The Holy Father And Sports

YOUNG AMERICANS WILL CHEER

HIS WORDS ON ATHLETICS

(Radio, N. C. W. C.)

Former football, baseball, track, boxing and tennis
stars from Princeton, Michigan State, Columbia, Pitts-
burgh, Leland Stanford and other American universities
(many of the men non. Catholics) went away from the
Vatican recently commenting on what a ”regular fellow"
was.

A special audience with
the Pope had been arranged
for the directors and instruc-
tors of the United States
Army Central Sports school.

They had come to arrange
for something to boast about
for the Central 

Sports School in

The noted Lithuanian singer

Star in Musical Hit

Lithuanian Singer

CHICAGO — From all in-
dications, the musical "Bloom-
er Girl" now at the Schu-
bert Theatre is making a hit
with Chicagoans, and Vic-
tor Bendor can claim a big
share for its success. The
noted Lithuanian singer is
playing the role of Herb-
ness Brescher.

Victor, originally from
Pennsylvania, began his
career here, singing on va-
rious radio stations while
studying voice and giving
concerts in the States and
Canada. He was later of-
fered a scholarship by the
Lithuanian government and
was studying for an opera-
tie career when the war in-
rupted his plans.

Bendor was a member of
the original cast of "Bloom-
er Girl", leaving it to tour
the southwest Pacific in
"Oklahoma". He returned to
New York for "Showboat"
and later rejoined "Bloomer
Girl".

Dancing in the Grand Ball
room, cards and bunco in the
Red Lacquer Room, en-
tertainment, everything for
everyone's enjoyment. Get a
party together and make
this a date. Tickets $1.50
incl. tax. Entree 8:30 P. M.

K of C NEWS

K of C CHARITY BALL SET FOR OCTOBER 5

The Knights of Columbus of Chicago and Charity
Ball will be held at the Palmer House, Saturday, October
5th, 1946.

Informal. Make your reser-
vations with James R. Cher-
ry, Virginia 1790, or any
Knights of Columbus mem-
ber in your locality.

QUIGLEY PLANS SMOKER

The Archdiocese Quigley
Knights of Columbus whose
club-house is located at
1035 W. 31st St. are plan-
ning a smoker and boxing
show soon. Some of the best
C. Y. 0. amateur boxing ta-
ent will exhibit their skill.
If you are interested and
desire to receive an invita-
tion to attend, submit yours
and your Catholic friends,
non-members of the organi-
zation, names and addresses
to Recorder James R. Cher-
ry, 4534 S. California Ave.,
Chicago 32, Ill.

COLUMBIAN SQUIRES

Archbishop Quigley Co-
lumbian Squires Circle 478
Charter Class will be initia-
ted Sunday, September 15th
at their Club-house 1035 W.
31st St. at 2 P. M. This or-
ganization is for young Cat-
holic men 14 to 18 years of
age. Club-house facilities,
various sports, teams, so-
cials, etc. Initiation fee $2.00
Dues 25c monthly. For ap-
lications or information
write James R. Cherry, 4534
S. California Ave., Chicago
32, Ill. James R. Cherry

Got Your New One?

More than 8,000,000 radio
sets were produced, despite
strikes, government restric-
tions and shortages, in the
first year of reconversion,
the manufacturers report.

The figure is 60 per cent
of the 1941 production of 14,
000,000 sets.

HELP! HELP! HELP!
MAKE THIS PAGE
YOUR PAGE!

ENGLISH SECTION

FRIDAY, SEPT. 13 1946
Catholics in the Middle East

BY: The Observer

While the Middle East is steadily seething with unrest, it may perhaps be interesting for the American Catholics to know, that in the midst of this predominantly Moslem powder box, there are small but tenacious centers of Catholicism. This is of course outside of Jerusalem and the Catholic establishments around the Holy Sepulchre. Some of these centers are very old and have survived many a turbulent period of history, remaining unaffected and faithful to the Church. To-day, they may again be called upon to play their part as a spiritual force against the destructive penetration of Communist Russia is trying through her agents to bring into the Middle East.

Quite recently a vast Communist conspiracy was uncovered in Egypt and arrests that followed led to far more serious discoveries than one could conclude from reports in the press. These discoveries are said to have shown that the Communist riots in Egypt were by no means a local affair, but part of a large network covering also Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Iraq. Headquarters of this network were found in Beirut, Lebanon, where the editors of the daily “Sot El Chaaad” (familiar Communist name: “Voice of the People”) proved to be the general staff of the Soviet secret army of agents throughout the Middle East.

