

# INTERNATIONAL

## THREE WORLD CAPITALS A GERMAN BISHOP PROTESTS

### REPORT 3 CAPITALS WITH 'RELIGION IN RUSSIA' CAMPAIGNS

WASHINGTON—(NC)—A campaign to create the impression that religious freedom actually exists in Soviet Russia, is seen by observers here in manifestations that have shown themselves in three important Capitals.

It is looked upon as the outgrowth of anxiety for the transmission of material aid to Russia in its war with Germany.

Authorities here contend that the contrast of developments in this city, London and Moscow shows conclusively that neither freedom of religion nor freedom of the press exists in Russia.

In Washington, the suggestion that the Soviet constitution contains essentially the same provisions for religious freedom as does the Constitution of the United States started one of the most impressive waves of protest this country has ever seen. Three days later, President Roosevelt announced that he had instructed representatives of the United States in Moscow to take up the possibility of restoring actual religious liberty in Russia.

**Envoy in Britain Assailed**

In London, Soviet Ambassador Malysky told an American Chamber of Commerce banquet that religion in my country is not persecuted. Thereupon the Catholic Press of England leveled a withering fire of denunciations at these remarks. They were called a "typical insult to Christian intelligence."

There are reports from London that the British Government following the indication of the Soviet Ambassador, remains as likewise moved in the direction of trying to obtain religious liberty in Russia.

Now in Moscow, S. A. Losovsky as an official spokesman of the government, has issued a statement on "the basic principles of the constitution of the USSR on the freedom of religion," and has said "there is freedom of worship in the USSR."

There was no one there to dispute him. Observers point out since there is no freedom of the press in Russia, the government's statements had to go unchallenged.

Losovsky's theme was couched in the old terms that for a long time have been served up to the democracies to keep them from flaring up at continual religious persecution: that the Russian constitution has a neat if deceptive, religious practice that any church may have rites, without any mention of the fact that that government at the same time is doing its utmost to make it impossible for the people to practice religion of any sort.

Losovsky also employed the trick of drawing a red herring across the trail, by charging the "big American who is alarmed at the absence of religious freedom in Russia is a pro-Nazi 'shopworn' Argument."

The Rev. Edmund A. Walsh, S.J. Vice-President of Georgetown University and a noted authority on Russia, sees Losovsky's statement as putting forward "shopworn" arguments.

"The time has come to stop shadow-boxing," declared S. A. Losovsky, official spokesman for the Soviet government, has definitely and finally announced that no modification will be made in the treatment of religious liberty in Russia. His statement to the press on Saturday, Oct. 4, attributes the controversy in America to pro-freedom influence and waves the "big rumour" aside as "big add about nothing." He repeats the shopworn argument that religious freedom is sufficiently guaranteed by article 124 of the Constitution and argues that it is a private matter, however, with which the Soviet State does not interfere.

This move on the part of the Soviet Government officially announced by the vice-minister of foreign affairs simply passes the ball back to the people and the Government of the United States. This is tantamount to a scolding of President Roosevelt's hopes that some form of religion might be recognized in Russia.

### CATHOLIC CENTER GIVEN BY WORKER IN URUGUAY

MONTEVIDEO—Uruguay Catholic Worker with profound religious convictions has just performed a generous act worthy of commendation in itself. The fact that he did so at great personal sacrifice, and even "on the installment plan," makes it all the more deserving of high praise.

Rocha is president of a Casilla, a Catholic community project for workers in the suburbs of the Capital. Recently he provided not only the land but a temporary structure which will serve as a meeting place for one of the largest groups of workers affiliated with the Casilla.

Rocha is a man of limited means, dependent upon his wages, and the property which he has lent indefinitely for the workers' center, was acquired by small monthly payments.

### India's Women Condemn Polygamy

BOHBAV—A resolution unanimously passed at a recent session of the Executive Committee of the All-India Women's Conference condemns in very strong terms the practice of polygamy which is still prevalent in certain sections of Hindu society. The Committee has also requested the Hindu Law Reform Committee to see that the reformed Hindu Law gives women the right to live apart from husbands who marry again.

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to decline from the ruin of death.

### Locusts Plague Missions



The locust is a veritable plague in certain parts of the world. This picture, taken at the mission of the Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi at Milhonnysama, Natal, South Africa, shows a cloud of locusts alighting on some trees. In a few hours all leaves and vegetation disappeared and the locusts swept on to other areas.

