

# Editorials

By  
Rev. Rev. Miss. Wm. M. Hart, P. A., U. G.

## Fundamentals And Absolutes

Truth is eternal. The law of God and the law of nature is eternal. Any change in the law of truth is error. Any diversion from the Divine law or the natural law is error. The year, the day, the month have no meaning upon things that are eternal. They change the absolute because the absolute by its very nature is entirely free from any conditioning influence of time or place or person.

It is a fortunate thing for our country and the future that the great majority of thinking people retain a right mind in regard to absolutes. The recent convention of the Holy Name Union condemned in round words the statement of Chief Justice Vinson that the only absolutes we have today is that there is no absolute. Others before him have advanced the false philosophy of pragmatism.

We have heard people say that a thing is true if it works. Anything that seems to give help to individuals or communities should be immediately labeled as good. Stealing is wrong now because it hurts the community. If a time ever came when stealing would help a community no longer would it be wrong. Lying is wrong now because it would wreck human communications if in-

dulged in; it would be all right tomorrow if some smart present-day philosopher should discover that lying has its points in helping individuals and groups. Adultery is wrong now, but the day may come when society will consider it lawful. Now the thinking man knows that all of this is utter nonsense.

God does not change. Human nature does not change and right and wrong do not change. All these are absolutes. They remain. God's wisdom created human nature. God's mind saw the things that would help human nature and these things are good. God saw the things that would harm human nature and these things are bad.

The Holy Name Union surely expressed the common sense and the wisdom of the ordinary people of America when it condemned severely the statement of Chief Justice Vinson. If right is wrong and wrong is right, send for Joe Stalin and offer him a new site for his totalitarian regime in Washington, but while right is right and wrong is wrong, let us stick to the moral code, let us keep our American principles, let us stand by our Supreme Court in its defense of moral standards. May Chief Justice Vinson be a bit more judicial and a lot more correct in his statements concerning absolutes.

## Send Ye Laborers

All America will express its Catholic sense of heading the exhortation of Christ: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that he send laborers into his harvest." Mission Sunday will find Heaven stormed with prayers for the missions and for the missionaries. The fervor of the prayer will be matched by the generosity of the gift that accompanies it.

Send Ye Laborers! And let the sending

be effective all through the days of the year. Your donation will make you a member of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. You will share in the wills of the many many thousands in providing the means of salvation to all who know not Christ. Tell the High Priest that you want to obey His exhortation. You want to be of the number who are sending laborers into the harvest. God love you!

## Peace Offers

No reasonable offer for peace should be passed over. However little confidence we can have in the pretenses of Stalin we should be ready to make our own peace offer and to discuss any offer of peace that is made to us. President Truman's letter to Joseph Stalin suggesting that a discussion looking toward peace may well ward off the beginning of a third World War is entirely in order. It may look like a desperate gesture

but the President acts in the hope that it may be effective.

Your Rosary for peace each day in October should be recited with added fervor because of the threatening danger of war and because of the earnest efforts of our President and his followers to do all possible to prevent World War 3. May the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary be for today's world the Queen of Peace!

## The Year Marches On

Summer has gone into Autumn. The woods and the beaches of vacation days have been deserted for the baseball parks in the race for pennants and in the excitement of the world series. School has started, vacationers have returned to their shops, offices and stores and our one interest today is limited to football, professional and collegiate and academic.

With interest in all our young players

and their schools, with all the variety of skill and prowess, we reserve a special spot for the Aquinas Football Team. It brings a lasting thrill to the closing months of our year to witness such finished performances as the Maroon and White are giving to us.

Root for them all, but get all the joy that football can give you by being at Aquinas Stadium on Sunday to help the home team win. Hurrah for Aquinas!

## TO THE CROWDS

The Gospel of this Sunday refers to the crowds who were listening to the preaching of Jesus. His words attracted them; His doctrines appealed to them; He spoke as one having power. On this occasion Jesus gave them more than His words. He showed them His power to heal the sick and even to raise the dead.

The Ruler asked Him to come down and lay His hand upon his dead daughter that she might return to life. Jesus went with him and so did His disciples. And as the crowds followed Him they saw Him cure a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhage for twelve years; they saw Him proceed on to the home of the Ruler, take the dead girl by the hand and raise her to renewed life.

