

# Editorials

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

## Our Bishops Speak

A most important message to the people of our country was issued last week by the Bishops of our country at their annual meeting in Washington. It was a message that stressed the intelligent approach of these prelates to the problems that are before us today.

It took note of the wave of corruption among those who hold political appointments. It attacked previous errors influencing the morality of individuals and society. It issued a warning that these conditions if allowed to continue could bring our country to the same sad condition into which the Roman Empire of old fell.

Dishonesty, corruption in public office, immorality in public life and in private life, the destruction of moral values that goes with it and the fundamental defect of an education that does not teach our children to know God and his ways—all of these are definite evils that call for correction.

True morality is based on eternal principles. It does not change. It needs no majority vote to establish its standing. Our morality consists in doing God's will. God's will does not change.

The Bishops called for a renewal of the old concept of public office as a public trust. Men go into official appointments not to enrich themselves but to serve their government. Where there is no faith one cannot look for any high degree of morality. The Bishops refer to the statement of our first President indicating that religion is an indispensable support of morality in private life and in government.

Thinking Americans rejoice that we have a group of men in our Bishops who are ready and willing to give the benefit of their religious authority, of their training as men of faith, of their knowledge of the evils of our day and the proper remedies for them. May America heed well the warning that is given it in this saving message.

## Consecration Of Detroit's Cathedral

Last Saturday was a historic day for the Archdiocese of Detroit, for its Cardinal-Archbishop and his Priests and for the laity. With solemn ceremony the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament was consecrated to serve the Archdiocese for all the years to come. The stately and majestic lines of the stone edifice marked it as a building worthy to be a House of God. For public and private services a devout Catholic people will make constant use of this edifice. The work of skilled architects, the labor of mason and carpenter and other artificers, the planning of church men and artists have gone into this building—all have striven to give to their city and Diocese a new Jerusalem coming down from Heaven arrayed as a bride for her husband.

The heavenly city of Jerusalem, the blessed vision of peace arises from living stones to the very heights of Heaven. The angels of God are about it in its building, the angels of God will remain all through its life. It is the house of God, the house of prayer, it is a holy place in which our Lord shall dwell in His Eucharistic Tabernacle.

Lighted candles gleamed in their appointed places in the walls of the newly consecrated building. The Lord will hear our prayers wherever we say them, but we have his promise in quotations from Holy Writ that in His house everyone who prays shall have his prayer heard, everyone who asks shall receive, everyone who seeks shall find.

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral stands today as a monument to the planning ability and spiritual vision of Cardinal Mooney. Each year the day of its solemn consecration shall be commemorated in the Office and in Holy Mass. It shall stand as a monument to two hundred and fifty years of Catholicity in Detroit. It shall always keep its hallowed connection with the 25th Anniversary of the Consecration of its Cardinal-Archbishop.

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## The Power Of God's Church

The power of the Catholic Church comes from God. It is a power for the sanctification and salvation of mankind. Its temples form the material evidence of its power. They are to the faithful a pre-vision of the eternal home that God has prepared for His children. But the real power of God within the Church has its official dwelling place in the souls of the Priests, Bishops and Archbishops, Cardinals of the Church under the supreme leadership of the Sovereign Pontiff.

As Cardinal Mooney offered up the Mass of Consecration last Saturday he was surrounded by Churchmen of every degree. There were five Cardinals, eighty-eight Bishops and thirteen Archbishops, more than one hundred Monsignori, religious and secular clergy numbering over five hundred. All these men called by God, blessed with the power of Holy Orders, laboring in their respective charges with all the zeal, all the intelligence, all the priestly power that enables them to bring God's gifts to man, were a living picture of the power of God's Church.

The setting was worthy of this great pageant. The Cardinal-Archbishop at his throne and at the newly consecrated marble altar, was surrounded by the designated officials of a Pontifical Mass. Golden vestments marked each in his position, gleaming candlesticks, glowing lights, clusters of flowers set off the great altar. Clouds of incense ascended to the Lord for an odor of sweetness.

Magnificent music in the best tradition of the Church accompanied the ceremony at the altar. The fanfare of trumpets added a sublime note to the usual music of the Mass. The dedication sermon was followed by the words of the Cardinal himself thanking God for all His gifts and thanking the people for enabling him to bring this great Cathedral into the perfection of a true House of God. The beauty and majesty of this ancient ceremony as exemplified last Saturday shall long remain in the memories of all present as a living evidence of the power and the beauty of the Church of God.

## A DOUBLE PORTENT

The Gospel for the Last Sunday after Pentecost presents a two-fold prophecy coming from the lips of our Blessed Lord. One concerns the destruction of Jerusalem. The other foretells the end of the world.

