

## Modern Society Degrades Man's Dignity, Say Bishops

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and collectivism, "both of which are founded on false concepts of liberty—either the unfettered liberty of individualism, which gives the individual the right to ignore society; or the unfettered liberty of dictatorship, which gives the government the right to ignore the person by absorbing him into a race or class, thus destroying his freedom of choice."

**CARRIED INTO** the field of property, the Bishops condemned "the belief that man's right to property is absolute" as well as "the reactionary error of communism," which rests all ownership in the absolute state. The Christian view of human dignity maintains that "the right to property is personal, while the use of property is also social," they said.

A correct view of man's dig-

nity also lends dignity and importance to his labor, the Bishops continued.

"Labor is not something to be detached from the rest of life," they said. . . . It is bound up with leisure as an avenue to cultural enrichment. . . . It is bound up with the soul's development and with salvation.

"The worker is not a hand as tends; not a shrewd capitalist; not a stomach to be fed by the commissars, as communism thinks; but a person who through his labor establishes three relations: with God, with his neighbor, and with the whole natural world."

**MAN'S DIGNITY** also enters the field of education, the Bishops stated, making it true that "education of the soul is the soul of education."

"Therefore when an education tries to thrive in a religious and moral vacuum and does not aspire to impart a set of principles and a hierarchy of values, it degenerates into a dead and deadening juxtaposition of facts," the statement declared.

"And even worse. For though it tries to thrive in such a vacuum, education can never really be neutral in practice. . . . Education must inculcate a religious and moral outlook, or it will inculcate a materialistic one."

The Bishops summed up their statement in this conclusion:

"Only by regaining our reverence for God can we of America in the 20th century rediscover both our own value and the solid basis on which it rests. We must at the same time expend every effort to see that this dignity is reflected in our sense of decency, made aware of itself by education, nurtured by society, guarded by the state, established by private ownership, and exercised through creative activity."

## Bishop Gannon Elevated To Archbishop Rank



ARCHBISHOP GANNON

Washington (NC)—The personal title of Archbishop has been conferred on Bishop Mark Gannon of Erie by Pope Pius XII. It was announced here by Archbishop Arlindo Giovanni Ciognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

Elevation of Archbishop Gannon brings the total of Archbishops in the United States to 35 including seven now holding the title ad personam.

The honor came as Archbishop Gannon's diocese is celebrating the 100th Anniversary of its Foundation. Long a prominent member of the National Catholic Welfare Conference administrative board and Episcopal Chairman of its press department, Archbishop Gannon often represented American Bishops on important projects for the church in foreign lands.

## Marian Year Prayer

Vatican City (NC)—Vatican authorities made public the text of a prayer for the Marian Year personally composed by His Holiness Pope Pius XII. It makes special intercession for the protection of the Church and the sanctification of her members.

The prayer is to be read in Italian by the Holy Father at special ceremonies on Dec. 8 in the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome marking the opening of the Marian Year. Released on the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the official English translation of the prayer reads:

Enraptured by the splendor of your heavenly beauty, and impelled by the anxieties of the world, we cast ourselves into your arms, O Immaculate Mother of Jesus and our Mother, Mary, confident of finding in your most loving heart a possession of our ardent desires, and a safe harbor from the tempest which besets us on every side.

"Though degraded by our faults and overwhelmed by its trials misery, we admire and praise the peerless richness of sublime gifts with which God has filled you, above every other mere creature, from the first moment of your Conception until the day on which, after your Assumption into heaven, He crowned you Queen of the Universe.

"O crystal Fountain of faith, bathe our minds with the eternal truths! O fragrant Lily of

all holiness, captivate our hearts with your heavenly perfume! O Conqueror of evil and earth, inspire in us a deep horror of sin which makes the soul detestable to God and a slave of hell!

"O well-beloved of God, hear the ardent cry which rises up from every heart in this year dedicated to you. Bend tenderly over our aching wounds. Convert the wicked, dry the tears of the afflicted and oppressed, comfort the poor and humble, quench hatred, sweep away harshness, safeguard the flower of purity in youth, protect the holy Church, make all men feel the attraction of Christian goodness. In your name, resounding harmoniously in heaven, may they recognize that they are brothers, and that the nations are members of one family, upon which may there shine forth the sun of a universal and sincere peace.

"Receive, O Most Sweet Mother, our humble supplications, and above all obtain for us that, one day, happy with you we may repeat before your throne that hymn which today is sung on earth around your altars: You are all beautiful, O Mary! You are the glory, you are the joy, you are the honor of our people! Amen"

## Report Lists Catholic Aid To Refugees

Washington (NC)—Generosity of American Catholics during the last year enabled War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference to put into motion a program of aid for refugees and others in need in all parts of the world which eventually reached a total value of \$32,196,813.

This disclosure was made by the trustees of the American Hierarchy's relief agency, now in its tenth year of operations. In an annual report to the nation's Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops, holding their annual meeting here.

Principal sources for carrying out the vast relief program, the report stated, were contributions

## Native Vocations Gain In Africa

Nyegira, Tanganyika, Africa (NC)—Twenty-nine native seminarians are studying for the priesthood and 14 girls are preparing to become Sisters in the Prefecture Apostolic of Musoma, according to Magr. J. Gerard Grondin, Maryknoll missionary who is serving as Prefect Apostolic.

made by American Catholics to the annual Lactare Sunday campaign of the Bishops' Fund for the Victims of War and to the annual Thanksgiving clothing campaign, in addition to surplus supplies made available by the U.S. government. The basic contribution of the Bishops' Committee made it possible to command millions of dollars in outside support from governmental and inter-governmental agencies, as well as the Ford Foundation, to process and ship to areas of greatest need over \$14-million worth of contributed clothing and more than \$12-million worth of surplus food which was made available by the U.S. Government," the report asserted.

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## Tito Reds Map 'Crack-Down' On Religious-Minded Pupils

Zagreb, Austria (NC)—Communist school authorities in Croatia, Yugoslavia, are preparing to "crack down" on Catholic children in state-controlled schools who still cling to their religion despite efforts to indoctrinate them in atheistic Marxism.

This was indicated in reports here of a three-day closed meeting of school inspectors and administrators in the People's Republic to discuss the religion of the Catholic pupils.

Concerning Catholics in Yugoslavia were reported concerned that the meeting would set a new plan that would represent a further step in the program begun in the state schools in 1945 to train young people in patterns of "progressive thought" based upon Marxism.

Speakers at the meeting complained especially that many teachers in the state schools attend Mass regularly, and thus have a "bad effect" on the mind and character of the children. They said that this was one of the main reasons why the "progressive" program has not yet fully penetrated the classrooms.

One of the chief decisions of the meeting was to submit to the Minister of Education in the Croatian provincial government a list of 128 church-going teachers who were recommended to be dismissed or reduced on pension as "unreliable."

Meanwhile, Ivan Loko, a noted atheist, urged the school authorities to introduce as soon as possible a plan for the "education of the parents of the 'Middle Ages' from the schools."

HE WAS BACKED BY A high school inspector named Stoyan, which, who said that the aim of the plan should be to educate a new generation who would not "look to Rome for inspiration."

The same official complained that during an inspection of schools in the village of Krasic and the neighboring district he found many school children carrying rosaries.

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