STILL TIME LET YOUR PRAYERS BE FOR PEACE!

At the very hour we go to press there is still doubt as to the outcome of the Wadsworth Conscription Bill before Congress.

Prophets have foretold immediate suppression, by pronunciatory delays, and are still predicting, what with the terrific pressure of adverse correspondents, that of the Republican presidential nominee. Yet there have been delays and still more delays. If the unorganized opposition can keep on protesting and deluge their Congressmen with letters of opposition, there is still a chance to defeat the Bill. It is not too late to make your protest.

The Fish amendment does nothing to one of the most vital issues in principle. It just allows the voters of the country to register themselves as supporters of Congressmen who support the bill. It will make peace-time conscription an issue for individual members of Congress up for re-election.

Any delays will make for more clear and calm reasoning on this major piece of legislation which has been railroaded through to this point. It also will give time to work for the defeat of the whole measure as a matter of principle. In this blitzen-ridden world, sixty days may change the whole scene. Protest now, today. It may be the last opportunity you have to speak your mind.

Needed: Good Will

"For the Holy See, the only system which is practical and which, further, could be applied easily to any country, is an agreement, among civilized nations, compulsory military service, the Catholic Worker Houses of Hospitality in all parts of the country, from all the crowded cities, had gathered together for a few days of meditation and prayer and conferences. There was one day of discussion afterward, and of course there was a great deal of talk a few days before. The Retreat itself was supposed to be in silence, but, although voices were hushed and the atmosphere quiet inside, people could not resist talking to each other. Mary had not seen one another since the year before.

125 Guests: Rain!

We had been preparing for the Retreat for weeks. From the way the groups had been writing in, we expected a hundred persons. One hundred and twenty-five finally came.

Down at the farm a great cleaning had been going on - floors scrubbed, beds washed, blankets and sheets and towels put in the tubs last minute. And then came the week of rain! The skies darkened, a gray mist began to fall, then a tumultuous downpour, and everything was soaked. It was soaked for a week straight, all through the Retreat.

All summer we had said: "What if it rains? It will be terrible if it rains! How will we do?"

They are fighting for freedom in England, they say, but men have already lost their freedom.

The leaders of thought have failed the people because they have lost touch with the common man. They have lived in ivory towers; they have made themselves gross and comfortable. They have sacrificed their integrity for a mess of pottage. They have trusted to mass movements and mass responses, and have not appealed to personalist response. They have trusted to words, ideas, -- they have not gone to the worker as Pope Pius XI appealed; they have not led by example. Or in those cases where they have gone to the workers they have been discouraged at finding the same vices and greed and dishonesty among the poor, and, looking for quick results, have become discouraged and aloof.

And war has come upon the world, and they have turned everywhere to the use of force, compulsion, denying freedom.

These Things We Are to Do

But all peoples are troubled times, as one Saint has said. So what is there we are to do in the midst of this disorder?

First to remember, the first duty of man, to know God, to love Him, to serve Him in our neighbor. To see all men as our friends and relatives and current correspondents.

Ben Joe Labray

In the last letter that I wrote to The Catholic Worker I said that I had come in from the House on Mott Street. But I haven't got there yet. It is an experience I am still looking forward to.

I ran into one of your gang, however, from the Staten Island farming commune, and he invited me down to work with them for a bit. I thought I'd like to write to you about my experience with the clam diggers. They haven't had a chance to write going into the clam-digging industry as a way of supporting themselves. I went there wood carving and making Christmas sets, but that is one of those winter industries and there is too much work to be done in the summer and fall to think of it. Besides, we got tired of peddling the stuff, and immediate cash is needed to bring in the staples; so they took to clamming. They started in the week I went down, and we were there at the strike. There were some pictures about the

WARS ARE CAUSED BY MAN'S LOSS OF HIS FAITH IN MAN

I. English Revolution
1. When Watt discovered the power of steam he brought into existence the factory system.
2. It is in England that the factory system had its beginning.
3. The factory system ran into competition with the crafts system.
4. The factory system brought about the system of stock ownership.
5. Stock ownership is absentee ownership.
6. Absentee ownership is property without responsibility.
7. Property without responsibility is now challenged by dictatorships.

II. French Revolution
1. French mobility had forgotten that "noblesse oblige."
2. French peasants were oppressed by French nobility which had ceased to be noble.
3. The French bourgeoisie sponsored the grievances of the peasants and made the Revolution not for the benefit of the peasants but for the benefit of the bourgeoisie.
4. Bourgeois revolutionaries sent an envoy to the guillotine while talking about Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.
5. Those who were not killed offered services to Napoleon Bonaparte.
6. Adolf Hitler is now keeping up with Napoleon Bonaparte.

