THE GREEN REVOLUTION

BY MICHAEL WILLIAMS,
EDITOR THE COMMONWEAL

(Text of address given at banquet closing conventions of National Catholic Rural Life Conference and National Catechetical Congress, October 30 in Rochester)

It has been part of my work as a journalist during the last twenty-five years to observe and to report the outbreaks and the consequences of revolutions in various parts of the world. I was in Mexico more than 20 years when the long dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz was overthrown and I was there after Madero's assassination inaugurated the new dictatorship of that atheistic clique which today is tyrannizing over the unhappy common people of Mexico after having violated all the shining promises of peace and plenty and social security made by the leaders of that revolution.

Again it was my job as a press correspondent which took me to Italy in 1922, when the Fascist revolution so drastically transformed the entire soul and social structure of the Italian people, a transformation which today, through the war of conquest in Ethiopia, has brought the whole world to the verge of another universal period of warfare. Again I was in Germany immediately after Hitler won to the supreme power which he and the organized forces behind him now exercise over the German people, a power which has earned one of the mightiest ... of the world and is now leading that nation forward on a path which has for its end nothing less than the creation of a new type of humanity, a mass movement of men, women and children unified by the belief that they are superior to all other races, directly or indirectly. My journalistic work has taken me to Europe many times since my first visit in 1922. This past summer I was there again and it was not only in Germany and Italy that the movements of social revolutions could be observed, for in such countries as France and Spain and England there were signs and omens of the same phenomena, not as yet in actual manifestation, but certainly present, and gathering form and force continuously.

World Events Observed

Now I do not mention these personal experiences in order to build up any case for posing as an expert in revolutions, or, still less, as a prophet who is able to discern the signs of the times and unmistakably decipher their meaning. But I do wish to make it clear that I am not speaking to you in any abstract or academic way but rather as a professional journalist giving you the best results obtainable by him in the form of his personal opinions, based upon his observations and his studies of world events and of the deep powerful currents of thought and of emotion which underlie and cause these events.

Turning aside now from those revolutions and revolutionary symptoms of which as a journalist I have been directly an observer, let us give at least a glance at other parts of the world where similar things are happening or have already happened. Russia of course immediately comes into all our minds. One fifth, or thereabouts of the area of the earth inhabited by hundreds of millions of human beings, of a score or more different races and nationalities, suddenly and violently seized by a mere handful of absolutely purposeful men and now welded together by, and subject to the irresistible power of a militant system of apostolic Atheism the leaders of which, under the fatalistic logic of their own philosophy, are preparing the hordes which they control for the conquest of the world and, while their preparations are proceeding, their well-trained missionaries penetrate all parts of the globe to spread the new gospel of Communism which is making converts rapidly among all the races and nations of humanity.

Points To Far East

Turn now to the Far East, and consider Japan. There too a revolution has taken place. It began long before the Russian revolution or the World War which by shattering the social structure of the West made possible all the various revolutions that constitute the real history of the post war world. It began when our own nation, through Admiral Perry forced the Empire of Japan out of its seclusion of centuries, and introduced to it what were considered to be the special good things of modern western civilization: mechanized industry and its invariable companion in arms, mechanized instruments of war together with the spiritual forces which have dominated and controlled western civilization and its methods ever since that western civilization denied allegiance to Christianity and delivered itself to the service of nationalistic and imperialistic pride and avarice, and mammon, and materialistic progress. Well, most completely did Japan learn what Western civilization had to teach but, having graduated from that school of materialistic, technical efficiency, Japan applied its knowledge to its own purpose to its own race-religion, to the propagation of its own belief in its supreme superiority over all other, and lesser breeds of men.

Sword in hand but not Japan like all other nations has discarded the sword except as a mere symbol the sword which in simpler ages could be a sign of personal courage and honor and chivalry so Japan has put aside the sword of the Samurai, and is backed up by a mighty fleet, and swarms of bombing aeroplanes, and heavy artillery and machine guns, and poison gas apparatus, and flame throwers with all the horrible instruments which modern western science has invented and which can now be and in all probability will be turned against the western nations by these Oriental peoples who have been taught how to make and use them in those wars and revolutions which already are beginning as in Ethiopia, and which in all probability may rage on a gigantic scale in the near future unless, and may God will it so, as I may mankind heed God's will unless I say the world or any how some nation of the world turns away from the pathway of secular revolutions, and enters the straight and narrow path of moral revolution.

