

### Hope From Rome

"—that those goods and riches which God has showered upon the world for the benefit of His children be conveniently distributed."

Thus spoke the Pope in his Easter sermon. From the context of the homily one can fairly say that His Holiness appealed to the democracies not to lock up by trade barriers access to the natural resources within their boundaries, thus forcing upon the less fortunate countries a policy that leads to war.

And the Pontiff's reference to riches, "conveniently distributed," suggests another aspect of the economic problem. Obviously, the "riches which God has showered upon the world" refers to things not made by man, and these things, "land," are not distributable.

God indeed has showered these goods and riches upon the world for the benefit of His children—but His children have not had wit enough to hold on to them. Rather, they have given these away to a small group of landlords who retain the goods and riches for their own benefit. On this side of the question—whose solution opens the road to internal peace in every nation—the Pope may be expected to speak when he is free of concern over the war danger.

The admonition for free trade as a road to world peace is quite definite—and leads us to believe that the reputation of Pope Pius XII for bold thinking on social problems is not unwarranted.