

# Pope Urges Ban On ABC Warfare

The Movie Ad Code (See Page 4)

## THE CATHOLIC *Courier Journal*

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## Pleads For Pact To Outlaw Use Of 'New Weapons'

Vatican City — (NC) — In an Easter message broadcast before a huge throng in St. Peter's Square, Pope Pius XII called for international agreements to outlaw atomic, biological and chemical warfare. At the same time, he urged "the learned ones of the world" to "turn the wonderful discovery of the profound forces of matter exclusively to purposes of peace."

An estimated 200,000 persons, most of them Easter pilgrims, braved the chill air of a gray Easter Day to hear the Holy Father deliver a ten-minute talk that was his first major address since he became ill late in January. It came on the eve of United Nations Disarmament Commission meetings in New York which seek to clear the decks for consideration of President Eisenhower's international atom pool proposal.

THE POPE gave his discourse from his study and then appeared for three minutes on a balcony overlooking the square to greet and impart his blessing to the crowd.

Applause broke from the crowd as the Pontiff, in a voice that seemed to have all its old vigor and strength, declared that "for our part, we will tirelessly endeavor to bring about, by means of international agreements—always in subordination to the principle of legitimate self-defense—the effective proscription and banishment of atomic, biological and chemical warfare."

"At the same time," Pope Pius said, "we ask: For how long will men insist on turning their backs on the salutary light of the Resurrection, seeking security instead in the deadly blasts of new weapons of war? . . . When will the rulers of nations realize that peace cannot consist in an exasperating and costly relationship of reciprocal terror, but in the Christian rule of universal charity, and particularly in justice voluntarily applied rather than extorted, and in confidence that is inspired rather than exacted?"

AT THE OUTSET of his talk, Pope Pius declared that "if in the Heavens all is peace and joy" on Resurrection Day, "on earth the reality is quite otherwise." "Here in place of the serene joy whose secret was revealed by Christ Himself," he said, "there is, year by year, a mounting anxiety and, one might say, trepidation on the part of the people of the world by reason of their fear of a third world conflict, and of a dreadful future placed at the mercy of new destructive arms of unprecedented violence."

"These means of destruction, as we had already occasion to state and to fear as far back as February, 1943—are capable of bringing about a dangerous catastrophe for our entire planet," the Pontiff went on, "of causing the total extermination of all animal and vegetable life, and of all the works of man over vast regions; and they are now capable, with artificially radioactive isotopes of extended activity, of polluting in a lasting manner the atmosphere, the land and also the oceans even where these areas are very distant from the zones directly stricken and contaminated by the nuclear explosion."

THUS, BEFORE the eyes of a terrified world there is presented a preview of gigantic destruction, of extensive territories rendered uninhabitable and unfit for human use over and above the biological consequence that can result either by the changes brought about by atomic and micro-organisms, or through the uncertain effect which a prolonged radioactive stimulus can have upon greater organisms, including man, and upon their future offspring."

Warning that the new weapons could cause the human genes to suffer changes that would alter man's development and result in deviation, which cause "transmittable diseases and monstrosities," Pope Pius sounded this appeal:

"When will it come about that the learned men of the world will turn the wonderful discoveries of the profound forces of matter exclusively to purposes of peace: to enable man's activities to produce energy at a low cost which would alleviate the scarcity and correct the anomalous geographical distribution of the sources of wealth and work, as also to offer new arms to medicine and agriculture and to peoples new fountains of prosperity and well-being?"

The Holy Father concluded his address with an invocation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, "the symbol and the architect of men's reconciliation with each other and with their Lord and Redeemer Jesus."

He besought her to help men "to bear the burden of their humble and oftentimes hard daily toil, comfort them with the confident hope of the eternal and perfect Easter of the great human family in the home of their Father amidst the splendors of Heaven."

When the Pope appeared on the balcony to bless the crowd, he was protected from the cold wind by glass screens. His voice, which he changed the prayers of blessing was heard stronger than many times when his health was normal. The crowd was obviously deeply impressed by what seemed to be a return of all the Pontiff's old-time zest and vivacity on such occasions.

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## Pope Imparts Easter Blessing



Vatican City—Pope Pius XII imparts his traditional Easter blessing, Urbi et Orbi (to the city and to the world) from a balcony of St. Peter's Basilica to more than 200,000 pilgrims who jammed St. Peter's Square here earlier. The Pontiff delivered his Easter message to Catholics all over the world from his private study. The 16-minute address was broadcast by the Vatican Radio. The assembled throng in St. Peter's Square heard the Pope through loudspeakers. The Pontiff, convalescing from his recent illness, was dressed completely in white from his zucchetto (skullcap) to his long coat covering him almost to his toes. Around his neck he wore a white stole embroidered in red. (RNS Photo.)