The crowds saw these wonders and they spoke of them to that soon all the people in that district knew what had been done. Twelve years of illness surely made the sick woman known to all her friends and neighbors. The crowds that witnessed the raising to life of the dead girl returned to their homes to speak of what they had seen and heard. No wonder that the fame of Christ spread far and wide and hundreds of people began to have faith in Him.

As the crowds Christ used His preaching, His healing and the raising of the dead to bring about a most serious purpose. He was making preparation for the winning of men to faith in His doctrine, of winning men to a recognition of His power as the Son of God, to winning men to fol-

low Him. He was preparing for the foundation of His Church.

The crowds that followed Him now were surely destined to be among the first members of His Church. Absolutely certain of the accuracy of their judgment, of the accuracy with which their ears had heard His words and their eyes had seen His works, they gave lasting and solid tribute to their faith in Christ.

To all of us Christ has given the richness of His doctrine and the sure signs of His Divine power. For two thousand years His Church has been bringing to us the comfort of His teaching and the evidence of His Divine power.

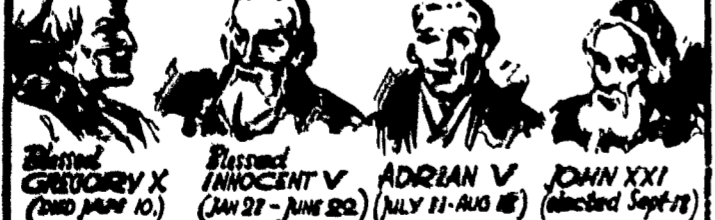
In days of old it was to the crowds that He addressed himself. In our day His adherents have increased from the small group of individuals that made up the crowd to the hundreds of millions of men and women who belong today to His Church.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

### 4 POPES in year 1276



Gregory X (2nd Jan 10)  
Innocent V (Jan 21 - June 20)  
Adrian V (July 11 - Aug 18)  
John XXI (elected Sept 17)

**The Grammar & Dictionary**  
Compiled by  
Sister Mary  
Chippewa Indian Language  
(1797-1823)  
and still the standard  
reference on

**J. L. PETIT**  
(1674-1750)

**WEATHERMAN**  
CHIPPewa INDIAN LANGUAGE

## Russian Peace Bid



## FATHER KENNEDY

Fine Pictures, Informative Text

It is the hope of each of us to see Christ face-to-face when life is done. Meanwhile we venture a little or another of the innumerable representations of Him which are no more than the fictions of artistic imagination. What if we could view a sort of photographic likeness of Him? Impossible? No, it is not impossible. For an ever greater weight of scientific evidence seems to indicate that we have something of the kind on the Holy Shroud of Turin, the cloth in which the Saviour's dead body was wrapped for burial.

This shroud is the subject of *The True Likeness* by R. W. Hynek, a physician and surgeon. Dr. Hynek sets forth the history of the relic, marshals the arguments for its genuineness, describes its being photographed in the past 50 years, then rigorously analyzes all the expert opinion on the subject. He makes an apparently unassailable case for the authenticity of the shroud.

MOREOVER, he goes authoritatively into the details of Christ's sufferings, on the basis of historical data and recent experimentation.

One after another, he discusses the various phases of the Passion, from the abuse of Christ by the high priest's servants to His last tortured breath, calmly reciting the dreadful record of agony endured by the Divine Redeemer. And in every particular, the evidence of the shroud dovetails with what is verifiable concerning the mode of the Passion.

At the back of the book are plates of the shroud, one of them a full-length film of the crucified which fits in him the with awe and awe in him the conviction that this is the closest to seeing Christ in His humanity that he will attain short of heaven.

If it requires scientific expertise to appreciate many of the minutiae of Dr. Hynek's painstaking proof, the book can be grasped, and will certainly be appreciated, by almost any reader.

THE SCENES of the Saviour's life and death are beautifully reproduced in *The Catholic Shrines of the Holy Land* by Paschal Kinsel and Leonard Henry, with photographs by Alfred Wagg, some of the shots in color. This is a large, lavishly, uncommonly handsome book, rich in fine pictures accompanied by a concise and informative text.

The authors interweave the Gospel narrative, the subsequent history of the Holy Land, an account of contemporary conditions there, and matter for meditation. There is admirable skill in their reduction to simple form and smooth continuity of a heterogeneous mass of facts. The complex that is the Holy Land is here quickly and clearly communicated, and its spiritual significance sharply pointed.

