimed: "Horrible!"



We aren't so bad in this century after all. I mean no criticism whatever of the President's daughter. Almost any other American visiting London and seeking what she saw would have said exactly what she said.

But the time will come when visitors to Moscow, or Warsaw, or Prague, or Bucharest will be shown worse things than Margaret Truman saw in the Tower of London. And those things are being used to torture and murder some of our noblest human beings right now.

Margaret Truman was happily very young when American troops burst into the concentration camps of Dachau and Buchenwald, and when living skeletons were liberated from the prisons of Tokyo. Perhaps she heard something about it; but youth cannot really understand such horrors.

Nor is it possible for the human mind to grasp as firmly the vision of the multitudinous sufferings of millions, as to imagine the agonies of one prisoner. There is a kind of safety in numbers even for the torturers.

"WE AREN'T" so bad in this century after all. It all depends upon whom you mean by "we." There were ten million Jews under Hitler—and a great many Catholics, too—who would have assured you that we of the twentieth century are quite as bad as mankind has ever been in the matter of torment and murder.

There are countless multitudes of Catholics and Jews and Protestants and peasant leaders and lovers of freedom behind the iron curtain today who would tell you the same thing.

"WE AREN'T" so bad in this century. Fifteen million slaves in Russia at this moment would answer you in one immense agonized groan, "It is not so." And the slaves of the Soviet Union would be joined in the millions of dead and dying in the torture centers of Communist China, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, in Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, whole populations, uprooted from their homes and deport-

ed to Siberia, would tell us that this century could hardly be worse.

And their testimony would be corroborated by millions who were herded like wild beasts out of Czechoslovakia and Poland into overcrowded and starving Germany, merely because their ancestors had been Germans centuries ago.

NOR WOULD THE witness stand be bare of hundreds of thousands of Arabs, shorn of their homes and possessions and driven into destitution and desperate hunger from Palestine after the Israelis moved in.

"We are not so bad in this century," Miss Truman had not been born when Lenin, aided by the conspiracies of the German high command and by the moral weakness of the Allies in the first world war, communized Russia and prepared it to become prey to the monster Stalin.

She was a small child when communism filled Spain with unspeakable horrors; and she wouldn't have known anyhow, because the fellow-travelers at that time were able to poison the wells of history by keeping the truth out of our newspapers. That truth has not been told yet.

Nor are most people, even today, aware of the truth about the Tower of London. Queen Elizabeth is still known as the Good Queen Bess, although she was the creature largely responsible for the horrible deaths in the Tower of priests and layfolk who would not accept her as head of the Church; who died in defense of true separation of Church and State as they do today under Stalin.

"MISS TRUMAN GASPED," said the International News Service dispatch, "as she was shown the racks, thumbcrews, iron masks, chopping blocks."

I wonder whether her English hosts and hostesses mentioned that the chief victims of those implements were men like St. Thomas More, chancellor, lawyer, wit and great literary man, who suffered so much from Henry VIII's torturers that he said he was no longer capable of feeling anything. And then he was beheaded, still praying for the audacious monarch who served Merrie England from the South which had made her merrie.

## A LOOK AT LABOR • Anti-Labor Editors Aid Leftwing Press

No one has ever accused the daily press of being partial to labor unions. Anyone who has had labor newspaper accounts could serve as a model for other industries. But because no heads believe that he and the reporter witnessed the same thing. Frequently, the reporters are not at fault. Newspaper publishers and editors slant news, plant misleading headlines, or bury the labor point of view on an inside page. If they bother printing it at all. The unfortunate part of this anti-labor bias is that it leaves the field wide-open for leftwing newspapers to exercise an influence far out of proportion to their worth, simply because they present a sympathetic, if not complete, picture of labor's case.

THE BOARD of education then revised its program to convert it into a "scholastic exercise" and the priest consented to pronounce the benediction.

However, he lodged a new protest here this year after the Somers board, on May 9, announced plans for a baccalaureate service in which the said neither the nor Catholic children could "in conscience" participate. Catholic Canon Law forbids members of that faith to participate in religious services of non-Catholics.

Msgr. Dargin said the 1951 program would include an opening procession and processional hymn; invocation by a clergyman, a choral hymn, a reading from the King James version of the Bible, an address by a clergyman "on the ethical subject of courage," a choral rendition of a Negro spiritual, a closing prayer and benediction by a clergyman, and a concluding recessional.

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When people...  
GO others: Mission...  
TI the Church...  
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