The very same Lebanon, where Russia chose to place her Communist headquarters, is also the chief and one of the oldest centers of Catholicism in the Middle East. There lies the purest stock of Catholics of that area, the Maronites, who trace their existence to the 6th century, when they were founded by St. John Maron. They survived the Arab conquests in the middle ages, the Great Schism and succeeded in preserving their integrity. Among a population of one million, Lebanon has 400,000 Catholic Maronites, an equal number of Moslems, an odd 200,000 mainly Orthodox Armenians. There are also 30,000 Maronites in Egypt, where they form the Catholic intellectual elite. At the head of the Maronites is Patriarch Arida with residence in Diman, Lebanon. Their ritual is very complex, as it is a combination of O.D. Syrian and Latin rites, the old Syrian language used for the Mass and Arab or French for ordinary prayers. The Vatican has recently established diplomatic relations with Lebanon, recognizing it as an independent state.

The next largest homogeneous Catholic group in the Middle East are Catholic Coptes in Egypt. The Coptes are the oldest Egyptian stock, boasting of a historic race since the times of the Pharaohs. They are predominantly Orthodox and some time ago their Patriarch declared his submission to the Moscow Patriarch, thus making the Coptes potential tools of Russia. They number about 150,000, among them approximately 200,000 converts of relatively recent time. Catholic Coptes form vital centers of the Apostolate, carried chiefly by Jesuit Fathers and called “Apostolate of Said”. Cairo and Miini, near Cairo, where a Jesuit College and Diocesanate are located, are the main centers. The seat of the Hierarchy is Cairo and the head of the Church is Archbishop Khozam. The ritual is oriental.

Among Greeks who emigrated to Egypt and other countries in the Middle East fleeing Turkish persecutions in the past, there are about 40,000 Greek Catholics. Their center is Antioc in Syria, Cairo in Egypt. In Palestine there are about 100,000 Catholics, 150,000 among Arme-

nians, Assyrians and Chaldeans in Lebanon and Mesopotamia. Catholic foreigners living in Egypt and other parts of the Middle East are of course not counted.

When Pope Pius XI introduced a decree forbidding the Latin rite to all Catholics in the Middle East without Episcopal permission, for the first time a certain degree of order was introduced for them, living as they do in the midst of a maze of numerous sects and rituals. At present, even Jesuit Fathers of Maronite, Copte or Greek origin, must perform their ecclesiastical duties in the respective rite, unless granted special dispensation.

Catholics of the Middle East suffer no religious persecution from their Moslem authorities, on the contrary there is common cause in the field of defense against outside interference and foreign penetration. They enjoy religious equality and all legal acts performed in Egypt by the Church are recognized by the state as fully binding.

The Paris Peace Conference

We're the little guys, you and I. We don't start wars; we cannot make the peace. We're interested in that peace, though. You bet we are. We're the G. I.'s of World War III. We're the guys who have to stumble through the bloody surf of tomorrow's Tarawas and die before the guns of another Salerno, if the peacemakers fall. Yes, we are interested.

What are we going to do about it? Write our Congressmen? Certainly, it would help if we knew the answers to the tangled problems confronting the world. Chances are we do not know enough about world affairs to be really helpful. What then?

Reporters and cameramen gathered on the White House lawn for a last minute interview with Secretary of State Byrnes, who was leaving for the Paris Peace Conference of Foreign Ministers. These reporters were interested in one thing: What can the little guy, you and I, do to make the meeting a success.

Mr. Byrnes, when asked what he thought we stood in need of, said, "I would say more prayers".

Let's Be Watchful!

MOST OF US can recall when Communists and Reds were caricatured as fiercely bearded foreigners with bombs. Would that they were so easily recognizable today.

Now, under the camouflage of harmlessness, they are careful to attract no attention while they covertly operate in our schools, in Hollywood, in our literature, in our unions — even in our government.

THEIR WEAPON is an insidious, slow poison injected into our body politic and economic, to weaken and finally to destroy us. The first symptoms of the lethal dose is an unawareness of danger, a dizziness to do anything about it.

THESE DESTROYERS OF DEMOCRACY know us, inside out. Let us know and recognize them, and what they are doing!