Supreme Social Sin

The first road leads not only to destruction of existing social systems, and ways of life, and habits of thought, but also to the destruction of all those human and divine institutions and ways of life and habits of thought and individual and social behavior which Christianity brought into the world but which so-called Christian nations—or, at least, their false leaders and their secularized governments—have so largely deserted and even betrayed yes even as Judas betrayed the Founder of Christianity by mere lip service and the kiss of false friendship and for the same reason the thirty pieces of silver the everlasting symbol of the frightful sin of avarice of greed of the money-lust which is the supreme social sin the sin which corrupted Christian governments, and the secular leaders of the humble and weak and meek multitudes of Christiandom, the toilers, the farmers, the small merchants, the artisans, and which at last brought about that collapse of modern western civilization which drenched Europe and a large part of Africa and Asia even the Holy Land of Palestine itself with the blood of ten million slain and fifty million wounded men and women and children, and with the tears of countless millions more—widows and orphans mostly.

Your Excellencies, Bishops of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ, Reverend Fathers; Priests and teachers of the way of life which leads not only, if followed faithfully, to eternal life in happiness beyond the grave but which is the best of all guides to the fullest possible measure of happiness, and peace, and content, and liberty attainable on this side of the grave—and you, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Laity you who are the chosen cooperators with our Bishops and clergy in Catholic Action—that Catholic Action which is the guide and the exemplification of that true revolution for which harassed humanity is seeking—that moral revolution lacking which all other forms of revolution are failures and disappointments even when they are not disasters, frightful portents of the social chaos and mad anarchy which will come upon mankind unless the moral revolution can ward off or overcome the other kinds—please let me avow, in all humility, that if what I say sounds exaggerated, or, if partly true, is pitched to a key more violent than the occasion calls for, or which the fact of our social situation really warrant, that in justification I can advance two considerations which seem to me, at least, to leave no choice but to speak out the truth as forcefully and as fully as time and the occasion permit.

Crisis Faced

The first consideration is this namely, that the fundamental conclusion which I have formed as a journalist doing his best to know and to understand the social situation in the world today and especially the social situation in our own land and nation, the United States of America is that all humanity ourselves integrally included, faces a crisis of the first magnitude. Faces it do I say? Rather we are plunged now within its vortex not as yet drawn to the central core of that vortex but certainly caught by its outer rings of activity.

So far as the United States of America are concerned at present, I am absolutely convinced that what we are experiencing and still more what we are soon bound to experience more fully is not any mere temporary depression or a more or less passing series of hard times similar to many other such periods in the past, and bound in the very nature of things to clear itself up sooner or later leaving our social system as we have known it since the Civil War. (I beg you to mark these latter words) leaving our social system I say as we have known it since the Civil War substantially unaltered I consider such a view wildly almost insanely wrong shallow and superficial, at best and stupid to the point of moral sickness when uttered by its convinced upholders. Now, if this view should return to the seat of power it occupied so long and it may well do so if its exponents succeed in impressing it upon our people who are already wearied and disheartened by the long continuance of the social misery which weighs so heavily upon the great masses of the people even if its pressure has been lessened for a majority—if I repeat this view is again accepted as the true American philosophy and we Americans re-enter upon the path of selfish and unChristian following of which will lead us all into our present disastrous condition, then I believe that within a few years the people of the United States will be dumped out of the frying pan of selfish individualism into the fire either of some form of Collectivism some variety of state Socialism tyrannically enforced, or the equally hot and even more tormenting fire of some form of Nazi-ism or Fascism.

Speaks Out Truth

And in that fire, whether it be the Communistic bonfire or the more controlled furnace of Fascism, we, the American people, will be fused into some grotesque parody of the enslaved peoples of those lands which have already succumbed to dictatorships. Under such circumstances, holding the beliefs which I do hold I must as a mandate of conscience which I cannot possibly disobey without degradation of my manhood, and doing treason to my Christian duty, and failing in loyalty as an American citizen to what I conceive to be the true principles of this nation. I must, I say, speak out the truth concerning the crisis which we face and which we must solve if it be humanly possible to solve it, at no matter what expense of all our energies, and at the cost of the most complete self-sacrifice of which our souls are capable.

Now, for the second consideration, which impels me to speak as I do. It is far more weighty than the first. What I say as a mere individual, and truly quite an insignificant one, may be more or less justly dismissed. For our chaotic times are clamorous and sadly confused with the outpourings of divers cranks, and self-appointed social critics, and would-be saviors of society, and blind prophets crying out false visions from the darkness in which they wander, and into which they would lead our people. And if I rested my case principally upon my personal opinions, it would be prudent and wise to disregard them. But the case is otherwise. As a journalist, more of my time and what mental energy I possess, and what spiritual fight may be mine, have been expended in reading and studying the views and opinions of the real thinkers of our times—of many different schools—than merely in acting as a personal observer and reporter of what is going on in this crisis-stricken world.

