

FATHER SHEERIN

Middle East
'Protection'

President Eisenhower asked for extraordinary powers to protect the Middle East because he felt that Russian domination of that area is now a real threat. His purpose was to avert global war. It the Kaiser in 1914, Hitler in 1939, and Stalin in 1945, and Korea had anticipated strong opposition, they would probably have desisted from their escapades.



Father Sheerin

IT IS DOUBTFUL that Pope Pius will make any statement about the plan. It is too enmeshed in American politics and party conflict. The Pope is however deeply concerned about Soviet aggression. Part Three of his Christmas Address dealt almost exclusively with the problem. Judging from the Christmas Address, I would take it that the Holy Father would prefer that a strong U.S. take charge of the whole Middle East affair. That would be the ideal solution but Pope Pius is too much of a realist to imagine that the U.S. army could cope with the seething fires of the Middle East volcano. At present the U.S. army is only a small band with more moral power than fire power and Russia is only impressed by fire power.

THE TROUBLE is that this principle is subject to abuse. Time after time in history a nation has invaded foreign territory on the pretext that it was aiding the other nation. This was the principle that Russia invoked when it sent Red troops into Hungary to quell the recent revolution. The men in the Kremlin said the Kadar regime was the true government of Hungary and that it had asked for help to crush the rebellion instigated by its enemies, capitalistic Americans. The principle underlying the

Eisenhower plan is therefore a dangerous principle and it is no wonder that the Holy Father would like to see a strong U.S. that could take care of all military intervention of any country in another. America can be trusted not to abuse this principle but you can be sure Russia will twist it to her purposes in the Middle East if she can get a way with it.

EISENHOWER wants to threaten Russia so that she won't even try to get away with aggression under a pretext of helping a Middle East country. Under the President's plan, he will not send troops to the Middle East unless one of these nations requests military help. An interesting point for discussion is what will happen if a Middle East nation asks Russia for help.

SUCH AN INVITATION is not at all incredible and shows the weakness and danger of the principle that one nation should be allowed to take justice in its own hands and her nation. This very morning Russian aircrafts are flying over the Arab lands, telling them the Arab monarchs are bleeding them white and keeping them poor, reminding them that the Israel they hate was largely created by American support in the U.S. and is now kept alive by Zionist in America. By constant Marxist propaganda by intrigue by economic means the Reds may soon install in power a puppet or puppet regime in some of these Arab countries. The next move would be for the regime to ask Russia for military help.

Local Nuns Case Told In Congress

U. S. Congressman Kenneth B. Keating of Rochester has introduced a bill to permit religious exhibits to be brought into the country duty free for showing by churches, and schools, according to Religious News Service. Explaining his bill, the New York Congressman said he considered "inequitable" the import duty charged Rochester Sisters of Notre Dame. The local nuns borrowed a vocational exhibit from the Canadian motherhouse of their order in Hamilton, Ontario, for display at the Mission Seerama held in October, 1955 at the Rochester War Memorial.

According to Sister M. Beatrice, school supervisor of the Rochester Notre Dame Sisters, the American custom officials refused to grant the vocational exhibit an educational or ecclesiastical status and classed it as an "import manufactured of wood." In keeping with this status, sixteen dollars duty was charged on the exhibit by the American customs officials and paid by the Sisters who transported it to Rochester. The Notre Dame Sisters recently appealed to Representative Keating to introduce a bill permitting religious and educational exhibits to be brought in to the United States duty free.



Polish Primate Presides

Warsaw (NC)—For the first time since 1952 His Eminence Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński, Primate of Poland, presided at Christmas Midnight Mass at St. Alexander's Church in Warsaw. Despite bitter cold, the Church was filled.

BOOK SHELF

A RIGHT TO BE MERRY, by Sr. Margaret Teres, Nazareth College. 212 pp. \$3.00 Available at all Catholic bookstores. THE TREE OF DREAMS, by Marius Barbeau, Oxford, Toronto. \$3.00. Illustrated by A. Price. Available at the Bundel. A SINGLE PEBBLE, by John Hershey, Knopf. \$6.18 pp. \$3.00.