In the face of Communist conspiracy however, the time may sooner or later come for the Catholics of that area to prove again their spiritual strength and capacity for survival. Now they are preparing for this emergency and intensifying religious education and knowledge of Catholic life elsewhere. They are reported to be eager to establish contact with Catholics of other countries, especially with the Catholics of America.
The deported Lithuanians and expatriated Poles from the Vilnius region are partly replaced by imported Russians. There are about 40,000 such colonists in Vilnius and half as many in Kaunas. Some colonists appear even in Siauliai, Panevėžys and other cities. It is more difficult to obtain them in the smaller towns because of the underground activity. The settlers are mostly disaffected soldiers. They receive all sorts of privileges. Their names are Lithuanianized and on their identification cards they are listed as Lithuanians. In this manner, the number of "Lithuanianized" Russians has increased. All commissars of Lithuanian origin are said to be Russian deputies who are actual chiefs. Commissars Vailnoras has been forced out and arrested. His colleague, Girdžiaukas, has also been removed and a similar fate seemingly awaits the Commissar of Education Zugas who is trying to win Moscow's favor.

**Living Conditions — Country and Town**

Farming is vegetating. One third of the tillable land is under cultivation. The farms are forced to give the same quota leavings as they had given earlier to the Germans.

A land "reform" similar to the one in 1940 has already taken place. However, few people are willing to accept the land. Little mention is made of the kolhозes, but within a few years the farmers will be compelled to join the kolhозes, because private farming is subject to unhealthy heavy duties and levies.

The Vilnius radio substantiates the fact that the farms are using home-made torches for lighting purposes. There is no electrity even in cities. In Kaunas, for example, only the party headquarters and homes of high officials have electricity. No wonder that opportunities for kolhозes are excellent everywhere. It is dangerous to walk on the streets. Many homes are also broken into quite often.

So far there is no starvation but it is extremely difficult to subsist on ration cards, especially for workers working ration cards are the lowest. Black markets flourish. No one prosecutes them. Unfortunately, people have no money with which to buy. Whatever they can, they exchange (barter).

**Underground Resistance**

Although several Russian divisions searched forests in their hunt for underground fighters, very few were caught. According to Soviet estimates there are about 55,000 partisans in Lithuania. Their main foes are the NKVD — NKGB detachments and the "exterminators." The latter are special formations composed mostly of diehard communists whose task is to combat the partisans. They have become a plague to the farmers. They often break into the farms searching for partisans... in the ward-robes and pocket-books. Upon their departure the homes are left bare.

The government proclaimed an amnesty to those who would return to their homes. They e.-i. demanded that the bishop issue a letter to their flock encouraging their return. But the bishops did not agree.

**Soviet Elections**

The S.VE. calls a single ticket manifestation by which Communist party designated delegates are publicly confirmed for some representative face an "election". On last Feb-ruary 10th such a campaign recruited delegates to the Supreme Soviet.

The Soviets usually attach great importance to these "manifestations" as they mark the Soviet achievements and the leading men of the Soviet apparatchik. The pre-election campaign in Lithuania was very intensive. Much attention was focused on the Klaipėda district, because it was participating in this kind of Soviet manifestation for the first time. Small teams of campaigners consisting of 553 persons each were dispatched there. Even artists, actors and singers were forced to join the "elections".

*Smile Of Success* (Lithuanian B.Iletin)

Billy Conn Gives $5,000 To New Convent School

PITTSBURGH. — Billy Conn, one of the toughest fighters ever to step into the squared circle, and Pittsburg's Billy Conn, the fight men say, is the one fellow-pawnsees in voxel and half as many in Kaunas. Some colonists appeared even in Siauliai, Panevėžys and other cities. It is more difficult to obtain them in the smaller towns because of the underground activity. The settlers are mostly disaffected soldiers. They receive all sorts of privileges. Their names are Lithuanianized and on their identification cards they are listed as Lithuanians. In this manner, the number of "Lithuanianized" Russians has increased. All commissars of Lithuanian origin are said to be Russian deputies who are actual chiefs. Commissars Vailnoras has been forced out and arrested. His colleague, Girdžiaukas, has also been removed and a similar fate seemingly awaitesthe Commissar of Education Zugas who is trying to win Moscow's favor.

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A MIRACLE IN LITHUANIA

A few years ago it was reported that the Blessed Virgin appeared to the people of Girkalnis. Very many of us were interested in this incident, but because of the great chaos then in the world our attentions were drawn away, so we never found out more details of the MIRACLE.

