

# North Carolina Catholic

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## 'Who's Next?' Question Asked In West As Reds Seal Czech Conquest

WASHINGTON —(NC)— "Who's next on Moscow's list?" and "What will—and can—the Western Powers do to stem the communist tide?" Those were the questions uppermost in the minds of statesmen and peoples in countries this side of the "Iron Curtain" as news from Czechoslovakia depicted, step by step, the communist coup culminating in "the establishment of a disguised dictatorship of a single party under the cloak of a government of national union."

Without mentioning Soviet Russia by name, but obviously referring to Moscow maneuvers in other countries of eastern Europe, the three western powers indignantly characterized the political crisis in Czechoslovakia as being "artificially and deliberately instigated." They said that "the use of certain methods already tested in other places has permitted the suspension of the free exercise of parliamentary institutions," and that the results of what observers on the spot have termed a "bloodless revolution" place "in jeopardy the very existence of the principles of liberty to which all democratic nations are attached."

The results of the communist coup are already obvious: communists, now holding undisputed power, are busy "purging" the government, economic and social institutions, schools and universities, from all "reactionary elements," that is, all those who are not ready to play the communist game 100 per cent. Many "reactionaries" have already been arrested and all Czechoslovak newspapers are under communist control.

It looks as if the question as to the next victim of the communist tide will soon be answered. According to reports from Helsinki, Moscow has asked Finland to sign a "friendship" pact with the Soviets, along the same lines as the treaties that tie the Balkan countries to the Soviet Union. Other speculations center on the fate of Austria and Italy. The precarious situation in the latter country gives great timeliness to the Holy Father's warning that "Christian truth is

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## Capacity Crowd Sees Dedication of New NCCS Club By Bishop

FAYETTEVILLE —On Sunday, February 22nd, His Excellency, Most Rev. Vincent S. Waters, D. D., Bishop of Raleigh, dedicated the new NCCS Center in Fayetteville. A crowd which taxed the capacity of the spacious quarters heard the Bishop reiterate the need for religion in every day life among the military forces as well as civilians. His remarks were made at the close of the recitation of the Latin ritual and the blessing of the building with holy water.

Thomas D. Hinton, Executive Director of NCCS, who made the trip from Washington for the ceremony, addressed the audience and said that NCCS was continuing the work done for the defense forces and their families during the war years in cooperation with USO. Fayetteville, being so close to Fort Bragg, was picked as a key city for these continuation services which have as their objective the promotion of the religious, moral, cultural and recreational welfare of the defense forces.

Short addresses were also made by Brig. Gen. Cornelius Ryan, Chief of Staff of Fort Bragg, and Hon. Charles G. Rose, Jr., Mayor of Fayetteville. General Ryan spoke of the interest which the Army officials have in the leisure time activity of the troops, while Mayor Rose congratulated NCCS on its operation and said that he knew personally the good work done during the war years by NCCS at the Ray Avenue USO in Fayetteville.

After the ceremonies, which were broadcast in their entirety by station WFLB, Rev. Charles F. Bergstrom, OMI, Moderator for

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## HEADS IRISH GOV.



Mr. John A. Costello, of Dublin, one of Ireland's leading lawyers and a staunch Catholic, who has been elected as Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of the coalition government there following the assembly of the 13th Dail Eireann. He succeeds Eamon de Valera, who was Prime Minister for 16 years. (NC Photos)

## Baltimore Archbishop Urges Recourse To Blessed Virgin Mary

BALTIMORE — A solemn warning that if "the satanic-inspired, anti-Christian forces at work in the world today "should prove victorious, the night of slavery will fall on every land" and all the "fine traditions of our forefathers, the great men who made America the land of the free, will be lost in the tragic mist which will envelop the earth and extinguish the light of Christian democracy, was issued by Archbishop Francis Patrick Keough here Feb. 24 as he was installed as the eleventh Archbishop of Baltimore.

### The Hard Way

"Humanity has come a long road and a hard way," the Archbishop said, "to the precious freedoms we enjoy and accept, perhaps without thinking, just as

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## Generous Local Response To War Fund Appeal Expected This Year

RALEIGH — Great interest has been expressed locally in the appeal of the Bishops Fund for the Victims of War to be sponsored by the American Catholic Bishops on Sunday, March 7th.