Christmas time sent a flurry of fine books this way, of which the one that matters most is surely A RIGHT TO BE MERRY. — if only because it shows the way to be. One can draw valuable hints from the Poor Clares on the art of living. Besides, this is THE NUNS STORY, plural, real, and pertinent. And besides that, this one has some good laughs, many a chuckle, and at least two fits of the giggles. The quotes below are serious—that's only fair. "What we love, we always desire others to admire. . . If poverty were thrust upon us, anything would perhaps be good enough. But we chose it, we passed it. And we mean to clothe it in beauty. . . We do not paint things black where we could paint them white. We plant flowers in tamarisk around our home incinerator. . . THE CIRCLING feasts trace the same orbit each year, but they are always new. . . Our souls are climbing up the mountain of God, and each year we have additional perspective from a new height, on the mysteries. . . Mattins — "Blackness clings to the great tall windows of the choir, and the huge grill over the altar reaches long fingers of shadow down toward the chanting nuns. . . It is at once the most magnificent and the most intimate of the canonical hours. Magnificent because the surging waves of light on the dark shores of the world lone before little Brother Sun has lifted his torch in the sleeping skies. Intimate because the secrecy and mystery of night holds the Sacramental Christ and the chanting nuns in a close embrace. . . "Monsignor Guardini has masterfully depicted the interdependence of the married state and the state of consecrated virginity. He would approve the Poor Clares' weekly prayers at Chapter for 'all mothers in the blessed state of expectancy.' . . THE PARTICULAR foreign devil is a twenty-four-year-old hydraulic engineer with a vestigial Christianity, a kind of wish-fulfilling that things could be better; that the world could be a better place; and with the wishing, a feeling of sadness, regret, and even, it may be of hopelessness. . . The Chinese characters have a memorable truth, charm, and strength. The story deserves a livelier title.

A Right To Be Merry

Sr. Margaret Teres, Nazareth College

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Lurid Book Cases Before Supreme Court

Washington (NC)—The Supreme Court has agreed to study the constitutionality of Federal, California and New York State laws aimed at preventing the sale of obscene reading material.

The three challenges to the laws will be argued at one time at a later, unspecified date. The court will then hand down a written opinion.

THE MOVE to examine all the cases at once indicates that the nation's highest court is thinking in terms of one broad decision on statutes on obscene literature. A New York City bookseller, Samuel Roth, challenged the Federal obscenity law. Roth was convicted by Federal courts of sending indecent literature through the mails in violation of postal regulations. Roth argued that the law "impairs free speech" and "freedom of the press" as guaranteed by the First Amendment.

THREE BOOKSELLERS, also from New York City, have challenged the New York State law. They were convicted of selling books and pictures found after trial to be obscene. The dealers are Kingsley Books, Inc., Louis Finkelstein, and Martin Kleinberg. The case against the three was begun when New York City police purchased at several Times Square bookstores, operated by the defendants, copies of a paper-bound series dealing with sadism.

The California case was brought to the high court by David S. Alberts, convicted of advertising and keeping for sale obscene books. His operation was carried out by mail order.

THE COURT ALREADY has heard arguments this session on the constitutionality of Michigan's obscene book law, but has not handed down a decision. It is believed that the Michigan ruling may be included in the decision after the hearing on these three cases.

Defense of the parties, appealing to the court centers around arguments that the laws are unconstitutionally vague, violate "freedom of speech" and that evidence presented against them failed to prove "actual injury" from the reading material.

Protesters Plan Attack On School Nurse Care

Pequanook, N.J.—(NC)—Remember the case of the Catholic school which gave free classrooms for use by public school students, and then found some indignant citizens protesting the Catholic statutes in the classrooms?

Well they're protesting again. . . at least some of them are. THEY WERE turned down on their previous complaints. Most citizens of Pequanook were completely out of sympathy, but that did not deter the protesters.

This time they're protesting the service of a nurse for Holy Spirit School here. They charge that the constitutions of the United States and New Jersey have been violated because, they contend, public funds were being spent for a private school. One of the men making the protest pointed out that this service cost about 10 cents a week per child — and asked what guarantee taxpayers have that they won't be asked in the future to provide dental care, lunches, gymnasiums, and eventually the cost of building. THE TOWNSHIP attorney

denied that the nurse's service was illegal and declared: "This service is offered in the interest of public health and does not tend to promote any particular religion. Therefore I cannot see how it is a violation of constitutional principles. . . But the protesting minority of Pequanookers weren't satisfied. They said they plan to come to the board of health meetings to protest.

Irish Nuns Plan First U. S. House

Dublin (RNS) — Two members of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of the Apostles left their convent at Ardoyle, County Cork, to open the first house of their order in the United States. The American establishment will be at LaCrosse, Wis. The nuns named to set it up are Sisters Finbarr O'Neill and Fidelius O'Shea. The motherhouse of their order is at Venissieux, near Lyons, France.

