Catholic schools are doing their share—more cannot be asked. They value the American’s heritage of freedom, and are helping to pay its price. They are turning out men who are physically, intellectually and morally fit to win the war, and they are preparing those still too young for actual fighting to serve their country during the period of reconstruction that will follow on the declaration of peace; for they realize that ours is a nation founded under God to be a refuge for the oppressed of militarism, the saviour of France, and the teacher of all countries, and that our destiny from on high is not only to make the world safe for, but to educate it in the true principles of Democracy.

—Constantius Werner, O. P.

SALVE CRUX SANCTA

(Hail Holy Cross)

“Salve Crux sancta, salve mundi gloria,”
Thy beams through the darkness of ages of old
Shone down on the peoples that sat in the shades of death,
Waiting Thy coming, as prophets foretold.

“Vera spes nostra,” high upon Calvary’s hill
Thine arms wide outspread to embrace humankind,
Sinners as holy men. “Vera ferens gaudia,”
Our hope and our joy in Thee do we find.

“Signum salutis,” in Thee still our hope is set,
Longing, we look to Thee, to Thee we call,
Lift us, oh, lead us, “salus in periculis,”
Lend us Thine aid in our way lest we fall.

“Vitale lignum vitam ferens omnium,”
Life to all lovers of Thine Holy Rood.
At Judgment this sign of our time-lasting Holocaust
Shall shine in the heavens, oh, life-giving Wood!

—Gabriel Knauff, O. P.