

Rep. Dies Sounds Warning Against 'Fifth Columns'

WASHINGTON (NC) A warning by Representative Martin Dies, of Texas, little short of startling, has again focused attention momentarily upon long-range fifth-column activities in the United States. It was, in effect, an arrangement not only of Nazism but of Communism as well, both of which are alleged to be conspiring their efforts to undermine American institutions.

Here are some of the observations Congressman Dies made: "Our country has been flooded with a literature of hatred which is inspired by and which spreads the Nazi theories of race and religion. This literature is a brutal assault upon that racial and religious tolerance which is an essential part of Americanism."

"There are those who feel that has become indelicate even to speak of the Communist fifth column. Such persons seem to think that the Russians' heroic fight against the invading Nazi hordes is good ground for closing our eyes to the nature and ultimate aims of the Communist Party of the United States. . . . In concert with many varied peoples and governments throughout the world, we have undertaken the task of destroying Hitlerism. It is no part of that enterprise that we embrace Communism. Neither is it any part of that enterprise that we permit Communists to entrench themselves more deeply in our life and institutions."

"The assistance of the Russian armies in destroying Hitlerism is matter which we welcome unreservedly. But these things have nothing whatever to do with our conviction that the spread of Communism to new territories could be in the nature of unmitigated tragedy."

"The Communist Party has not renounced Communism and I, at least, want the record to show that I have not renounced my opposition to Communism."

"There have been intimations from time to time that the pres-

ent Russian Government has given assurances it will permit freedom of religious worship. They have been coupled, however, with the qualification that organized religion will not be permitted to carry on political activities. This leaves the door open to the Government to determine what constitutes political interference. In the past the teaching of religion has been placed in that category.

There also have been intimations that the Russian Government has given similar assurances that it is not interested in activities without the boundaries of the Soviet Union. The implication is that the Government will not attempt to promote the world revolution or actively stimulate the spread of Communism to other dominions. There is a feeling in some quarters in Washington that Stalin is centering his attention upon the economic development of Russia, but there has been no definite indication that Communist policies have been altered in this respect.

Quoting Churchill
In justifying his attitude, Representative Dies, Chairman of the Congressional Committee investigating un-American activities, quoted Prime Minister Churchill as having said: "Communism is not only a creed. It is a plan of campaign. A Communist is not only the holder of certain opinions, he is the pledged adept of a well-thought-out means of enforcing them."

From the Washington viewpoint there are two aspects of the Communist aims. The line has not been drawn distinctly between Communism as a political philosophy, in which respect it has no boundaries, and Communism as a government, exemplified by Russia. For practical purposes the Soviet Government and the Communist International are interchangeable. The same confusion, promoted by the Communists themselves, exists in the United States. There has been no sharp distinction between Communist activities carried on or encouraged by the International, and Communism as a political party operating under the laws of the United States. The Dies Committee has appeared to lump them together. As Mr. Churchill warned, in the statement cited by Representative Dies, "Democracy is but a tool to be used and afterward broken, liberty but a sentimental folly unworthy of the logician."

Educators To Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO The thirty-ninth annual meeting of the National Catholic Educational Association will be held at the Stevens Hotel here April 8 to 10.

There will be sessions of all the departments and sections of the association, including the Seminary Department, College and University Department, Secondary School Department, School Superintendents' Department, Minor Seminary Section, Catholic Deaf-education Section and Catholic Blind-Education Section.

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DIGNITARIES VIEW USO MOVIE IN CAPITAL



High ranking Army and Navy officers, Washington correspondents, government and defense officials attended a private showing of the USO anniversary film, "The Private Letters of Private Debbie," in the nation's Capital. Among those present at the premiere and reception which followed were (left to right), Harper Sibley, President of the USO; Brig. General Louis E. Hershey, Director of Selective Service; Francis P. Matthews, head of the Knights of Columbus, Vice-President of the USO, host of the evening, and Captain H. A. Badt, Director of Enlisted Personnel, U. S. N. (N.C.W.C.)

Reports 1941 Increase In Indecent Magazines

WASHINGTON (NC) — There has been an increase in the number of magazines with questionable contents seeking admission to the United States mails in the past year. But the amount of literature advertising obscene books and pictures, addressed to residents of the United States by foreign dealers, showed a marked decrease.

These facts are contained in the Annual Report of the Postmaster General for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1941, just released here.

The transmission in the mails of any matter of "an indecent, obscene, lewd, lascivious or filthy character" is prohibited by Section 698, of the Postal Laws and Regulations, the report reminds, adding that when such matter is found in the mails, it is disposed of as un-mailable. The Office of the Solicitor, the report added, furnished more than 200 rulings each month to postmasters relative to the mailing of matter under Section 698, which prohibits the transmission through the mails of indecent, scurrilous, defamatory or threatening matter when it appears on the outside cover or wrapper of mail.

War's Progress Seen Widely Affecting Catholic Life

(By N.C.W.C. News Service)

The numerous and sometimes unexpected ways in which the current war will impinge upon Catholic institutions and Catholic life, as such, have begun in recent days to unfold themselves. Developments serve notice that all-out defense of the United States and the ideals for which it stands calls not only for sacrifice but also for an alertness on the part of all.