Christ warns His hearers to flee from the afflicted city. He warns them of the great tribulation which shall fall upon them such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, nor will be. He tells them for the sake of the elect, those whose lives of devotion have made them worthy to be chosen by Christ, those days will be shortened. He warns them of assaults that will be made on their faith by false Christs and false Prophets.

The second part of the prophecy refers to the end of the world and the coming of the Son of Man to preside over the General Judgment, and He will send forth His angels with a trumpet and a great sound and they will gather His elect from the four winds.

Each one chosen by Christ will have the sign of the Son of Man on his forehead and the angels will see to it that no harm or suffering shall come to God's chosen ones. We are celebrating the last Sunday of the Church Year.

We must look forward to the last Sunday in life that God will give us. We must look forward to the general judgment on the last day. Christ has given us a two-fold prophecy. Christ invites us to prepare by a good life for the day that shall mark the end of all things.

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## STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. I. MURRAY

Customer: "Barber, did I get my last haircut here?"  
Barber: "I hardly think so, sir; we've only been in business six months."

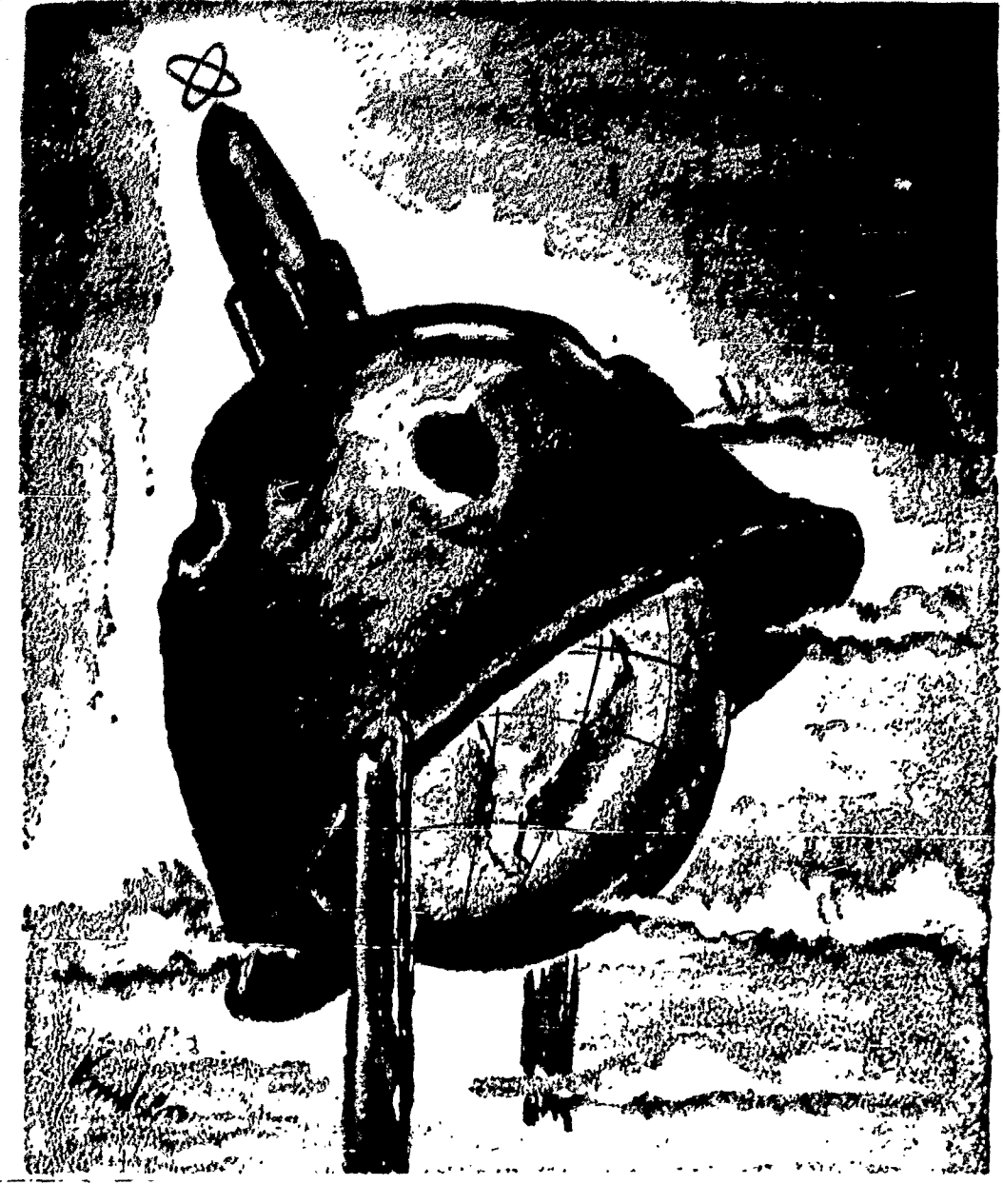
**San Marcos Church, Leon, Spain**, was originally a hospital and asylum, later the Bishop's Palace and pilgrim's hospice.