AND THE photographs are superb. The one criticism one might make is that there is a slight excess of detail shots of some of the churches, particularly of the Bad Art in a few of them. One would have welcomed

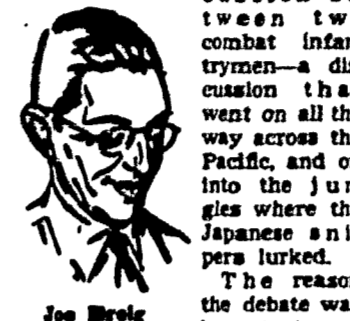
## JOSEPH BREIG

The Atheist's White Cross

In the official records of World War II, you will find no mention of a certain important discussion between two combat infantrymen—a discussion that went on all the way across the Pacific, and on into the jungles where the Japanese snipers lurked.

The reason the debate was important was that it concerned the existence of God. The affirmative was defended by Combat Infantryman Jim Flannery, then and now one of my best friends. The negative was taken by a young man I never saw. Let us call him Fred.

Fred said he wanted to believe in God, but he just couldn't. He said that if he could believe in God and in eternal life with God, he could walk on a battlefield without fear. Nevertheless, when the time came, he walked on anyhow, fear and all, and was killed on New Georgia in the Solomonas.



AT THE first opportunity, Flannery obtained a few hours' leave, and went to the cemetery to visit Fred's grave. He walked along the rows of white crosses, studied here and there with a Star of David, until he came to the spot where Fred was buried.

But Fred's last resting place was not marked with a white cross, nor with a Star of David, either. He had registered, upon induction, as an atheist; and at the head of his grave there stood a single upright on which was marked an "A."

Flannery stood there thinking. Fred, he was sure, had never really been an atheist. He was merely a man confused by false education. And surely he had not died an atheist. How could it be possible that enlightenment had not been finally granted to one who wanted to believe in God?

FLANNERY turned and walked down the slope among the white crosses toward the blue Pacific, stretching endlessly away. On the beach, he gathered some white coral, and carried it back up the slope. He stooped and placed the coral to form a great white cross on his friend Fred's grave. Then he took his Rosary from around his neck and looped it over the upright "A," so that the crucifix hung down close to the head of the grave.

Flannery knelt and said a prayer. Then he rose and returned to his duties. The tide of war moved onward, and swept him with it from island to island and at last into Japan with the victorious American forces.

A LONG TIME passed before Flannery found himself on New Georgia again. As soon as he could, he returned to the military cemetery only to find that Fred's grave had been moved to a better location.

He went there; but now it was very difficult to find Fred. Among the graves there was none set off with a cross of white coral; and among the white crosses and the Stars of David there was not a single "A."

Flannery moved from grave to grave and from row to row, reading the names. At last he found Fred's. But now it was not on an upright holding an "A." Now it was on a white cross like all the other white crosses. Whoever had been in charge of moving the graves had taken Flannery's white coral cross, and his Rosary, at their word.

Flannery knelt again and prayed, and went away content. He had done the greatest service he could for his friend Fred. He had changed his atheist "A" into a white cross.

## 43 Nations Have Relations With Vatican

Rome — (RNS) — Establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and the Vatican brings to 43 the number of countries represented at the Holy See. Nineteen countries maintain embassies in Vatican City and 24 have legations.

Until the last war, Europe was the most represented continent in Vatican City. Now Latin America, with 19 countries represented, heads the list. The Latin American nations with Vatican ties are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Santo Domingo, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Europe is in second place with 16 countries represented at the Vatican. They are: Austria, Belgium, England, Finland, France, Holland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, and Yugoslavia.

Asia has six diplomatic representatives at the Vatican. They come from China, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and the Philippine Islands. There are two other diplomats at the Vatican—representing Egypt and Liberia—and another is expected to be named soon by Turkey.

## Bishop Kearney's Mission Appeal

October 8, 1951.

My Dear People:  
Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, has once again appealed to his flock on behalf of the missions of the Church and has set aside next Sunday, October 21, as Mission Sunday.