### Gestapo Acts Bring Strong Protest From Reich Bishop

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State Police and against robbery for the benefit of the district government, referring to very definite acts of the secret State Police and to the weakening of the home front produced thereby.

"I must assume that my telegram was turned over to the Commander-in-Chief of the SS in the Reich and the Chief of the Gestapo for further action" by direction of the Fuehrer.

It was just this secret State Police under the leadership of Mr. Himmler against which I had asked for protection for the freedom and property of innocent German fellow-countrymen. Now if the same Mr. Himmler is to pass on the fate of the complainant made to the Fuehrer and Chancellor of the Reich against the action of the secret State Police it is certain, to state with my intercession for liberty and justice, my efforts for maintenance of the home front, will remain without any result. For in that case the person who gave the orders to the secret State Police, that is, the one who is chiefly responsible for their acts, is made judge in his own case! In that case then the rule of terror of the secret State Police will also continue to bear upon all fellow-countrymen as a frightful burden. In that case it will also in future arbitrarily dispose of the freedom and property, as well as the physical safety or even the life of German fellow-countrymen. In that case it will not be prevented in future either from taking the property of honorable German men and women whom it dislikes and who perhaps have been culminated by some cowardly informer from banishing them from home, keeping them prisoner in its cellars and concentration camps, or even killing them, for reasons of state policy which are never explained more in detail. In that case that will also remain unfulfilled in future, which Dr. Frank, Minister of the Reich, declared to be the indispensable requirement for every National Socialist defender of the Law: "The law must afford to the individual the legal possibility for defense, for clearing up the facts, and hence for protection against despotism and wrong. . . . It is impossible to combine the legal structure with condemnation entirely without defense, etc."

"Highly honored Mr. Minister of the Reich, it must be clear to every intelligent person that the Fuehrer, Chancellor of the Reich and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, is engaged with matters of foreign policy and war that he is not in a position to act on and settle himself all petitions and pleas that are addressed to him. On this assumption I was not able to decide in the past to give my vote at the election held for the two offices of President of the Reich and Chancellor of the Reich. I know that Adolf Hitler is not a divine being who, exalted above any earthly limitations, would be capable of keeping everything in mind at once and directing everything. To the duties assumed by him at that time there was later added the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces which alone would today fully engage and keep busy any man, the most talented general. But when, in consequence of this heaping up of work for the responsible Fuehrer, matters go so far that the secret State Police without hindrance shatter the home front of the German people now, in the midst of the war by the secret State Police winning danger-free victories in the domestic arena, and by the German men and women and German women, while our soldiers are fighting for Germany and by the district government enriching itself with the easily acquired property of German fellow-countrymen: when in this way, without interference from the officials obligated to protect the legal order, safety under the law is destroyed, consciousness of right is banished and confidence in the national government is destroyed, then I feel myself called and duty bound, as a German man, as a chosen representative and defender of German law and German freedom, as the responsible Bishop over almost two million German Catholics, to raise my voice aloud, regardless of the consequences that may ensue for me personally, complaining against the domestic enemies who are raising people and fathersland, giving warning in order to recall the people and its government from a course which according to the experience of history and its necessary consequences will lead to our German people and fatherland being ruined by inner rottenness and decay, despite the heroism of our soldiers and their glorious victories."

"I take the liberty highly honored Mr. Minister of the Reich of enclosing herewith carbon copies of the two sermons which I impelled by the need of our people and the sense of responsibility on my conscience delivered the past two Sundays here in the city of Muenster, most of which has been destroyed by enemy air attacks, with a most humble request for attention and consideration."

With the expression of distinguished consideration,  
Most Faithfully  
Signed, Clement August Count of Galen

Dr. Lammert  
Chief of the Reich Chancellery,  
Minister of the Reich,  
Vossstr. 6,  
Berlin W. 5.

### Six Brothers Enrolled As Students at Same Seminary in Quebec

ST HYACINTHE, Que. The Seminary here has the unique record of having six brothers enrolled as students this year. It is the first time this has happened in the 130-year history of this college.

The six brothers are sons of Notary Armand Lemond, of St. Laibore, who is himself an alumnus of the college. The brothers are all in different classes, the youngest being 11 years of age.

Another brother was graduated from the college several years ago and is now at the University of Montreal.

