



STATE CONVENTION of the Catholic Daughters of America drew 300 delegates to Rochester this week. In photo at left, CDA officials enter St. Joseph's Church for Mass celebrated by Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester (center in center photo), convention host. At left is Bishop Stephen J. Donahue of New York, State CDA chaplain, and at right the Rev. John A. Reddington, chaplain of Court Rochester CDA. In photo at right are State CDA officers (from left): seated, Mrs. Mary D. Harrington, secretary; Marie C. Curry, regent; Mrs. Margaret D. Lantz, vice-regent; standing, Mrs. Jane Ebling, treasurer; Margaret Deacy, monitor.

## Msgr. Jos. Cameron, Immaculate Pastor, Dies On Sea Voyage

Shocked parishioners and friends kept sorrowful vigil this week awaiting the arrival from Barcelona, Spain, of the body of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph S. Cameron, pastor of Rochester's Immaculate Conception Church for the past 30 years.

Monsignor Cameron died suddenly last Saturday (May 3, 1952) aboard the liner Exochorda enroute to Barcelona where he planned to attend the forthcoming



MONSIGNOR CAMERON

ing International Eucharistic Congress. He was accompanied by his friend the Rev. Francis W. Luddy, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Rochester.

When this newspaper went to press late yesterday afternoon, diocesan officials were unable to set the exact day of Monsignor Cameron's funeral Mass in Rochester. Lack of confirmation of plans to bring the prelate's body to this country rendered the schedule of Requiem rites at the Immaculate Conception Church uncertain.

According to information learned earlier this week in a trans-oceanic telephone conversation with Father Luddy in Barcelona, Monsignor Cameron's body was expected to arrive via plane this morning (Friday) in New York, according to the Rev. Ignatius X. Cameron, brother of the prelate.

Concern was expressed here, however, that lack of proper plane facilities in Barcelona may have forced cancellation of this arrangement.

FATHER IGNATIUS Cameron learned yesterday that Father Luddy had left Barcelona but

## Parochial Schools Win Capital's Spelling Bee

Washington — (NC) — Catholic parochial school pupils swept the first three prizes in a city-wide spelling bee sponsored by a local newspaper and bringing together 85 of the best spellers in the seventh and eighth grades of Washington's public and private schools.

Mary Ellen Rusk, 12, of Nativity school's seventh grade won first honors. Carole Watts, 13, of St. Jerome's school in nearby Hyattsville, Md., was second and Maureen Smith, 13, of St. Francis Xavier's school was third. Fourth and fifth places went to two public junior high school pupils.

## Notre Dame Sets Blood Donor Record

Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — Students at the University of Notre Dame set new records for collegiate participation in the Armed Forces Blood Program when the American Red Cross "Bloodmobile" visited the campus, according to American Red Cross officials.

## Former Communist Leader Returns To Catholic Faith

DR. BELLA DODD New York — (NC) — Dr. Bella V. Dodd, formerly New York State legislative director for the Communist Party, has returned to the Catholic Church, it was disclosed by Richard Reid, editor, in his "By The Way" column in "The Catholic News," newspaper of the New York archdiocese.

Mr. Reid reported that Dr. Dodd was born a Catholic but did not practice her religion. She is an attorney and a former Hunter College professor. For years she was a leader in the radical ranks among teachers.

Dr. Dodd was expelled from the Communist Party in 1949, but refused to cooperate with Federal authorities in exposing party members. Since that time, Mr. Reid reported, Dr. Dodd had taken instructions from Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, Auxiliary of New York, and national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. She recently was received into the Church.

# THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

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## 'My Son John' Film Spots Hollywood's 'Anti-Anti-Reds'

By WILLIAM H. MOORING  
Motion Picture Editor, Los Angeles Tidings

Los Angeles — (Special) — Like a knife cutting through an apple, Leo McCarey's anti-Communist film, "My Son John," by getting to the core of the subject, divides and camps, pinkos from loyalists, more conclusively than any



F.B.I. AT WORK: In this scene from Leo McCarey's anti-Communist film, "My Son John," Stedman of the FBI (Van Hellen) calls on Mrs. Jefferson (Eileen Hayes) ostensibly with a bill for a bathed fender. What he really is after is a run-down on her son John (Robert Walker), government man in Washington.