**St. Cassian**, Official Note-Taker to the Court which condemned St. Marcellus to die in 298, flung down his pen & book in indignation at the injustice, arrested, he was martyred shortly afterwards.

It is customary around ALL SOULS DAY to MEND TO eat round loaves surmounted by well baked skulls— "DEAD MAN'S BREAD," while decorated sugar skulls are popular candies for the children.

NEW MISSIONARY: "Can you tell me what became of my predecessor?"  
CATHOLIC CHIEF: "He made a trip into the interior."  
DISCUSSING TENNIS technique, the stout man said: "My brain has been out a command to my body: Run forward, quickly. Hurry yourself towards the ball, return it over the net and then walk back slowly!"  
"And then what happens?" he was asked.  
"And then," replied the stout man, "my body says: 'Who am I?'"

# Armament Race



## GRETTA PALMER

Writing straight with crooked lines, God has permitted a Paul Blanshard to appear at the very moment when we might, without his brazen bigotry, have forgotten that Catholics are necessarily set apart from all the "Christian" sects. The danger was that we might sink our differences and work together, side by side, to build a better world. That is not the pattern of our day. Instead, we find ourselves forced into a separation that we did not choose, required to emphasize the differences and not the likeness to the other groups of fellow "Christian" Americans.

Indifferentism is a tempting position for us to take today. Gray becomes an attractive color when contrasted with the pitch dark black of the Soviet system. We should like all of us to be Latin Americans, among men of good will who do not completely share our belief, but that is not the way that things are being determined in this difficult century.

For in every country where the Faith has gained political control, the lesson is the same, and it is this: the only opposition that stands firm and refuses to compromise with evil is the Catholic group. Fairweather friends desert us when the price of friendship is raised to the exorbitant sum of martyrdom; only those who have the sacraments to help their wills and the magnificent logic of the Faith to enlighten their minds can resist the strong temptation to apostasy to evil in such days as this.

WE ARE NOT just "Christians"; we are Catholics, and the distinction is being driven home to us in many ways. The indignation stirred among the Protestants—kindly men and "Christians"—by the appointment of an Ambassador to Rome is merely another reminder of the fact that we are set apart, that "I have taken you out of the world," and that the world when it was friendly, was more of a threat to us than now when its true hostility is shown.

## A "Friendly" World's Hostility

We are not concerned with patriotism, primarily, and it is sheer hypocrisy for us to pretend, for half a minute, that we are. We are concerned with sanity; our sights are set towards a farther goal than that which any other section of the population recognizes as a practical alternative to temporal success.

It is a time to try men's souls. It is a period in which the summer soldier sheds his uniform, and the sunshine patriot retreats. For all the facile, comfortable theories (which told us that we were not so different from other people after all) have been exposed as empty.

That is not getting a good press, but if it is true, it is good. We are faced in this century with a starkly different world. Truth requires these things, and truth is one aspect of God.

DO YOUR neighbors scowl at you a little more than they did a year ago? Has your laughter a little harder time arranging her debut than last year's Catholic girls? Are you finding a row that creeps into your business relationships with those who live the Faith?

Then plunk yourself upon your knees and breathe a loud, "Deo gratias." For you and I and all the rest of the 30 million U. S. Catholics have been rescued from the danger of forgetting that we are set apart from all good pagans, all kindly Protestants and the others who lack the strange, wonderful, invisible stigmata that confirmation gave us. We cannot be just "Christians"; we must be Catholics today.

# JOSEPH BREIG

An Open Letter To Harry Truman

Dear Mr. President: You have rightly killed a bill which would have provided federal aid for local public schools in certain hard-pressed defense areas.

You recognized that the purpose of the bill was good. But you killed it because it would have made the federal government discriminate against Negroes.

It would have required federally aided schools to impose the indignity of segregation on Negro pupils in states where such segregation is practiced.

Properly Mr. President, you refused thus to lend the weight and prestige of the federal government to the injustices done to Negroes in certain states.

You refused to incorporate those injustices into federal law. You stated the case clearly.

This proposal, if enacted into law, would constitute a backward step in the efforts of the federal government to extend equal rights and opportunities to all our people.

... we have a direct responsibility to follow national rather than local interpretations of non-discrimination...

"We should not impair our moral position by enacting a law that requires discrimination based on race. Step by step we are discarding old discriminations. We must not adopt new ones."

May I express the hope, Mr. President, that you will take the same courageous stand in the matter of discrimination against Catholics and other religious people in school aid?

Senator Barden proposes that children in religious and private schools be barred entirely from federal school aid. They would not receive so much as a vaccination, an eye examination, a tuberculosis test or a school bus ride at federal expense.

