

BISHOP CANNON CALLS PRESS A BULWARK AGAINST COMMUNISM

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the dishonest wealthy, the improvement of the common man's lot, the last Presidential election leaves no doubt on the Communism of America.

If Communism, however, means atheistic revolution against the American Government and American Churches only a comparatively small number of Americans can be called Communists.

Outside a few localized clusters of foreigners, and a few irresponsible professors in schools, atheistic Communism has little hold on Americans and does not promise to attract and satisfy American ideals and hopes. There is in American history none of the Czarist absolutism or monarchical tyranny out of which such extreme monsters as Communism are born.

The democracy of the American people grew naturally from virgin soil and pioneer constructive labors, and it does not appear to be in the destiny of Americans to resolve themselves into the vices and cruelties of an imported Communism.

Communism No Solution Communism is no solution of the labor question or of any other economic or political problem. It is a philosophy of nihilism which destroys all traditional order, creates wide-spread chaos, and then establishes absolutism to rule through bullets and decrees instead of ballots and law.

Whenever Communism raises its ugly head, crime, atrocities and bloodshed follow. The accumulated evidence of its gory record through Russia, China, Mexico and Spain—the only nations in which it has established authority, should be sufficient to make every red-blooded American an uncompromising enemy against even the effort to establish the theory of Communism within the boundaries of the United States.

Too frequently Americans are without the facts and history of this deplorable and cruel system of government. It therefore becomes the duty of the American Press, secular and religious, to spread out the facts before the American people, to inform them of the dangers, the horrors, the fearful consequences of swerving even a slight degree, from the traditional constitution and government of the United States, to the snares and brutalities of Communist usurpation.

Attack On the Church While we know that human society is always tormented by subversive forces and usually observes a spirit of calm faith and goodwill in the face of these evils, the ferocity of the present-day attack on the Church in Europe demands that we do something more than exercise the passive virtues—we must attack.

European Communism, which has seeped through into American soil, threatens a war against the American Government and against Christianity. We must organize, encourage and strengthen "our Catholic Press. The Catholic Press supported zealously in the Catholic Pulpit, forms the most powerful weapon at the disposal of the Church.

Faith in Divine Destiny It may be true that this age reacts to the noisy, the blatant, the spectacular, the irreverent. They affect emotionally only the surface of society.

Deep down beneath the surface we find the solid virtues and the permanent spiritual forces of civilization.

The profound faith of mankind in its own divine destiny, still grips and governs the human heart and gives a strength to our civilization which no blatant nationalism, economic promises or futile theories of Communism can destroy.

Our Catholic editors and authors must appeal to this fine American nature, stir up these spiritual and patriotic forces dormant in the souls of Americans, fan them into a raging flame of love for America, her benevolent traditions, her democratic institutions, her ancient Christian ideals and religious practices. Let a verdict on any great political or economic question be measured by the sound common sense of the American people. They may have many faults but they are known for sound practical sense in their political and economic life. They will, as a consequence, condemn Communism as unsound, impractical and un-American.

It is unthinkable that our supreme Christian Culture, built up by the artistic diligence and sacrificial faith of the millions across the centuries, is to be suddenly annihilated by the stealthy intrigue and terror of Communism. We have met Attila and the Huns—and survived. We have been challenged often, threatened and frightened, but we have never been conquered nor have we lost faith in the supreme destiny of the human race whose Redemption was purchased by the blood of Christ.

Duty of Catholic Press However, in this solemn hour, we men and women of the Catholic Press, including our authors and publishers, have a great duty to perform in behalf of our nation and our Church.

We unfold page by page the inspiring events of twenty centuries of Church suffering and glory and, in our own era, the heroic sacrifices and imperishable words of those who founded and shaped America to its present admirable and matchless form.

The Catholic Press must furnish the people with that knowledge on social reconstruction which will keep them from being destroyed by Communism or any other impending evil. We must purify and strengthen human society with a knowledge of the Papal Encyclicals. We face an awesome duty and an indifferent age with unbounded confidence that the truth, when clearly set forth, will prevail; that the errors and delusions which are leading so many astray today will eventually lose their charm.

It was to these very ends that

almost two decades ago the Bishops of the country, through the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

It is now, through a special Committee promoting the annual Catholic Press Month in this effort to give the agency of the Bishops the N. C. W. C. News Service as an aid to the Catholic Press.

Through this agency they have enabled Catholic journalists to acquaint our people generally with the truth concerning Social Justice and Communism, as well as other outstanding movements and events, in a manner more adequate than the papers themselves could attain through their own resources.

I think I can pledge the N. C. W. C. News Service to continue to supply this enlightenment for today for it is its glory to ex-

transmission to the readers of the Catholic Press.

It is now, through a special Committee promoting the annual Catholic Press Month in this effort to give the agency of the Bishops the N. C. W. C. News Service as an aid to the Catholic Press.

On behalf of the Bishops I beseech a wide discussion and consideration of the Catholic Press as a powerful organ of the truth and a disseminator of useful information on problems that face the nation today.

If there ever was a duty specifically marked out in any age, it is the duty of the Catholic Editor to supply this enlightenment for today for it is its glory to ex-

ound and defend the truth. The source of all evil in our day is the corruption of the truth, in fact the evil of our century is the corruption of human nature.

We have you, the Catholic people, and you give him the attention and support he deserves! Social injustice has become a scourge in the world. The Catholic Church does not assume to defend the injustice of our present social order, or to support entrenched interests in any more attempt to suppress the rights of the common people. The reaction of many people to social injustice has taken the form of Communism, of rebellion, of some other attack

darkness and chaos of the present world and restores Christian order and faith. The Catholic Editor is willing, able and courageous. Will you, the Catholic people, and you give him the attention and support he deserves!

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Advertisement for Bond Bread, featuring the text 'GUARANTEED PURE - GUARANTEED FRESH' and an image of a loaf of bread.

Advertisement titled 'The Job He Left Behind Him' featuring an image of a man and the text 'JOHN JONES MANAGED'.

Advertisement for Rochester Business Institute, including text: 'Is Filled From R. B. I.', 'There is no fixed moving-up day in business...', 'Next Day School Classes Feb. 1st', 'NIGHT SCHOOL', and 'Rochester Business Institute'.

Advertisement for East Side Savings Bank, featuring the text 'EAST SIDE SAVINGS BANK' and 'Cor. MAIN AND CLINTON'.

Advertisement for East Side Savings Bank, featuring the text 'The COMING EVENTS of a SAVINGS ACCOUNT' and 'REGULAR Deposits are the coming events of a Savings Account...'.

Large advertisement for Seneca Falls and Waterloo, featuring the text 'NEIGHBORS... linked in name and fame among New York State communities... SENECA FALLS and WATERLOO' and an image of a building.

Advertisement for The Seneca Falls Savings Bank, featuring the text 'THE SENECA FALLS SAVINGS BANK', 'SINCE 1833 this bank has been giving first class banking service to this community', and 'THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF WATERLOO, N. Y.'.

Advertisement for The Gould Hotel, featuring the text 'THE GOULD HOTEL' and 'Modern Bar - Grille and Dining Room'.