They know that if this anti-Red movie can be brought to failure on its first run in the Key City, theater owners everywhere will be less willing to book it.

AS A RESULT it will, at best, return to low a profit that other Hollywood producers will shy from similar anti-Communist film themes. At worst it will stand out as an implicit indication that the American public prefers social screen dramas with a plink tinge.

To bolster their case these anti-Communist gleefully cite the political criticisms advanced through certain publications (even "Commonweal" and "America") as evidence that thinking people, significantly including some Catholics, resent the picture.

Their opponents who favor further clean-up of pro-Red influences in Hollywood, etc with equal vehemence, press comment by many leading critics (notably George Sokolsky, Bill Henry and William H. Moorings) who defend Leo McCarey against charges that his screen play is colored by political bigotry and plays along with so-called "McCarthyism."

ONE PROBABLE result of the controversy in movietown is the success of "My Son John" during its first week run at the Fine Arts Theater, Los Angeles, a 700-seat house which took \$7,000, the town's biggest box office for that week, based on seating capacity.

The controversy opened when New York critics Bosley Crowther (N. Y. Times) Alton Cook (N. Y. World Telegram) and several others, let go a blast against "My Son John" following its New York opening.

Crowther wrote: "it falls in completely with the assumption that guilt is evidenced by association... suspicion and drum-headed condemnation are espoused."

COOK SAID: "His (McCarey's) anger has betrayed him into bigotry" and added, "by far the best of the (anti-Communist) pictures was 'The Iron Curtain' four years ago, a blistering exposure based on some actual Russian spy activities... It was a comparative disappointment at the box-office."

Columnist Bill Henry writes: "What McCarey has done is to personalize Communism... to

show us it is the people who get hurt by Communism and that no movement is bigger than the people."

ONE ARGUMENT advanced by Hollywood's anti-anti-Communist is that in "My Son John" McCarey fails to show just how John, the bright boy of his family betrayed his country. He did not film a government file and show John stealing secret papers, photographing them on microfilm and handing them to a Russian.

If he had, that would have been evidence.

It would also have been boy's adventure story melodrama, and the intellectual critics would have pounced upon it with a vengeance.

Instead McCarey presents John, powerfully portrayed by the late Robert Walker, as a man who thinks like a Communist; talks like a Communist and eventually confesses that he acted like one. He confesses he became "an American Communist spy."

"MY SON JOHN" has hit the Communists, pro-Communists and anti-anti-Communist so hard they are yelling.

The commotion is likely to attract public attention to the picture. Those who decide to go see the film at local first-runs may promote good Catholic action by: writing to news and radio critics who, in their opinion, did not review the film fairly; asking neighborhood theater owners to book the film; writing in their opinions to Leo McCarey, Paramount Pictures, Marathon St., Hollywood, and spreading the word about "My Son John" wherever they go.

Express your sympathy with Flowers, Call RA 4194, Blanche and Florist of 13 Lake Avenue, where you really get best value. Daily deliveries to all sections including hospitals.—Adv.

## Catholic Daughters Hear Women's Role In Modern Society

By FAWN SCHEFFEL

The role of Catholic women in modern American society was stressed by speakers who addressed the Catholic Daughters of America at their three-day state convention held this week in Rochester.

Approximately 300 delegates from 21 CDA Courts in New York State attended the four-day sessions beginning Tuesday in the Hotel Seneca, headquarters for the convention.

HIS EXCELLENCY Bishop Kearney formally opened the convention with celebration of Pontifical Mass Tuesday morning in St. Joseph's Church. He also delivered the address at the convention banquet on Thursday evening.

HIS EXCELLENCY Bishop Stephen J. Donahue, Auxiliary of the New York Archdiocese and State Chaplain of the CDA, attended convention sessions and delivered an address on the "Separation of Church and State" controversy.

Delegates attending the Pontifical Mass marched from the Hotel Seneca to St. Joseph Church led by the uniformed Nazareth Academy Band making its first public appearance.

Speaking at the opening Mass, the Rev. Augustine J. Alyward, C.S.S.R., rector of the Notre Dame Retreat House, singled out the Blessed Virgin Mary as the great model and exemplar for the Catholic Daughters and called upon all of them constantly to honor Mary, who was most singularly honored by God Himself. Father Alyward showed how all through Christian history Mary was revered by saints, scholars and artists.