(Concluded next week)

AS CRUSADERS PARADE IN NATION'S CAPITAL

More than 5,000 Mission Crusaders marched through the downtown district of the Nation's Capital in public homage to Christ the King on His feast day, Oct 27. Upper photo (by Underwood) shows a portion of the 750 members of Religious Orders, garbed in habits, who participated with 23 lay units. Lower photo (by Reni) shows a group representing 19 different Orders in the procession, the most colorful religious parade ever witnessed in Washington. The occasion also marked the sixth annual rally of the Catholic Students Mission Crusade. (Marshal of the parade was Harry P. Somerville, former Manager of The Sagamore, Rochester, and now head of The Willard in Washington.)

Better Health For School Children Stressed at Diocese Teachers Meet

The thirty-first annual conference of the Diocesan School Association composed of Catholic school teachers from the elementary and high school departments, was held Thursday of last week at Aquinas Institute.

Opening the session was the Rev. Charles F. Hilbert, M. M., who has spent nine years as a missionary in China. Father Hilbert discussed "The Missions as an Aid to Teaching." Contrasting the old student with the new, he said: "The present school in China is the same as ours as to curriculum. In physique and health the modern student is undoubtedly superior to the ancient. The sallow-skinned student of old let his finger-nails grow long, his shoulders become stooped over his books. The only exercise he indulged in was fanning himself, or going for a slow stroll often taking his caged bird along. His sport was confined to circles of dominoes, or such games of effortless chance; anything requiring violent bodily exertion was far too undignified for a scholar. Not so long ago a group of boys were noisely engaged in a tag-game. A scholar of the old school appeared, tapped his son on the shoulder and retired him with a frown to the side-lines.

"The modern student goes for early morning drills and after classes indulges for several hours of strenuous exercise. The modern student is muscular and sunburned, and not ashamed to sweat. On the street he steps along erect and alert, as if the world were his to conquer."

Use of mission study as an aid to various subjects taught in Catholic Schools of the diocese was explained by Father Hilbert.

Dr William P Brown, Supervisor of Medical Service, State Dept., discussed the healthy child in relation to its progress in learning. Dr Brown demanded action on the part of parents, and claimed that needless handicaps are placed upon pupils in school through parent's failure to understand the methods of avoiding defects and ailments. "Parents need definite education if better results are to be had in pupil health," he said. "It is to be expected that the healthy child will make the better progress in scholarship, and will profit better throughout life."

Speaking in behalf of the County Medical Society and Tuberculosis Health Association, Dr. Benedict J. Duffy, claimed: "Half of all the blindness in school children may be prevented by proper education. It is most necessary to correct all general health defects at the outset. Cross-eyes and near-sightedness can be prevented by proper education. If found at an early period in the child's life, the defects may be corrected."

Others speaking on the program were: George W. Norvell, Supervisor of English of the State Dept.; Harry A. Carpenter, Specialist in Science in Rochester schools; Mrs. Damon Rider of the Library Dept. of Geneseo Normal School; F. Eugene Seymour, Supervisor of Mathematics in the State Dept.; Sister Frances Teresa from Nazareth Academy and the Rev. John M. Duffy, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Rochester.

Be bright and cheerful. Forget yourself and strive to make others happy.

Publication Devoted To Eastern Catholics Is Printed in English

Granville, N. Y.—(NC)—The first number of The Chrysostom, declared to be the only magazine in the English language devoted to to the interests of the Oriental Catholics, has been published here. The Rev. John Kallok, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Greek Catholic Church here, is the Editor.

The first number of magazine contains a letter authorizing the publication, written by the Most Rev. Basil Takach, Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh (Greek Rite).

God, the concrete embodiment of all perfection.—Father Bruneau, S. S.

Congress Working Told To Alumnae By Rep. Duffy

The strenuous and serious as well as the dramatic aspects of Congressional Washington were pictured by Representative James P. B. Duffy speaking before the Nazareth College Alumnae at their first supper meeting of the year Wednesday night. Over 10,000 bills were introduced into the House at the last session of Congress. Mr Duffy related, but a comparatively small percentage came up for a vote.

Speaking before the group in a private dining room in the Normandie Apartments, on Alexander Street, Mr Duffy traced the history of the House from the days of "Reedism and Cannonism," when the Speaker of the House was popularly declared to have more power than the President to the present time when the Rules Committee presents a rule for the consideration of each individual bill by the House.

One of the most anxious considerations of a new Congressman, Mr Duffy told the group, is to get himself placed on an important House Committee. He himself, through the good offices of Mr Cullen senior member of the Ways and Means Committee from New York, was enabled to get placed on the Judiciary Committee, an honor conferred in recognition of the importance and worth of the 38th Congressional District, in the opinion of the speaker.