III. Russian Revolution
1. Lenin said that the world cannot be half industrial and half agricultural.
WARS ARE CAUSED

On page 1
brothers, to see Christ in all men, in our enemy and in our friend. If we do not see them so, we can not love them. This is a very sure sense of futility or hopelessness, for that is in the beginning of despair. "Hope is the most sinned against of all virtues."

If we follow our faith, we have faith in them. But the loss of faith in men is epitomized now by the war spirit throughout the world. The powers that be are in a certain way pulling down the curtain, as it were, for that the only way they can retain freedom and escape from the slavery of the totalitarian States. That men are not strong enough spiritually to use good means, so they are compelled to use evil means.

"Blackfriars" in its leading editorial this month states: "We know that men are being told they can't be beaten, but possess freedom of will. Even the totalitarian powers cannot crush this. Even though they impose the strongest pressure to prevent such freedom in a certain area, the will will always refuse its assent to the Government's decree. If it is refused, of course the subject must be prepared to face the penalties that are inevitable. In the beginning, there are very few who are prepared to exercise their will in a manner contrary to the command of the State.

Life Can Flower Behind Bars

This seems to me to indicate plainly the loss of faith in man. Doestoevsky has said in several of his books (and Father Pierre Cha~les debased, who leads a life of high virtue, all during the war.

But we cannot lose hope, just as we cannot lose faith in the men within our households, as well as without, who heap scorn, waste or misuse the goods to which they feel themselves entitled; and who is not grateful to Father Furfey for and to took forward a folder of letters in the office. labor . . .

Courage Renewed

John Filliger and Hugh Doyle, and the whole of everybody helped serve and wash dishes. It was all tremendously grateful to Father Furfey for the three wonderful days he spent with us. The men were sewed courage and light for the coming year, a fresh impetus all around.

PRAYERS

From Page 1
we put people up? Last year they slept on the hillside. Last year we had tents."

It was as bad as it could be: but some how we managed; people were happy; it was a fine thing to do. This year we had the conferences, the discussions; everyone told us that we could not look at well Everybody agreed that it was going to be a failure. That we would never forget it. One of the representatives from St. Louis said that he had told his people not to come to Easton.

Abundant Manna

The way everyone contributed made us all happy. Friends sent flour for bread, towels and soap, sugar, coffee and meat. The Philadelphia group brought bread, beef hearts, and meat. The New York group brought ham; Buffalo, baked beans and frankfurters and such things. The Philadelphia group brought money; Chicago, goods. Individuals contributed for the most part in the form of cash. A priest from Baltimore showed up with seventy-five dollars. The Philadelphia group gave two priests from Texas tobacco, canned meats, flour, sugar, much coffee, and a lot, and we've probably not got of the clothes that are not in the box. We don't have a folder of letters in the office. (I did it, so I shouldn't say we didn't). I don't think the public apology for not answering some of the letters sent us. .

The Truce of God

This strikes me as a very fair way of saying that when one member suffers the other suffers. The non-union houses were entitled THE TRUCE OF GOD. The wholesalers started fighting between themselves and try to take the diggers away from one another so they could get enough clams to fill their orders. The non-union houses started offering the men 100 percent increase in price to get them clams. This was a very tempting offer and it began to look like the union houses would break away from the union houses entirely and go back to work. They were only offering the union houses a 25 percent increase, and here was 100 percent.

But our prayers were answered in the form of a week of calm and boycott. The men went all over the island, to talk to the diggers away from one another so they could get enough clams to fill their orders. The non-union houses started offering the men 100 percent increase in price to get them clams. This was a very tempting offer and it began to look like the union houses would break away from the union houses entirely and go back to work. They were only offering the union houses a 25 percent increase, and here was 100 percent.