'Avoid Hurting Children's Souls,' Says Pope Pius

Vatican City (RNS) — Children were called "the most precious treasure of a nation" by Pope Pius XII in an Epiphany message to the Italian Association for the Protection of Maternity and Infancy.

The world would be a better place to live in the Pontiff said, "if people took greater care to avoid hurting children's souls." Exhorting adults to give youngsters the utmost care and love, the Pope termed the first few years in a child's life "all important."

However, he added, many new-lives "have only a vague idea of the duties they will face later as educators." Pope Pius expressed concern for the "great number of children" who would be deprived of their normal means of education because of "poverty, illness, war or other events."

He described these youngsters as "orphans, abandoned morally or materially, whom life has swept early into its violent whirlpools and dire suffering."

A small child, the Pope said, "must have a family that renews him, capable of keeping him healthy wherein he can develop his spirit and heart so that he will be able to take his proper place in society later on."

Notre Dame Head's Sister Dies

Oneida, N. Y. (NC) — Solemn Requiem Mass for Mrs. Mary Hesburgh Lyons, 41 sister of Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., president of the University of Notre Dame, was offered in St. Patrick's church here. Burial was in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Mrs. Lyons, the wife of Dr. Alton E. Lyons, died January 10 in Syracuse Memorial Hospital after a brief illness. She was graduated from Syracuse University and before her marriage taught art in Syracuse public schools. Survivors include four children.

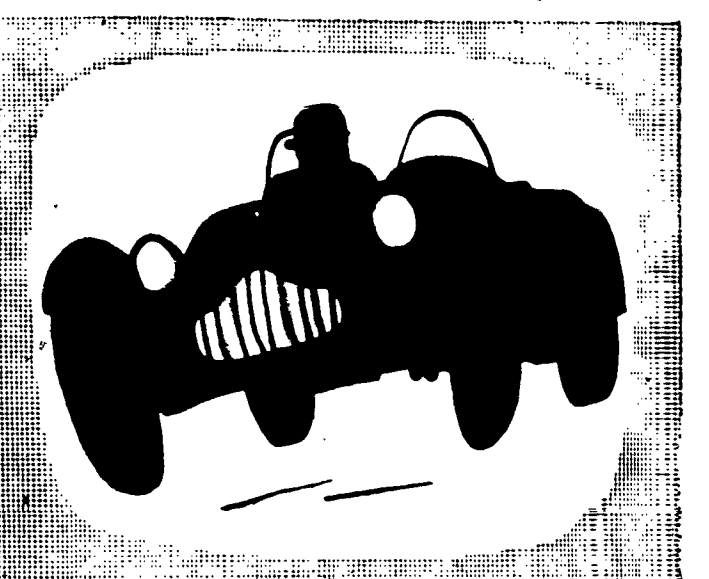
MARIUS BARBEAU of THE TREE OF DREAMS is Catholic Canada's chief discoverer and preserver of Indian and mission.

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Irish Gypsies Join Legion Of Mary

Dublin (RNS) — The Legion of Mary, International Roman Catholic lay organization, has founded a new branch for two groups of gypsies who travel throughout Ireland in horse-drawn caravans. The gypsies mostly buy and sell horses or donkeys. The branch was formed by Legion officers in County Meath. An impressive first meeting was held beside a caravan on the roadside. During the meeting the gypsies knelt around a statue of the Blessed Virgin and recited the Legion prayers. The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin 25 years ago as an "apostolate of the laity." It now has branches throughout the world.

Daily Mass Calendar

Sunday, January 20 — Second Sunday after Epiphany (green). Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Fabian and Sebastian, Creed, Trinity Preface, 3rd day of Chair of Unity Octave.
Monday, January 21 — St. Agnes, virgin, martyr (red), Gloria.
Tuesday, January 22 — Sts. Vincent and Anastasius, martyrs (red), Gloria; VR.
Wednesday, January 23 — St. Raymond, confessor (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Emerentiana; VR.
Thursday, January 24 — St. Timothy, bishop, martyr (red), Gloria.
Friday, January 25 — Conversion of St. Paul, (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Peter, no Creed, Preface of Apostles. Last day of Chair of Unity Octave.
Saturday, January 26 — St. Polycarp, bishop, martyr (red), Gloria.
VR — Votive or Requiem permitted.

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