The Reverend Francis K. O'Brien, Chancellor of the Diocese of Raleigh Chairman, of the 1948

appeal for relief of War Victims said today that donations have already been made to the fund which is being raised to continue the spectacular program of relief carried on among the starving, sick and homeless of Europe and the Far East. The appeal is nationwide in character. Plans to bring it to a successful end are now under way in 118 archdioceses and dioceses throughout the United States.

"The speed and efficiency with which War Relief Services has distributed its aid ever since its organization in 1940 have been one of its most remarkable features," said Father O'Brien in discussing the March 7 appeal.

"Contributors to the Bishops' Fund for the War Stricken may be sure that their aid is going to reach a needy person. In every country where it operates, War Relief Services works through long-established charitable organizations. In France the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul personally bring the gifts of American clothing and food to the destitute. In Poland, members of Caritas, a Catholic Charities organization, distributes U. S. relief through its 25 diocesan offices and its 3,302 parish branches. In the Philippines, there is a "boat to Bishop" arrangement by which help from America is transported immediately to local Ordinaries who know best how to get the aid to the islands' neediest."

Father O'Brien said that War Relief Services has won many commendations for its record of relief work among the warstricken, from religious, civic and political leaders both in this country and abroad. Pope Pius XII has lauded the organization as "The

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## Gov. Cherry Speaks At Waynesville Mission For Brotherhood Week

WAYNESVILLE, N. C. — The Hon. R. Gregg Cherry, Governor of North Carolina, addressed a radio audience recently under the auspices of St. John's mission over Radio Station WHCC. The governor, speaking in connection with the observance of National Brotherhood Week, exhorted North Carolinians to have respect and tolerance for all races and creeds.

A growing galaxy of stars from every field of human activity, ranging from Hollywood film favorites to religious, civic and military leaders, is appearing on the weekly radio program entitled "Truths Men Live By," offered by St. John's mission since September 1947.

Credit for this feature presentation is due to Radio Station WHCC for making this public service possible and to each and everyone of the speakers who are donating their time and energy to prepare special addresses for the St. John's program.

Among the speakers so far have been: Rev. John A. O'Brien, Ph. D., Professor, University of Notre Dame; Dorothy Fremont Grant, Waynesville, N. C.; Col. W. F. Kernan, Highlands, N. C.; Rev. Gerald Vann, O. P., Stamford, England; Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., S. T. D., Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.; Rev. Louis J. Towmey, S. J., Director, Institute of Industrial Relations, Loyola University, New Orleans, La.; Rev. Joseph N. Moody, Ph. D., HOUR OF FAITH speaker, New York; Dr. Kurt von Schuschnigg, former Chancellor of Austria; Most Rev. Duane G. Hunt, D. D., Bishop

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## NCCS CLUB DEDICATED AT FAYETTEVILLE



FAYETTEVILLE, N. C. — Ceremonies marking the formal dedication of the first National Catholic Community Service club under the NCCS peacetime program for the nation's defense forces were held here with Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh, presiding. Prominent Church, civic, and military leaders were among those present. Shown here from left to right are the operating committee:

Front row: Mrs. R. O. McCoy, Treasurer; Rev. Charles F. Bergstrom, OMI, Moderator; Bishop Waters, Joseph Monsour, Miss Katherine Monaghan. Rear row: Eugene J. Bergmann, Executive Secretary; John F. Devaney, Joseph T. Maloney, Vice Chairman; Fred T. Zahren, John P. Tobin, Assistant Executive Secretary.

## Sexton Plays Major Role At Installation Of Archbishop Keough

BALTIMORE — He did his chores behind the scenes, but Charles R. Connor capably performed one of the most important tasks in connection with the installation of the Most Rev. Francis Patrick Keough as the eleventh Archbishop of Baltimore.

Mr. Connor is the sexton at the Basilica, the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. When he took over the job in 1941, he was 20 and the youngest sexton of a major Catholic church in the United States. His father and his grandfather before him had served in the same post at the Cathedral.

It was Mr. Connor's task to make the seating arrangements for the members of the Hierarchy, the "hundreds" of Monsignori, priests and Religious and the array of prominent personages who thronged the Church for the rites. Everything went off like the clock-work—a tribute to Mr. Connor.

The young sexton's grandfather, Michael F. Connor, took over the post at the Cathedral

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