The annual collection for the support of the missions at home and abroad will be taken up in all our churches. The Propagation of the Faith is the life work of a great army of men and women who have left home and country in answer to Christ's appeal that His Gospel be preached in every land. It is not unreasonable for these missionaries to look back to us for some help in their work. We also are responsible for the spread of the Gospel of Christ, whether by example, work and deed, or generous help to those actively engaged in the work.

We can readily understand that at the present time the United States must bear the principal burden of supporting Christ's Church in mission areas. With all the demands on our generosity this still remains a privilege. It is the privilege of apostleship; for when we give generously to the appeal for the missions, we are making more effective the efforts of some bishop, priest, or nun. Thus, even though unknown to them, we enter their active apostolate and become in our limited way missionaries for the Gospel of Christ.

May I beg that you make this Holy Year outstanding in generosity to the Mission Collection. If the unselfish giving of alms is part of the program of the Holy Year, I can think of no cause so deserving of your outstanding Holy Year donation as the Propagation of the Faith of Christ.

With a grateful blessing, I remain  
Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,  
+ JAMES E. KEARNEY,  
Bishop of Rochester.

## GRETTA PALMER

Bid To Militant Heresy

The apostolate is an important Catholic duty—but it is not the only Catholic duty. A great deal of our energy is to be directed into warfare against the self, a great deal more is, properly, reserved for prayer and meditation. Even the hardest working priest is not Gretta Palmer dispensed for long from the reading of his Breviary; the Church would take a very dim view of a lay apostle too busy at rounding up converts to attend Sunday Mass. Religion is a great deal more than winning other people to our side.

But those who make of a worldly crusade a religion can become full-time apostles with the very clearest of consciences. They lose no time in worshipping God their god is a temporal goal. They need expend no spiritual energy on self-improvement for their task is to "improve" the world by making it agree with them.

CONSIDER a pamphlet issued recently by the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts and signed by "Florence Clothier, M.D., President." It contains what purports to be a letter sent to them with a contribution of money from a woman whose name is not divulged. This is a portion of the letter:

"I was brought up to be a very strict Catholic. I sincerely believed in my religion up until three years ago. In our religion, to be able to receive communion you must go to confession first and tell your sins to the priest and receive absolution.

I did so and when asked if I prevented children, I told the truth and said I had gone to a birth control clinic. I told the priest that I was a sick girl and wasn't very capable of taking care of the two children I had, without depending on someone to come and help me. I didn't get any absolution and I have never gone again to try.

"In the eyes of God I don't believe I am sinning. . . I have two lovely children and trying to be healthy enough to bring up the two I have now properly certainly isn't a sin. . . There are many Catholics that are certainly for this Planned Parenthood but just won't vote for it.

They don't seem to know the right facts. They think it is the same thing as abortion or sterilization or that the law will tell them how many children they can have. I try to explain that Planned Parenthood gives to the sick or delicate mother of a family so that she can have strong healthy children and provide a happy home life."

THE PLANNED Parenthood League is simply out to pick up Catholic votes, and this letter is one step in the campaign. But the letter is a great deal more than that: it is an effort to win souls away from the Church by militant heresy.

Notice the distinction drawn by "Catholic mother" between phrases of her illiteracy are followed by delicately-balanced sentences which betray the English Major from some university (not, let us hope, Boston or Notre Dame). If any lapsed Catholic woman, in her bitter frustration, wrote any of this letter, it has been edited and burnished to suit the League's purposes.

And what are those phrases? Why, the League would tell you, humanitarianism and democracy; the Church has taken a whimsical stand against a type of "medical" assistance of which many mothers stand in need. (The fact that the non-Catholic Maternity Center Association has, on purely medical grounds, taken the same stand as the Church is one they never state.)

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## Cardinal Speaker At Albany Congress

Albany, N. Y. — (NC) — His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York will head a large number of Church dignitaries and educators coming here for a Regional Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine October 26 to 28.

THAT LETTER is being widely circulated among Catholics in Massachusetts, with the plea that they vote to legalize birth control clinics—in which other Catholic mothers will, presumably, lose their faith, too. It is

Are you NERVY TIR WOF You c "True Of Chr will INFA PRA Christma B WEDNESD for nine one WEDNESD 7:45 Holy R Ch Hudson Cliff The ad spot for Pray For W POLITICAL V JA CC C V SPONS BLACK KID BLACK CAL \$16.95 BE