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INTERNATIONAL CHURCH GAINS IN SPAIN — POLAND SAD RADICALS ASK PRAYERS

Franco Regime Restores Budget For Church, Clergy

By REV. MANUEL GRANA
MADRID—The re-establishment of the budget for church and clergy, the religious inauguration of the University, the abolition of the divorce law and the pardoning of thousands of persons sentenced by the military courts are among the important steps taken in recent weeks towards the spiritual reconstruction of Spain.

Spain's Prisons Empty As Franco Grants Pardons

MADRID—The prisons are becoming empty because of the generous pardon granted by Franco on the "Day of the Race." He has thus freed 5,000 prisoners who had been sentenced to death but whose sentence Franco has mitigated.

Officer's Diary Tells of War Havoc

NEW YORK—The destruction of churches and hospitals as well as military hospitals and homes in the steps of Warsaw is graphically described in an eye-witness account published in the Polish language daily, *Newspaper*, (Polish Morning Herald).

The account is the diary of Colonel Lubinski, of the Polish Army, who was one of the officers in command of the special defense of Poland's Capital last September. The diary covers from September 7 to September 20 and traces the day-by-day accumulation of enemy destruction, death from shells and bombs, suffering from lack of food, water and shelter.

On September 10, Colonel Lubinski's diary recounts all about buildings lay in ruins, the Transfiguration Hospital with its several hundred wounded, was "shattered," he says. "I saw a soldier with both legs amputated crawling from the building on his elbows; other wounded jumped out of windows to the sidewalk. In Warsaw an emergency hospital is in flames. It seems that the Germans are deliberately making it impossible for us to render aid to the wounded. This is our strength and our determination."

Four days later, the diary states, most of the Jewish population was moved to Praga. "Today is their Holy Day—the Day of Atonement," it says. "Just as the synagogues were filled, Nalewki (the Jewish quarter of Warsaw) was attacked from the air. The results of this bombing were bloody. In this Jewish section from 10 to 14 persons lived in one small dwelling."

FOUR DOMINICAN NUNS ARE RESCUED AS LINER SINKS

LONDON—Four Dutch Dominican nuns who narrowly escaped death when the Dutch liner *Simon Bolivar* sank after two terrific mine explosions in the North Sea, Saturday, flew back to Holland today. They were brought here after the rescue.

The nuns, who experienced the peril of modern sea warfare, spent their time as refugees in entertaining child survivors of the wreck. They were on their way to the West Indies. All of their baggage and their passports were lost.

Three of the Sisters got away in a life boat. The fourth was thrown into the sea when another life boat capsized as it was being launched. She clung to a piece of floating timber and was picked up by a tender after 48 minutes in the oil-laden water.

Bishop Warns Of Perils To Small Nations' Peace

VATICAN CITY—The Most Rev. Father Gatti, Bishop of Grosseto, in a pastoral letter warned of the grave perils in the peace of little countries.

The Holy Father's peace efforts, as well as his attempts at numerous important persons, the Bishop said, "have not succeeded in averting the catastrophe." The "small portion of the world" in this way, the little nations are in great danger. Arms will not serve to protect them. They must pray for an early peace.

ROYALTY ATTENDS MASS FOR PEACE



The Royal Family of Belgium, photographed leaving the St. Gudula Cathedral, Brussels, after the High Mass for peace, celebrated there on the Feast of Christ the King. Left to right: Princess Charlotte, Prince Baldwin, Queen-Mother Elisabeth, and His Majesty Leopold III. (N.C.W.C.)

Mexicans Puzzled At Radicals Act

MEXICO CITY—(NC)—The announcement of the death of Dona Eufrosina Camacho, widow of Avila, as published in *Excelsior* and *El Universal*, was somewhat paradoxical and has occasioned considerable comment.

Following the customary form, the death notice stated that Dona Eufrosina died in the great Catholic Apostolic Roman Church, comforted with all the spiritual aids of the Church. It also stated she received the blessing of His Holiness Pope Pius XII and that her sons "ask for prayers for the soul of their mother." It so happens that one son is the presidential nominee of the Mexican Revolutionary Party, another is Governor of the State of Puebla, and a third is Municipal President of the City of Puebla. All were present at the funeral service.

El Hombre Libre comments that the request in the obituary is not compatible with the Six-Year Plan which General Manuel Avila Camacho has promised to respect and fulfill. "There is no ground for censure if, with civil valor and in defiance of the wrath of radicals and pseudo-communists, the General Avila Camacho ask that God be petitioned for the eternal repose of the soul of their deceased mother," the paper says. "If privately the General Avila Camacho are Catholics, they are not within their rights in being politically on the record as materialists one as candidate of the M. R. P., another as Governor of the State of Puebla, and still another as Municipal President of the City of Puebla—or what is more, Communists, enemies of the Mexican people, who, in an immense majority, profess the Catholic Religion. Furthermore, General Manuel Avila Camacho is the assumed candidate of the Atheist Communist Party."

Spiritual Awakening Among Soldiers Noted

LONDON—(NC)—A Catholic journalist, a former colleague of mine who is now in the army, tells me that he has noticed a spiritual awakening among many men since the war started.

