

BAPTISTS IN SPAIN ACCLAIM FREEDOM

Get Full Religious Liberty Under Franco

By GEORGE BAERNARD

LONDON (I.C.)—Baptists in Spain praise General Franco's policy of religious freedom and they deplore Leftist propaganda which has given the impression that the Nationalists are persecuting the letter which the Duke of Alba, Spain's Ambassador here, has received from the Spanish Baptist Evangelical Union.

Expressing satisfaction with the news of Franco's occupation of Barcelona, the letter says, in part: "We are informed that the Evangelical churches there renewed their worship on Sunday, February 12 and that hundreds of our co-religionists were able to assemble in them to worship God as their conscience bids them, in which they were respected and protected by the Nationalist authorities recently established victoriously in that city."

"The fact is only natural and fully in keeping with the Generalissimo's statements and the assurances given by you our British co-religionists that the Nationalist movement is not directed against the principles of religious freedom, to which the dissidents from the Roman Catholic Church in Spain are entitled as it is enjoyed by Catholics in this country."

"But we are greatly pleased to be able to announce this publicly at a time on account of the anxiety felt in many sectors of British Protestant opinion as a result of the intense propaganda carried on to that effect by the Republican-Communist Coalition government of Barcelona on the strength of a very respectable minority which may have been difficult to avoid in the early days of the Nationalist rule."

The letter which is signed by the Rev. Samuel Viles, pastor of the Church of Tarrasa, and Cecarlas Charles just goes on to thank the Nationalist government on behalf of Baptists in Spain and of "the millions of our co-religionists in Great Britain."

The letter to the Duke of Alba continues: "After the terrible martyrdom the Catholic Church has suffered in Spain at the hands of those who abhorred God and all religion, and considering the fraternal contacts we have been able to maintain with many Catholics during the most onerous period of persecution, we sincerely trust that the believers who belong to the Roman Catholic communion in Spain will no longer regard the Evangelical Christians as enemies of the Catholic religion but as determined defenders of the basic principles of Christ's faith, and that thus we shall meet with no difficulty in contributing our mite of labor towards the material and spiritual renaissance of our sorely tried country."

"With pleasure we seize this opportunity to place ourselves once more at your orders and the orders of the National leader and we hope that God may grant you many years of life for the benefit of our beloved people."

It is reported here by the Record that 160 persons attended a Wesleyan service in Barcelona, and that the Protestant Episcopal Church at Sabadell is open and enjoying fuller freedom than during the months of the war."

SUPERSTITION ASSAILED BY CANADIAN PRELATE

SHERBROOKE, ONT.—Superstition was assailed by the Most Rev. P. S. Desreulieu, O.S.B., Bishop of Sherbrooke, in a statement made at the Anacostia Deserons, so-called modern "miracle man," was acquitted by a King's Bench jury of charges of witchcraft, magic and fortune telling.

The Bishop declared that to pretend there are special gifts of God possessed by a seventh son of a seventh son of a seventh son, as attributed to Deserons, is scientific, philosophical and theological fallaciousness.

The Church forbids superstition which attempts to imitate religion, said the Bishop.

Stamps for Pius XII Recall Brazil Issue

VATICAN CITY—The face of the new Pontiff will appear on stamps to be issued by Vatican City, but his name already has appeared on a stamp.

When His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, as Cardinal Pacelli, visited Rio de Janeiro on his way to Buenos Aires for the International Eucharistic Congress, Brazil commemorated the event by issuing a stamp showing the statue of Christ on the Corcovado and bearing the inscription: "Visit of Cardinal Pacelli 1934."

The Holy Father joins the ranks of heads of States who are philatelists. Because of his interest in stamps, both Argentina and Brazil presented him with series of their stamps for his personal collection.

Bill in Philippines Bans Birth Control

MANILA—Should the Bongalon bill be approved at the current session of the National Assembly, it will become unlawful for any person, association or corporation to teach, preach, propagate the doctrine of birth control, or for any physician, nurse, or druggist, or any other person, to provide any one with medicine, device or any other means for the practice of birth control.

A fine not exceeding \$250 or imprisonment of more than one year, or both penalties, at the discretion of the court, will be imposed upon such persons as may be found guilty of violation of the measure.

Have you bought a Catholic book this year?

ACCEPTING SCHOOL HEALTH GUIDES



The Rev. John M. Duffy, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Director of Rochester, (center) shown receiving new copies of Supplementary Health Syllabus from Joseph P. MacSweeney, Association Vice-President and Chairman of Rochester Committee (right) and Rosalie Loritz, Field Secretary engaged in Health Education Service in the Catholic schools.