Senator Taft is less forthright. He wants to leave it up to states to hand out federal aid as they see fit. Since most of the states

bar children in religious and private schools, Taft's proposal would have substantially the same effect as Barden's.

In either case, parents who exercise their inalienable and constitutional right to send their children to schools other than government schools would be unjustly penalized.

Mr. Taft takes refuge behind what he calls states rights, as if the states had the right to discriminate against certain citizens by depriving them arbitrarily of the benefits of the taxes they pay.

The states have no such right. They have no right to discriminate because of color, and they have no right to discriminate because of religion. In this country, everybody is supposed to be equal before the law.

Therefore I hope that you will take the same forthright stand in favor of a square deal for religious parents that you have taken in favor of a square deal for Negroes.

I trust that you will reject any attempt to involve the federal government in state discrimination against religious people, exactly as you rejected the attempt to involve the federal government in state discrimination against Negroes.

Both the Barden proposal and the Taft proposal would, as you so well phrased it, "constitute a backward step in the efforts of the federal government to extend equal rights and opportunities to all our people."

In the matter of general federal aid to education as in the matter of special federal aid to schools in defense areas, the federal government has "a direct responsibility to follow national rather than local interpretations of non-discrimination."

"We should not impair our moral position by enacting a law that requires discrimination based on religion," Stip by step we are discarding old discriminations; we must not adopt new ones."



Joe Breig

## A LOOK AT LABOR and Public Scorn

By A. C. Tuohy

There has been a movement afoot for some time now to get legislators on the federal, as well as the state level, to permit the publication of the names of people on relief rolls. Senator Jenner, Republican from Indiana, recently rushed through an amendment which gave states this permission.

Behind the thinking of those who favor such publication, so far as I can judge, lie certain assumptions. Not the least of these assumptions is the belief that publication of names will remove the "chiselers" from relief rolls. In the same circles there is the suspicion that a large number of relief recipients are unworthy anyway.

A CERTAIN segment of our population has never accepted the idea of home relief for indigent families. Home relief was to them like a red flag before a bull. It meant New Dealism at its worst, coddling loafers and alcoholics, boondoggling, and moral decay. This group possesses the Calvinistic notion that enterprise, wealth, and property are a sign of divine approval while the absence of these virtues merits only condemnation. For these and allied reasons they are in favor of anything that will cut relief rolls.

Then, of course, there is the balance-the-budget school which is alarmed at our growing public debt and which favors any measure which will reduce public expenditures.

The Social Security Act of 1935, on the other hand, required that where federal funds were involved in assistance programs on the state and municipal levels, there be no publicity of names. The reasons for this provision were twofold.

First, the lawmakers in Washington felt in 1935 that all kinds of pressure could be brought to bear on relief recipients to vote the right way if local politicians had the power to embarrass the voter by threatening the publication of his relief status.

THE MORE important reason, however, was the belief by Congress that relief recipients should not be stigmatized in the public eye in any way. There was a sincere regard for the dignity of the poor, a dignity which Congress felt should not be injured simply because the individual or family was indigent.

In this land of ours with its tradition of the self-made man there is some prejudice against those who cannot or will not help themselves.

For this reason home relief has always been viewed with dis-

## Quebec Hierarchy Seeks Liquor Law Enforcement

Montreal (RNS)—Strict observance of provincial liquor laws is sought in a petition being circulated throughout Quebec by Quebec Roman Catholic archbishops and bishops.

Hundreds of voluntary workers are taking the petition sheets from house to house and among workers in industry to solicit signatures.

THE petition urges:

- (1) Strict enforcement of the liquor laws of the province of Quebec.
- (2) Strict sanctions against law violators, whoever they may be.
- (3) Restrictions of hours where sale of beer and wine during meal hours is permitted on Sundays.
- (4) Closing of grills and cafes from midnight Sunday to 8 a. m. Monday.
- (5) Progressive reduction of the number of licensed liquor establishments.

Copies of the petition have been forwarded to parish priests, who have been asked to speak

## Niagara Students Donate Blood

Niagara University, N. Y. — (NC)—A total of 296 pints of blood was donated to the Red Cross by students of Niagara University and a seminar in faculty members of Our Lady of Angels Seminary, conducted by the Vincentian Fathers.

The event was described as the greatest single day's donation of blood since the inauguration of the Red Cross blood donor campaign in Niagara and Erie counties.

Korea Aided — More than half of all voluntary aid sent to Korea since World War II has come from the Red Cross. National Catholic Welfare Conference Chairman Rev. John F. McCarthy said here in urging support of the Thanksgiving Clothing Collection.

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Rochester, N. Y.

**Czech Priest Death Sep**  
London—(NC) Bula, described a olic administration sentenced by state court, account Czech news received here. Father Bula "giving shelter lists," the report agency added, sons were sent.

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