He reports a remarkable address given to the men of a certain battalion by a Brigadier General who is not a Catholic. Talking to the men before they went to France, he said:

"I don't know what you men believe, but for my part I believe in a God and a hereafter. I ask you, when the opportunity for meditation arises, to consider where you stand. There is something greater than the material things of this world—money, comfort, home and pleasure. That greater thing is the life after this. It is for that life we are preparing now, and it is for virtues which will endure in the next life that we must be prepared to give our own lives now. We must eventually succeed if we fight for God."

Let us abandon everything to the merciful providence of God.—Bl. Albert the Great.

Pontifical Charter Granted Toronto Institute

TORONTO—(NC)—A Pontifical Charter has been granted the Institute of Medieval Studies here empowering this institution of the Elizabeth Fry School of Theology's College to confer the Pontifical Degree of Licentiate and Doctorate in Medieval Studies.

The petition to His Holiness Pope Pius XII for the charter was signed by His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec, and the Archbishops and Bishops of Canada.

687 Religious Houses Disappear In Germany

BERLIN—The new annuary of the Catholic clergy in Germany shows that 687 houses of men's Religious Congregations have disappeared since 1937, the number of Religious has dropped from 17,301 to 16,604, and the number of novices has fallen 36 per cent. The decrease in novices for Congregations of women is 37 per cent, but the total membership has increased to 101,125, or 1,423 more than in 1937.

Within the frontiers of the former Reich, 123,962 persons participated in religious retreats in the course of the year.

Russia Rules Polish Dioceses

VATICAN CITY—Ten former Polish dioceses are now in the territory under Russian domination. Six are of the Latin Rite, two of the Greek Rite and one of the Armenian Rite. The dioceses of the Latin Rite are: Wilna, with 1,314,681 faithful, 531 priests, 45 Religious and 363 parishes; Lomza, with 484,710 faithful, 225 priests, 7 Religious and 124 parishes; Pinsk, with 405,084 faithful, 710 priests, 228 Religious and 473 parishes; Lwow, with 1,072,213 faithful, 723 priests, 226 Religious and 478 parishes; Przemysl, with 1,113,821 faithful, 725 priests, 17 Religious and 471 parishes, and Luck, with 352,301 faithful, 228 priests and 137 parishes.

The dioceses of the Ruthenian Rite are: Lwow, with 1,351,300 faithful, 1,032 priests, 61 Religious and 1,267 parishes; Przemysl, with 1,245,000 faithful, 711 priests, 56 Religious, and 577 parishes, and Stanislavow, with 1,004,822 faithful, 524 priests, 8 Religious and 411 parishes. The dioceses of the Armenian Rite are: Lwow, with 4,200 faithful, 20 priests and 8 parishes. They are the descendants of prisoners taken by Polish armies in their wars with the Turks. The preoccupation of the Vatican for this throng of Catholics is great and to date there is no direct news as to their fate in Soviet Russia.

NAZIS USE OLD HINDENBURG DECREE TO BAN CATHOLICS

ANTWERP—The Nazis have used a decree of the late President Von Hindenburg to suppress the *Frauenhilfswerk fur Priesterberufe*, organization for the fostering of vocations to the priesthood by prayers and offerings.

The blanket order, issued by Von Hindenburg, was given out the day the Reichstag was burned in 1933 and was intended to combat Communism only. Now Himmler has used it against an organization founded by Princess Immaculata Herzogin zu Sachsen and which had a membership of 50,000. The decree is published in the *Gaset van Antwerpen*.

The Albertus Magnus Verein, founded in 1898 in behalf of poor Catholic students, also has been suppressed under the same decree. The present Nazi Minister of Propaganda, Goebbels, himself received help from this institution while making his studies.

GUIDE TO CHURCH, SCHOOL BUILDING ISSUED BY N.C.W.C.

WASHINGTON—A guide to the procedure necessary in the planning and construction of churches, schools and other institutions has just been issued by the Publications Office of the National Catholic Welfare Conference here.

Entitled, "How To Build," the booklet is the work of Daniel Paul Higgins, of New York, a member of the American Institute of Architects, in collaboration with prominent mechanical and structural engineers and other experts. Some of the subjects treated are: "The Choice of an Architect by a Client," "Architectural Fees," "Agreement on the Fundamentals," "Procedure of the Architect," "Mechanical and Structural Engineering," "The Construction of the Building."

From Oxford



Rev. Martin Cyril D'Arcy, S. J., Master of Campion Hall at Oxford University, England, who has been made Head of the Department of Philosophy in the Graduate School at Fordham University, New York. (N.C.W.C.)

City Honors Bishop As Fine Citizen

BRUSSELS—Every five years, a special distinction is bestowed on the citizen who has contributed in a special way to the progress of the city of Namur.

This year it was granted to the Most Rev. Thomas Heylen, Bishop of Namur and Chairman of International Eucharistic Congresses. Bishop Heylen is 63 years of age, and became Bishop of Namur in 1936.



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