The supper was arranged under the direction of Misses Hilda Connor and Mary Thaney of the Class of 1935 assisted by a committee of representatives from each class.

Alumnae schedule for the year, as drawn up by the Program Committee directed by Miss Rosemary Schiferli is as follows: Bridge Tea and Fashion Show, Columbus Civic Center Nov 23; Day of Recollection, Dec 8; Christmas Banquet, Dec 26; Supper Meeting, Jan; February meeting to be announced later; Easter Week Supper Meeting; Memorial Mass and Business Meeting, May 17; Alumnae Dinner Dance May 23; Reception of Graduates, June 9.

Catholic Evidence Study Club meets on the third Sunday of each month and the Travel Club on the second Monday of each month.

Strange Priest in City Is Providentially Near To Give Man Last Rites

London—(NC)—Walking in a Glasgow street a Catholic woman saw a young man fall 50 feet from a building on which he was erecting an electric sign.

She saw a clergyman some distance away and ran to him. She discovered he was a priest. They ran to the badly injured man, and the priest gave him conditional absolution just two minutes before he died.

The man was identified as Peter Farrell, member of St. Anne's parish. The priest was a stranger to Glasgow.

Buying from an advertiser of this paper means spending your money with friends.

Did You Remember Yourself In Your Will?

By remembering God's missionaries you make yourself the greatest beneficiary ...

Benefactors of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith share in the labors and merits of 175,000 workers in the missions during life and after death.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

Inquires cheerfully answered by REV. LEO C. MOONEY, Diocesan Director

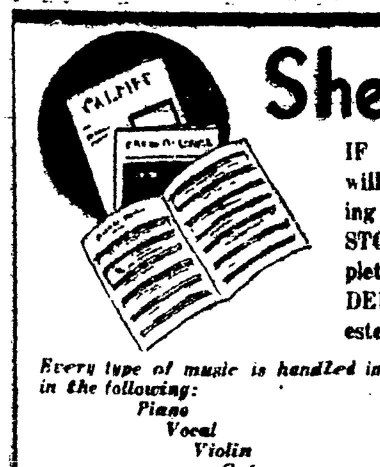
COLUMBUS BUILDING
50 Chestnut Street
Stone 1492

Will Rogers

Arrangements have been made to accept contributions for the Will Rogers Memorial Fund at any of our offices any time between November 4th and Thanksgiving Eve.

LINCOLN-ALLIANCE
BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

Sheet Music



IF YOU BUY MUSIC you will be interested in knowing that WALKER MUSIC STORE has the most complete and up-to-date MUSIC DEPARTMENT in Rochester.

Every type of music is handled in this department; specializing in the following:
Piano
Vocal
Violin
Octavo
Novelties
Band and Orchestra
Methods for all Instruments

If you are not sure of what you want, why not take advantage of the service and experience offered you in this department.
Foreign publications can be secured for your approval.
If you are a teacher or instructor you may have the privilege of taking a selection of music on consignment.
By keeping in touch with the department you are also informed as to any new music that is being published.
We operate our MUSIC DEPARTMENT with the sole purpose of being of service to the music trade.
We anticipate your patronage and gladly offer you any information or suggestions that may be of benefit to you.

WALKER MUSIC STORE
97 Clinton Ave. So. Stone 899

McCURDY'S ARCH-AID Shop

Your ARMISTICE DAY *holiday offers a special opportunity to discover*

WHY ARCH AIDS *are worn by so* MANY SMART *ROCHESTER women*

All women have, we find, one thing in common: They insist on being young-looking as well as smart, and smart as well as comfortable! So, there's your answer! Arch-Aid hidden comfort features assure youth, vitality, and perfect support. And smart? We prove that merrily by sketching the RONDA, a two-material success in suede (black or brown) with calf quarters and trim! $9.50.

McCURDY'S ARCH-AID SHOP, Second Floor

at McFARLIN'S
Children's Shop—3rd Floor

a Scoop!

NEW, CHIC, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL!

"Play Jeans"

Mothers who have purchased one of these, tell us it has already proved itself the ideal play outfit. When weather is mild, a child may wear a light sweater under the garment; when extremely cold, a heavy sweater or jacket. "Play Jeans," with their bib front and shoulder straps, bear quite a likeness to overalls, ... and are finely tailored from strong, storm-proof ALL-WOOL Melton materials. Cuffs are worsted and the legs have double knees for extra wear. Truly an outstanding value that every mother should see before investing in winter togs for their boy or girl! Sizes: 4 to 10. Colors: Navy, maroon, brown, green.

NOTE: We cannot duplicate these to sell at this low price

$2.65 Special

—at McFARLIN'S—