We see the worst of the poor, the destitute. Every day, here, 1,200 men and women doors for food. In our House there are probably 15,000 coming to us daily. We bear all of us, the ugliness, the filth, the humiliations, of poverty. To leave out of account for a moment our good friends who give us too much credit, we wish to call attention only to our opponents, the who are against the idea. All right for them to go on strike, but I'm just as glad as I am that they are being told it was. Nobody talked, out on the boats, in the clam digging, we were too busy pulling their clams through the mud covered floor, cleaning it, and lifting it to the surface, unloading it, and throwing away unclean clams, so we can make enough to eat that day and save for the next. But the way we went to the office and got fat from the ic.
Catholic Heads Point Out Right Tragic Consequences of Militarizing a Nation

Six Effects Of Conscription
Rev. John K. Ryan of the Catholic University of America, writing on "Modern War and Basic Ethics," points out six effects which follow conscription:

1. It creates a crushing burden of taxation.
2. It does not leave a small share of material resources, that are the essential of modern society, from which the poor can benefit.
3. It brings about the perversion of inventive genius.
4. It is a danger and hindrance to the spiritual life.
5. It impedes and imperils economic recovery.
6. It lowers the standard of living.

War Psychology
Paralysis of Fear

"The organization of modern society on a permanent war basis results in a constant paralyzing fear that is productive of an inordinate lust for power. Like so many other things purely human, modern armaments are self-defeating. They give not the sense of reality of peace and security which they are designed to ensure, but rather the direct opposite. They are likened to the sword of Damocles that hangs over the whole community and prevents it from pursuing its occupations and influences in its daily life. They create a sense of insecurity which eventually becomes a passion of fear in the minds of the people.

2. Because England had built up an Empire by giving up its individualism and taking up nationalism, and taking up internationalism.

3. Lenin thought that he could save time by building up State Socialism without passing through Private Capitalism and State Capitalism.

4. Lenin hoped that some day the state would wither away, but Stalin sees to it that the state does not wither away.

American Revolution
1. The American Revolution stands for the right of the individual to be the master of his own destiny.
2. The American Revolution stands for personalism and not for Socialism.
Illinois Woman's Story of Farm

We have been interested in the farm discussion problem and while we have lived in both city (Chicago) and country, we firmly believe that any one, with or without a family, can make a living on no more than five acres of land, if they really want to. The man who has the land and woman from the city should have an idea of what country farm life is going to be like and to expect many disappointments at first. The usual pay check that you have been used to having every week or every two weeks won't be there. But perhaps you can figure out other means to make ends meet.

While we enjoy getting letters from other sections of our country, we are spending in the article of our own section. We are 284 miles from St. Louis and about 75 miles from Springfield, Ill., and 50 miles from our nearest railroad station. We have wells, a water tower in town and there is a little community church. We are in the middle of the Protestant church in our area and we are in the center of the school district too. We have two schools here and there. To the west of us is a prairie of good farming land, to the north hill and creek bottom land and on the East are cornfields. The Little store is two miles from us. Can get anything there but shoes and clothing mail comes every day, on the rural route and we have a store, who drives it, has a 31 mile route.

Trimming the Farm Wicks

The electric line is coming through here now but we use kerosene lights—that costs us two dollars per month and a gallon of kerosene will run one week. We have frame houses, since the farm changed hands but we have the place as long as we pay five dollars per month cash rent. Of course, there is electricity, and tools, always rent outside farm but houses here are scarce and they rent from three to five dollars per month.

The farm was friendly, poor and helpful and we do suppose that we had the best. If you are willing to work, but a city family would have to expect of about the same nature to be poked at them at first. If a city family plans on making a new start in the country and have a farm to go to, please remember that you think you won't need any more on the farm might be helpful. We mean you could exchange those things or sell them to others in town, where they do have electricity, and this extra money might help a lot. So, if we were moving from the city to the farm, we would be thinking of that.

One Incubator for One Cow

When we came out here, we thought we could have an incubator while we were waiting for the cow and pig. This was the idea, and we had the incubator and we exchanged. Betty had ten pigs, and we were getting along fine till the house we lived in changed hands and we had to go in a granary, kindly loaned to us by a farmer. We couldn't have the two cows and the farm there or Betty and her family. So we sold the cow, ate part of Betty's family, including herself, and sold the others. By the way, did you ever see any one drive pigs from their mother and feed them milk in a pan? They will do fine but feed them about every two hours. You can fix a bottle for them, with a nipple, but if you start them with a pan it is much better. We're raised our way and they did better than the ones we left with the farmer.

We find our baby chicks and turkeys and ducks do better if asked to bring your dinner. Hired program free for people who do. They did kill the ducks.

Here a man gets from seventy-five cents to one dollar and fifty cents per day now and you are asked to bring your dinner. Hired girls from one to two dollars per week and you are expected to do some extra work such as digging the rows to chow wood and sometimes in the morning, four, five, six meals a day, the laundry and caring for the children, too. We can't do all these things and we don't blame them. We were always criticized for paying a farmer who has no fences, you'll have to work your head off, keeping his cows, pigs and sheep away from your place.