## Red Terror Worst Yet, Pope Says

Bonn, Germany — (NC) — Pope Pius XII considers the persecution of the Church under Communism "probably the most dangerous" ever inflicted upon her.

The Pope made this statement in a letter to the German Bishops, excerpts from which have been published by the German Catholic News Agency (KNA). The letter was in reply to New Year's greetings the German hierarchy had sent to the Pontiff.

"Within the Bolshevik-Communist sphere of power," the Pope's letter said, "the almost super-human and cunning exploitation of technical and legal means at the disposal of state despotism if it wants to destroy the Church, makes her persecution, in all probability, the most dangerous she ever had to undergo."

The Holy Father praised Catholics in western Germany for the aid they have rendered, and will continue to render, to Catholics in Red-ruled eastern Germany. He added that Catholics under Red domination place their greatest hope in the help they expect in this Marian Year from their fellow-Catholics in the free world.

## Catholic-To-Protestant Conversion Study 'Naive', Minister Says

Boston — (NC) — A Protestant minister has labeled a recent Catholic-to-Protestant conversion survey as "naive" and a "little short of fantastic."

The survey, printed in the Christian Herald, an interdenominational magazine, claimed 4,144,366 Catholics were converted to Protestantism in the last 10 years. It also alleged that, even allowing for error, the figure on the Catholic-to-Protestant change "could hardly be less than two to three millions and in all probability runs closer to five millions."

IN A SPECIAL article prepared for concurrent release in The Pilot, Boston archdiocesan newspaper and The Christian Science Monitor, here, Dr. Glen W. Trimble cites 10 reasons why the "central finding" of the Christian Herald project is not a finding at all in any scientific sense.

The writer says there are present certain temptations to give "vocal or silent consent to a

1) Comparing incomparables—the extreme difference of definition of two cases and of the method of counting (and in one case, projecting), amounts to comparing colors with color-turas."

2) "Presumably Protestant"—The survey letter's statement that the Catholic Church has reported 1,071,837 converts "presumably from Protestantism" in the last ten years was questioned by Dr. Trimble. He said the Official Catholic Directory makes no such claim on the prior faith of converts. "Converts may well have come from Orthodoxy, Judaism, Mohammedanism and above all, from the very large numbers of American who have no church connection and are our common evangelistic field," Dr. Trimble commented.

3) Reliance on Estimates—"Most of the Protestant denominations make no systematic provision for recording the prior affiliation of members admitted on confession of faith."

4) A LOADED SURVEY—"In any scientific poll a word or phrase that gives a clue to the answer 'teacher wants' destroys the usefulness of the question."

5) Insufficient Evidence—"A large part of the Christian Herald article is devoted to colorful illustration and statements on relation of gains from Catholicism contrasted to small losses the other way. These are supplied by individual pastors so that the 'typical' label frequently applied has no real justification."

6) Cross Section—"Only city pastors were polled, Dr. Trimble said, and every survey technician and social scientist knows that the selection of a genuine cross-section sample of any group is a delicate complex task. The total national figure of Cath-

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## Survey On Mass Attendance

## Ireland First, U. S. Second

Manchester, England — (NC) — The Catholics of Ireland lead the world in Sunday Mass attendance with those of the United States in second place. In Great Britain the average is only 30 to 40 per cent and seldom reaches 50 per cent.

These facts, gleaned from a recent world survey of Mass attendance, were cited by Father Agnellus Andrew, O.F.M., leading British preacher, in a sermon at St. Mary's Church here in which he stressed that every Sunday in Britain 2,000,000 Catholics miss Mass.

"Only a minority are sick, aged, infants or working," he said. "The vast majority of the 2,000,000 just don't go. This appalling number of Mass-missing Catholics in England today constitutes a frightening state of affairs. I could take you to an old, compact, central Manchester parish with more than 5,000 Catholics, under 2,000 go to Mass."

FATHER AGNELLUS said that Britain's best parish is Great Crosby, just outside Liverpool, where the Mass attendance was over 90 per cent. But in the

near by of the Liverpool slums, he stated, it drops to 25 per cent. "Of course, we are miles better off than other religious bodies, and 75 per cent of the people on the streets on Sunday mornings are Catholics," he added. "But we have declined and are still declining. The persecuted Christians in Europe are fervent—is it too easy in Britain?"