He said she was the special inspiration for the Catholic Daughters.

MISS MARIE CURRY, state regent and national director of the organization, presided at the business sessions during which resolutions were drawn and officers elected.

The delegates were told that the problems of the modern world were not intellectual but rather moral by the Rev. Albert Shamon, professor of English at St. Andrew's Seminary, in another address.

He pointed out that Catholics have made little impression in public life, government, industry, and press because "we have been neutral Catholics." He declared that we will never conquer those who are totally



NAZARETH ACADEMY'S smartly-uniformed band, in its first public appearance, led the march of CDA delegates to the convention Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Rochester.

## 'Wall' Idea On Church, State Hit By Prelate

The so-called American doctrine which demands a complete "wall of separation between church and state," is not American at all and contrary to the intention of our Founding Fathers, the Most Rev. Stephen J. Donahue, Auxiliary Bishop of New York, declared in Rochester this week.

Citing history, the Bishop explained that the First Amendment bars the Federal government from establishing a state church but it does not bar the Federal government from aiding religion.

"IT WAS NEVER in the mind of the Framers of the First Amendment to separate by law religion from government. Such a total separation has never existed in America and never was ever planned," Bishop Donahue stated.

Bishop Donahue made his attack on "The so-called American Principle of the Wall of Separation of Church and State" in an address to the New York State convention of the Catholic Daughters of America. He is state chaplain of the organization.

Governmental aid and endorsement of religion generally, as distinguished from establishment or support of separate sects, has never been considered offensive to the American Constitutional system," Bishop Donahue declared.

"It is only in the past two decades with the rise of Secularism — which wants God out of this world, that this matter between government and religion and the First Amendment was ever brought into question," he continued.

"What the enemies of religion desire," he charged, "is a wall of separation between government and religion; between education and religion; between social life and religion."

BISHOP DONAHUE deplored the fact that "proponents of the false principle of the separation of church and state... currently attack as a violation of the First Amendment all state endorsing church and government whether it is the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican, Reformation, school bus rides, health services, or lunch programs for children attending religious schools."

"This distorted interpretation of the First Amendment," said Bishop Donahue, "has reached such a state of hysteria among the masses of laymen and especially the Catholic Church, that in one state of this country free bus rides are granted to school children but not to Catholic school children even though they are willing to pay their own fare on the school bus."

"There is quite a difference between 'establishing' and 'aiding' a religion," said Bishop Donahue. "If I establish a religion, I necessarily aid it. But I can aid without establishing."

Over the years the United States Government has been aiding religion by appointing chaplains to the Armed Forces, to Federal prisons, to Congress, etc. Who will say that this violates the First Amendment?"

The debates attending the adoption of the First Amendment reveal, said Bishop Donahue, "that to the Framers of the Amendment, the 'establishment of religion' meant only one thing — the legal setting up of one form of religion as the sole religion of government to the exclusion of all others."

"IT DID NOT mean, as many seem to think, a wall of separation between church and state, in the sense that there shall be

## Answer to Paul Blanshard

summary of James M. O'Neill's new book, second of a series of six articles.

## Jesuit To Give Nazareth College Graduation Talk

The Reverend Harold C. Gardner, S.J., literary editor of "America," Catholic weekly news magazine, will deliver the commencement address at Nazareth College June 4. Sister Rose Angela, dean, details announced.

Since 1942 Father Gardner has been chairman of the board of editors of the Catholic Book of the Month Club. He is the author of a number of works in the field of literary criticism, among them "Tenets for Readers and Reviewers," and "The Great Books: A Christian Appraisal." He also edited "Fifty Years of the American Novel," published in 1931.

A native of Washington, D.C., Father Gardner entered the Society of Jesus in 1922. He has taught English and the classics at Canisius College in Buffalo and has been literary editor of "America" since 1940.

## Priest's Portrait In White House

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — The portrait of a Catholic priest, known as the father of Mexican independence, has been hung in the newly redecorated White House.

Ambassador Rafael de La Colina presented to President Truman the portrait of Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla at a ceremony here.

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