The other day while reading the July-August issue of the LEAVES, a magazine published by the Maranhill Fathers, I found an interesting note concerning the "MIRACLE OF GIRKALNIS". This note read as follows:

"You will remember that we promised to give you more information on the "Miracle at Girkalnis" (November-December, 1944 issue of LEAVES) as soon as we received it.

"Today, we have more information — but the news is sad and tragic. The little village in Lithuania, where the Mother of God was reported to have miraculously appeared several years ago, has ceased to exist. In the last Russian drive against the Nazis before V-E Day, Girkalnis was totally destroyed. The quiet little village, situated in a peaceful green valley with the steeple of its parish church over looking it, has been wiped off the face of the earth!"

"If it were truly the Mother of God who appeared to the people of Girkalnis several years ago, this will not silence her. If God so wills, and in His Own time and way the message of Girkalnis will be made known to the world. The din of guns and bursting bombs cannot silence the voice of Heaven!"

This news is shocking and not what we wished for, but time and prayers will soon reveal the truth and justice the world so eagerly waits for. Therefore, let us not be disappointed in this sad news, but go on hoping and praying for that which is GOD'S WILL."

Frances Mary Siedlik


definitional note

Artificial Insemination Is Essentially Immoral

HUNTINGDON, Ind. — (NC) — Artificial insemination is a sin of the same order as vulgarity and immorality. Scandalous service abuses like the repeated violations of the Second Commandment, the filthy and flagrant attack on modesty, the degrading and shameless defama tion of the body of Christ, the house of God — are discussed with amazing candor and insight.

"Neither does the fact that the woman's husband consents to the deed change the moral aspect of the situation", he adds. "For a husband's exclusive right to marital association with his wife cannot be revoked, even if both he and his wife are willing, any more than the earth's rotation or the sun's path which unites them can be severed by their mutual consent".

If a single woman becomes pregnant by artificial insemination and if the male donor is unmarried, their sin is one of fornication, Father Connell states.

Good Pamphlet Reading

"The Fight's Not Over"... By JOHN CROSS

A Serviceeman Wonders Whether We'll Find Enough Fighters For the Hardest of All Battles That Lies Ahead

John Cross — serviceeman — layman, candidly presents a layman's attempt to fashion tomorrow's world. Although this pamphlet was primarily intended for service enmen, its contents should be summarily engraved in every God-fearing heart.

Godliness or Godlessness. We must choose sides and join in the lay crusade to conquer evil. Catholic thought must prevail everywhere and Catholic principles permeate every social endeavor. We must live our faith daily, and contribute to a real Christian atmosphere. John Cross shows us how.

You'll like the "Fighting Not Over" — if you are a man of ideals, if you believe in placing first things first, if you see things straight.

This 30 page pamphlet is for men of action only. Price 35 cents. Order from Cross Publications, 1916 Forty Second Street, Kenosha, Wis.

Some people fall off the water-wagon so often — one would think there was a pin-cushion on the seat.

Veterans Honor Prominent Lithuanian

Don Varnas American Legion Post No. 986 has announced the award of another Certificate of Appreciation for special achievement. This time the recipient will be Stanley P. Mazeika.

Stanley P. Mazeika, prominent Lithuanian businessman, has long been an active member of the Lithuanian Daily Draugas. Bridgeport Lions Club, during the war he was chairman of the loan drive that sold over $1,000,000.00 worth of war bonds. He was a block captain, a zone captain and Community Lieutenant Commander in the O. C. D. He was chairman of the plaque dedication committee, a member of the ration board and active in the Red Cross, Community Fund, and Service men’s Fund activities.

The presentation will be made during a banquet at a Chicago loop hotel. Particulars will be announced later.

BOOKS ON LITHUANIA

IN ENGLISH

"The Story of Lithuania" by REV. THOMAS G. CHASE. With a foreword by Wm. Henry Chamberlin, published by Stratford House, N. Y., can be obtained at "DRAUGAS", $3.50 a copy.

This is a complete history of the Lithuanian nation graphically and accurately related in 26 chapters, 230 pages, including mapschrono logy and bibliography.

Also available at "DRAUGAS" is "Timeless Lithuania" by OWEN NOREM at $2.00 per copy.

There is only a limited number of copies on hand, so first come, first served.

LITHUANIAN DAILY DRAUGAS Friday, Sept. 13, 1946

Page Four