CITING MASS attendance figures in other countries, Father Agnellus said: "Top place goes easily to Ireland. Second place, it may surprise you—goes to the U.S.A. In France the average is only 25 per cent, though some parishes are 60 per cent, some only

nine per cent, with only two per cent of men. Brazil's average is only five per cent. In Spain the women are much better than the men, but the average is not good. In Chile, they hardly ever see a man at Mass."

Father Agnellus stated that too many take no real part in the Mass. He said he shames large churches which keep people too far from the altar. "In the United States last year," the Franciscan preacher recalled, "I saw many new circular churches with a low central altar. There they give you little books with just the Mass for that day. They and these things help the laity to take a real part in the Mass."

## THE LIFE OF CHRIST

By BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

### THE BEATITUDES

### Christ's First 'Mistake' Was Preaching the Beatitudes

CHAPTER XIII

[More instances pointed to the fact that Christ was proving Himself as the only man who came into this world to die, in last week's installment of Bishop Sheen's "Life of Christ." Jesus was always stressing the point that His Cross was something that was sealed upon Him from the very beginning. And when Satan tempts Him to be a wonder worker in the Temple Christ answers that He is a Redeemer.]

ONE WAY TO MAKE enemies and antagonize people is to challenge the spirit of the world. The world has a spirit, and each age has its peculiar outlook and set of values. One

age may be described as "revolutionary," another as "capitalistic," and perhaps another as "critical." But underlying all of these, the world has certain unanalyzed assumptions which govern conduct. Anyone who challenges such worldly maxims as, "you live only once," or "get as much out of life as you can," is bound to make himself unpopular.

This was the first "mistake" of Our Lord, from a worldly point of view. After choosing His twelve Apostles, He delivered what is popularly called: "The Sermon on the Mount" or "The Beatitudes." So often the unthinking say: "The essence of Christianity" is the "Sermon on the Mount." The truth is that the Sermon on the Mount is inseparable from the Mount of Calvary. The day Our Lord preached His Beatitudes, He signed His death warrant. The Sermon on the Mount cannot be separated from the Crucifixion, as day can

## PONTIFF WALKS IN GARDEN



Vatican City — Pope Pius XII pauses during a stroll in the Vatican gardens for his first official close-up photo since his recent illness. The 73-year-old Pontiff, who became ill on January 25, has been regaining his strength slowly. (RNS Photo.)

## Canadian Indians Plan Pilgrimage

Ottawa, Ont. — (NC) — Thirty different Indian tribes will be represented in a special pilgrimage of several hundred Indians being held in Canada to mark the Marian Year.

The pilgrimage will begin at the shrine of the Canadian Martyrs at Midland, Ont., on June 23. The following day it will visit Ottawa the Canadian capital. On June 25 the pilgrims will visit the shrine of Our Lady of

the Holy Rosary at Cap de la Madeleine, Que., where the great Marian Congress is being held this year.

On June 28 they will go to his historic shrine of Ste. Anne de Beauport near Quebec city, and on June 29 they will visit St. Joseph's Oratory at Montreal, and the tomb of the Indian maiden Kateri Tekakwytha at Caughnawaga, Que., near Montreal.

## Red Plans For Geneva Forecast As Repeat Of Panmunjom Truce Parley

By REV. PATRICK O'CONNOR Seoul, Korea — (NC) — Geneva, no matter how thin they slice it, will still be Panmunjom. The Communists will use the same delaying tactics that kept the delegates of the United Nations Command coming hundreds of times to desolate Panmunjom for negotiations that could have been completed in ten days. The Communist objectives in Geneva, Switzerland, will be same as in Panmunjom: Korea.

THEY'LL NEVER agree to loosen their hold on North Korea. They'll try to maneuver themselves into a position from which they can seize control of all Korea later on. They'll make supreme efforts to get the Chinese Communist government into the United Nations.

"We shall have two Communist powers in the UN Security Council, Soviet Russia and China," Communists in North Korea told foreign civilian prisoners whom they recently released. THE GENEVA conference will

## Daylight Time Begins Sunday

Daylight Saving Time in areas of the Diocese of Rochester, where voted, will begin Sunday morning, Apr. 25 at 2 a.m. Clocks should be set ahead an hour the night before. Church services will be scheduled on Daylight Saving Time, Sunday, Apr. 25.