Health Education Program Opens in Catholic Schools

Recognizing that the classroom teacher is the individual who makes the greatest single contribution to a school health program, the Tuberculosis and Health Association has completed the preparation of a Teaching Guide to be distributed to the Catholic school teachers of Monroe County.

(See Editorial, "Their Children's Health," Page 8.) The Guide containing supplementary material on health education prepared by the "Tuberculosis and Health Association of New York City has been designed to aid the teacher in the better doing her job in assisting children to form those health habits which will help them to grow and to have the stability necessary to live good and useful lives.

Louis Health Group In acknowledging the service rendered by the Association the Rev. John M. Duffy Superintendent of Catholic Schools, stated that the Association devotes a large share of its program of health education to teachers and that its many services include the provision of a field nurse who visits all of the parish schools in the city and county and a motion picture operator who shows approved health education motion pictures and sets up posters and exhibits on request of the school principals. "The Association recognizes," stated Father Duffy "that a careful correlation of health work with related subjects is necessary in a school program. We are certain that the teachers will find the new Guide most helpful in fulfilling the requirements of health teaching of the State Department of Education."

CANISIANUM REFUGEES MUST FIND NEW ABODE OUTSIDE SWITZERLAND

BASEL (I.C.)—The American Association of Theology formed at Sierra, Switzerland, so that American candidates for the priesthood could continue their studies on neutral soil following the suppression of the Canisianum at Innsbruck in what was Austria has now agreed to discontinue classes by July 15.

The agreement was made after the Swiss Government had decided that the provision of the Swiss Constitution banning the Society of Jesus from the country had to be enforced.

The Austrian Fathers had been released from their vows as Jesuits by the late Pope Pius XI but they will now be debanded to avoid further complications. They must find a new abode in another country.

Sisters' New Cancer Hospital Dedicated

ATLANTA—Our Lady of Perpetual Help Free Cancer Home established by the Sisters of St. Dominic of St. Rose of Lima has been blessed by the Most Rev. Gerald P. O'Neil, Bishop of Savannah, Atlanta at exercises attended by non-Catholics as well as Catholics.

Dedictory addresses were delivered by Bishop O'Hara, Dr. Edgar H. Greene, President of the Fulton County Medical Society, Dr. Leo Daly, Medical Director of the Home, J. Glen Halsey of the County Commission, and J. Frank Beck of the Atlanta Board of Aldermen. The speakers lauded the Sisters for providing the hospital to Atlanta and Georgia without cost to the community or the diocese.

The new Home has accommodations for 80 patients. No distinction as to race, creed or color is made in the acceptance of patients; the only requirements being that they have incurable cancer and are without funds for treatment. The first patients received in the home immediately after the dedication are all Protestants.

By Holy Communion we receive Christ giving us Himself and the means to enable us to live in Him, through Him and for Him.

Egg-Rolling Custom At White House Is Half A Century Old

The custom of rolling eggs on the lawn of the White House in Washington, D. C., each Easter Monday is at least a half-century old.

There are extant accounts of these festivities dating from 1838. One authority says the practice was imported from England. Another says the children first rolled eggs on the slopes on the west side of the United States Capitol, but that the grass was damaged to a considerable extent, and President Hayes invited the youngsters to make use of the more level surface of the White House lawn.

N. Y. BOARD OPPOSES Proposed Bill On Religious Education

NEW YORK.—The Board of Education of New York City is opposed to a bill now before the State Legislature which would permit religious education in the public schools according to its president, James Marshall.

It is the opinion of the School Board, he said, that enactment of the religious instruction bill would be a "violent departure from the American system of public education." Parents have ample opportunity, he contended, to give their children religious training through their own church institutions outside the school.

"Those parents who prefer that religious training should be coupled directly with the general education of their children," he stated, "are permitted by law to send their children to the parochial schools maintained by their respective denominations."

Sons of Italy Mark St. Joseph's Feast

GENEVA—The feast of St. Joseph was celebrated by the Sons of Italy at Community Hall with about 200 members and guests in attendance on March 19.

A dinner prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Venuti was served at 6 o'clock with covers laid for about 150.

The room was lighted with blessed candles and a large statue of St. Joseph was placed at the head of the table.

Ettore D'Ovidio, president of the organization delivered an inspiring opening message. Father O'Brien also addressed the members.

Other speakers were M. Maurice Characine, Antonio D'Alto, Emilio Tibaldi, Oscar Capelli, Frank Paul, Peter Fini, and Sabatino Annoni.