A good rat dog and a family of cats will keep the rats but don't keep a cat that will kill your baby chicks as some will do.

A small pen will do for a pig, if you have one, and they eat most of the scraps and swill from the table. If you have several pieces of furniture you don't need (we wish we had right now) and place an advertisement in the local paper that you have such and will exchange it for calves, pigs, or chickens you'll be able to find some one who will gladly exchange with you (one of our radio stations here has a program free for people who do this service).

Before you make any exchanges, ask your nearest farmer or neighbor if he won't go with you and give you an idea as to the value of the stock you are going to get, for there are people who would cheat one and boast proudly of it afterward.

In planting corn (we use field or for you can't eat the melons. We've seen lettuce and green beans both planted between rows of melons, too. When the garden plot was small.

Illinois Woman's Story of Farm

Trenton Prison

Dear Editor:

Had quite a discussion with the county Jailor the other day about "Agitating the workers to sacrifice for peace." The idea was accepted by most of them as the only way to bring peace to all nations. All of us are well aware that it is the power of the moneyed class who are the, not the munitions and through them, drag us and if not us personally, our children. Another Hepled another Western Post of mud and blood, and what the hell we are fighting for. One chap remarked that he had never met a man that saw any real service in the last war that was not physically or mentally affected by it; that one method of propagandizing against another war would be to parade all the males of government hospitals, veterans through the whole land. If only a sufficient number of workers could become sufficiently enlightened; even the greedy would realize that the masses really are millionaire millionaires with their attendant high pensions, is armed with short sighted police. We were unanimous in our opinion that should this man become a priest we the Catholic Worker will be in a tough spot. More power to you all for trying to awaken them.

J. M.

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You're Wages Here Again

Here a man gets from seventy-five cents to one dollar and fifty cents per day now and you are asked to bring your dinner. Hired girls from one to two dollars per week and you are expected to do some extra work such as digging the rows to chow wood and sometimes in the morning, four, five, six meals a day, the laundry and caring for the children, too. We can't do all these things and we don't blame them. We were always criticized for paying a farmer who has no fences, you'll have to work your head off, keeping his cows, pigs and sheep away from your place.

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Illinois Woman's Story of Farm

Too Well Told

To Be Cut Down

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N. C. W. C. Issues Cent Pamphlets

Penny pamphlets for popular distribution, recently introduced by the National Catholic Welfare Conference, is an expression of the conference's counter-challenge to Communism's long-standing practice of issuing literature with its message at a low price.

The literature, available at 10 cents per hundred copies, is also available in Spanish text.

To be continued

INVITATION

We invite Jews, Protestants, Catholics to attend our informal conversations at the Discussion Center, on Catholic Doctrine

September 10—Christ, A Historical Figure

October 1—Christ and the Catholic Church

First two lectures—Father Thomas F. Reilly

Next two lectures—Father John A. Kimmn

Tuesday evenings, 8 o'clock

Near Avenue B

Under directorship of Rev. John Kimmn, C.S.S.R.

THE LAND

There Is No Unemployment on the Land

THE CATHOLIC WORKER

September, 1940

Aerial Roots Destroy Rats

Last year rats were so numerous we had to bring in our chick-

en to kill them. We put the chicks in the house every night or the rats would have killed them all. Then we took the floor out of the poultry house and with a shovel dug the ground up and killed forty rats. We made a swinging root, with wire and boards (Dorothy saw this when she was here) and we put the chicks to bed at night in those when they were large enough or we would have had to kill the ducks when they were half grown. We had to 'scrub the little room where the chicks were kept every morning till we could put them in their house. We didn't think that, if we could keep the chicks safely.

Chicken thieves are another nuisance, too. Betty had ten hens, would have killed them all. Then she begged to come back and in the same hill with the corn. We started a new flock and the ground does double work. We firmly believe that any one, Betty and her family. So—we sold chicken can usually find more but don't keep a cat that will kill your baby chicks as some will do.

A small pen will do for a pig, if you have one, and they eat most of the scraps and swill from the table. If you have several pieces of furniture you don't need (we wish we had right now) and place an advertisement in the local paper that you have such and will exchange it for calves, pigs, or chickens you'll be able to find some one who will gladly exchange with you (one of our radio stations here has a program free for people who do this service).

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