### Many Confirmations Made In Bogota

BOGOTA, Canon Felix Mejia, representing the Ordinary of Medellin, recently made a pastoral tour of certain communities in the Department of Antioquia. In the town of Cisneros alone he confirmed 2,628 children.

### Radio Message Sent To Poland By Lady Armstrong

NEW YORK—A message of "loyal friendship" was broadcast to the women of Poland by Lady Armstrong of the Ladies of Charity of Charity, speaking over the wave station WRUL Monday afternoon. Lady Armstrong's broadcast was one in the regular series entitled "Americans Speak to the Poles," which has for its purpose to send word of encouragement from American personalities to the persecuted Poles.

"Thousands of women all over the world are watching you loving you praying for you," Lady Armstrong said to the women of Poland. "Americans of all creeds," she added, "American Catholics especially are standing beside you thousands of us offering you our loving devotion."

Lady Armstrong, an American by birth and a Catholic, explained to her listeners her work with the Ladies of Charity. She revealed that just before the invasion of Poland, she had been invited to visit Poznan to address an International Congress which would

### FDR Move For Religion In Russia Revealed

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son. "Nothing is to be gained in behalf of the common aim to defeat Hitlerism," the paper added, "by any attempt to gloss over or excuse these things in the Russian system which are as repugnant to American ideals today as they ever were."

The New York Times said "a strong argument can be and has been made for American aid to Russia, but this argument does not rest on the preposterous notion that Russia is a democracy."

"To compare the religious situation in Russia under the Soviet constitution with the religious situation in the United States," said the Rev. Dr. James H. Holmes of New York, "is a ghastly joke and an insult to the American people."

**Holy Name Society Protest**

In a telegram sent to President Roosevelt in the name of the Holy Name Society, of which he is National Director, the Rev. Harry C. Graham, O.P., said "no religious toleration has ever existed in practice in the Soviet Union since 1917, notwithstanding Articles 124 and 125 of the Soviet constitution." Father Graham said statements which the President himself had addressed to Foreign Commissar Litvinov in 1933, and declarations by Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles in 1940 "seem to confirm this view."

On behalf of the 62,000 Catholic men comprising the membership of the Knights of Columbus in New York State a statement was sent to the President signed by Hugh A. Doyle in the deputy which declared that "it must be remembered that the basic difference between the United States and Russia relative to religion is that in Russia the only religion that is free is what Stalin gives them whereas, in the United States the government does not give religion to us, but it comes to us as an 'unalienable' right."

"Misleading misstatements" was the characterization given the reference by the Rev. Dr. Edward Lodge Curran, President of the International Catholic Truth Society. He said that it "insults every American Congressional critic."

Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico said in response to the President's reference to the Soviet constitution that the real question is not what the constitution provides, but what is actually happening under that constitution in Russia, not only with relation to religious freedom but with regard to all forms of freedom.

Representative Martin Dies of Texas, Chairman of the special House committee to investigate un-American activities said that "in the name of one kind of thousands of voiceless Christian martyrs who have been murdered by the Soviets I rise to protest against any effort in any quarter to dress the Soviet wolf in the sheep's clothing of the four freedoms."

Bishop Raymond J. Wade of the Methodist church in Detroit sent to the White House a telegram calling the reference to the Soviet constitution utterly misleading and "obviously untrue." "Undisputed imprisonment and staying of tens of thousands of priests, clergymen and laymen for religion in Russia together with the thousands of closed churches, speak louder than printed words," he said.

### HUNGARIAN PRIMATE WARNS AGAINST GOSPEL THEORISTS

BUDAPEST—For those who know the Gospel but act as if they were not Christians it would be better if they had never learned about the Gospel of Christ, for then God would not deal with them so severely. His Eminence Justinian (archbishop) Seregi, Primate of Hungary declared in a sermon delivered in his Cathedral the Basilica of Esztergom.

"Neither individuals nor nations," His Eminence said "should regard the Gospels as mere theory. The one should know the Gospels well but the essential thing is that the teachings of the Gospel be put into practice. Let us learn this lesson history has proved it. Almighty God will not let Himself be mocked with impunity and especially through a false and hypocritical Christianity."

### New Bishop Named Vatican City His Holiness Pope Pius XII has named the Rev. Pedro Aguilera Narbona of Laredo to be Bishop of Iquique, Chile.

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