Vice-Postulator for Mother Seton Cause Gets Blessing from Pope

By BARRETT MCGURN VATICAN CITY (I.C.)—At the audience he granted to His Eminence, Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, the blessing of His Holiness Pope Pius XII was bestowed "with much love and hope and faith" upon the Rev. Salvatore M. Burgio, C.M., of Philadelphia, who was appointed vice-postulator of the cause of Mother Elizabeth Seton. Father Burgio came to Rome as Cardinal Dougherty's secretary and clerical consultant.

With Cardinal Dougherty also were Michael Williams, Catholic editor, and Antonio Filicchi, great-grandson of a man of the same name whose Catholic household in Italy so inspired Mother Seton, when she was still a Protestant, that she began inquiries into the faith which resulted in her conversion.

Mr. Filicchi already has helped the cause of Mother Seton by collecting 61 letters written by his great-grandfather by Mother Seton. These letters have been turned over to the Congregation of Rites. Father Burgio had photostatic copies made of them in Rome many of them never before having been published.

Mother Seton founded the first orphan asylum and the first parochial school in the United States, following her conversion in 1804, a year after she met the Filicchi family in Leghorn.

She was born in 1774. In 1803, she and her husband, William Mageron, who was disposed to tuberculosis, started for Italy in the hope that it would regain his health there. With them was their daughter, Anna. But when the brig put into Leghorn in a time when the Bubonic plague was circulating, the Seton family was quarantined in a lazaretto on the waterfront. For weeks they had to remain there, until Antonio

Filicchi, a resident, obtained their release. The experience had been so much for Mr. Seton. He died and was interred in the local English Protestant cemetery.

Mrs. Seton and her daughter were taken in by the Filicchis and were so edified by the charitable Catholicism that Mrs. Seton was converted soon after she returned to the United States. A short time later she founded the American Branch of the Sisters of Charity.

Father Burgio and Mr. Williams made a tour of the "archives" of Mother Seton. They went to the waterfront tower in which the Setons were detained, discovered the long forgotten tomb of Mr. Seton, and chatted at length with the Filicchi descendants.

Divine Word Fathers To Go To Gold Coast

TECHNY, ILL.—Word has just been received from Rome of the appointment of two Fathers of the Society of the Divine Word to the newly-assigned mission of the Society at the Gold Coast in West Africa, where Father A. Elaberrad, S.V.D., from Festina, Ia., is already stationed. The newly-appointed missionaries who will leave in four weeks are: the Very Rev. A. Noser, at present Rector of St. Mary's Seminary here, and the Rev. Harold Higney, member of the Faculty at Techny.

These two missionaries will be followed by two colored priests, members of the Society, to be assigned later.

Catholic Editor Dies London—Editor of the Universe, London Catholic weekly, in the days when it gave strong support to the Irish cause, George Mac Caffrey had died here, aged 68. He edited the paper in the 1890s.

Laymen To Discuss 'Religion, Politics'

The subject "Religion and Politics" will be discussed by Catholic laymen at a special meeting of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus, Friday evening, March 24, at 8:30 p. m.

Leading the discussion will be Advocate Howard M. Woods who will have his talk on a chapter in Christopher Dawson's book, "Religion and the Modern State" which has been studied at this series of meetings sponsored by the Catholic Activities Committee.

Speaking will be Dr. James N. Rashford of St. Michael's College, chairman of the Catholic Activities Committee.

Prague—A high school monument dedicated to the late popular leader of Slavonic Catholics, Monsignor Andrew Hlinka, is to be erected at Zelina.

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SEEK 150,000 SIGNERS FOR PETITION ON SPAIN

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—One hundred and fifty thousand signers of a petition demanding that the United States recognize the Nationalist Government of Spain is the goal of the Minute Men Confraternity of St. John's University here.

Copies of the petition have been sent to every Catholic College and University Holy Name Society and Knights of Columbus council in the United States.

The petition will be forwarded to President Roosevelt.

Native Professors Given Papal Honor

PEKING—Papal honors have just been conferred on four professors of the Catholic University, according to Lumen Service.

Chen Yuan, President of the University, has been accorded the rank of Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great with Badge Ignatius Ying Chien-II, Secretary, has also been made a Commander of the same Order, while Edward Chang Hsueh, Dean of the College of Education, has been made a Knight of St. Gregory Shen Chien-shih, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, was made a Knight of St. Sylvester at the same time.

Shift of California's Mission Play Planned

LOS ANGELES—John Steven McGroarty's famous Mission Play of California may be presented hereafter at the Mission San Fernando instead of Mission San Gabriel, where more than 100,000 have witnessed its performance.

Mr. McGroarty, appearing before the San Fernando Field Association, revealed plans to raise \$300,000 for the erection of a stage and theater in the mission, which is now being restored.

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