Expansion of the United States Army has greatly increased the need for chaplains, and the War Department has just authorized the procurement of 553 new clergymen to accept commissions as first lieutenants in the Chaplains Corps. Since the Catholic Church in the past has been called upon to supply about 25 per cent of the chaplains needed by the Army, it is possible that 250 of the new chaplains will be Catholic priests. Candidates must be between the ages of 24 and 45, and be endorsed by their ecclesiastical superiors.

America's defense effort has posed weighty problems to all institutions of higher learning, and Catholic colleges and universities

Charges 'The Black International' New Publication Slurs Catholics

(By OV Service)

It was not without reflection the Primate of Belgium, Cardinal van Roey, declared recently Christ's assurance that the gates of Hell would not prevail against His Church "contains no guarantee that the Catholic Church will always be preserved in Belgium, in France or in any particular country." Such opinions, the Cardinal added, are frequently held, but to adopt this attitude is to contradict history.

What is here said applies significantly to our own country where all too many Catholics, influenced by the existing official tolerance toward their religion, believe that all is well. Even in the face of the growing manifestations of opposition and ill-will. For instance, there is the attempt to identify the Catholic Church with fascism, especially its more objectionable features.

A concrete example of both the general spirit and the specific charge just referred to is the announcement of a new periodical, "The Black International," soon to come from the press. Dedicated to the overthrow of the Catholic Church and promising to tell "the full truth about Catholic Fascism," the magazine—scheduled to be issued biweekly for five months and after that monthly—will be published by the Haldeman-Julius Company of Girard, Kan., and edited by the apostate priest, Joseph McCabe.

An examination of the prospectus of the first ten issues, each of which will contain 15,000 words, reveals the intention of the publishers to devote the initial number to "The Vatican's Latest Crime," or "how the Church of

Rome joined the world plot against freedom, liberalism and Democracy," and how Uncle Sam was duped. Number two will concern itself with the "Red-and-Black Pope," showing how "the Pope of Peace traded in blood," and disclosing the "red record of the Holy Fathers" and how "this Pius XII" lit the flames.

The third issue is to treat of the Pope's helping Hitler to gain world power, while the fourth is to prove how the Vatican "buries international law." The latter number will consider the Church's "vile record in Spain" and "the papal cowardice over Ethiopia." Number five is connected with the third issue, as it will relate how Hitler "dupes the Vatican." Papal intrigue forms the basis of the sixth issue and "the Pope and the Italian jackal" is to be featured in the seventh. Number eight promises to castigate the pious traitors of Belgium and France and expose "the amazing folly of the Catholic bloc." How the "wicked Bolsheviks" are to save our Christian civilization" will be considered in the ninth issue, and also how the Vatican "courts" Russia. The tenth number will disclose that "Fascist Romanism defies civilization," or how "the Pope helps the plot while the world curses it."

The publishers' announcement describes "The Black International" as "a must publication for all persons who want to be in the know." It will be "devoted to a single theme that's dynamic in the average editor's office." It is of interest to note that each issue will be sent in "plain covers," in itself a revealing circumstance. Now just who are the Haldeman-Julius Company and Joseph McCabe? The firm, founded by

Emanuel Julius and Marcell Haldeman-Julius, is perhaps best known for its "Little Blue Books," some 1,755 5 and 10-cent pamphlets devoted to studies on sex, attacks upon religion and especially the Catholic Church, as well as many other subjects.

McCabe is an apostate Catholic priest who, born in 1867 and ordained in England in 1890, left the Church in 1898, because he ceased believing in a spiritual soul or the existence of God. Like Luther, he took unto himself a wife and has since then devoted himself largely to writing books, pamphlets and articles on all manner of topics, chiefly the Church. He is considered by Haldeman-Julius an authority on philosophy, psychology, the Catholic Church, theology, rationalism, free-thinking, history from the dawn of time until the present, biography, sex and all of its abnormalities, culture, superstition, prostitution, astronomy, government, economics, imperialism, television, evolution, physiology, sociology, geophysics, finance, art, education, psycho-analysis, morality (ancient and modern), marriage, birth control, and other subjects. The publishers of the dozens of books written by McCabe in fact regard him as simply "the world's greatest scholar," and "the world's greatest authority on the Black International." Actually, McCabe is a popularizer of an out-moded vulgar rationalism, as it flourished in the nineteenth century.

What the fate of McCabe's and Haldeman-Julius' "Black International" will be remains to be seen. But at any rate it is a symptom of the times and one that may not easily be ignored.

Catholic college officials report brisk sales of U. S. defense bonds and stamps among their students. In addition, and on their own initiative, Catholic collegians have devised unusual ways of helping to finance the war. One method is to apply strict economies to traditional school "proms," and to devote the increased proceeds to the purchase of defense bonds.

Catholic colleges for women have introduced first-aid and similar course. In addition, some have launched a special study of food, with emphasis on the conservation of food in the interest of the national emergency.

College To Suspend
One Catholic institution of higher learning—De Sales College of Toledo—announces that it is suspending classes with the close of the present semester. It is stated that graduation and selective service will materially reduce the school's total of 615 students, and that "it is not possible to curtail the teaching staff of a small college in direct proportion to the enrollment without lowering the standards and defeating the aims of the college."

Local Catholic groups have undertaken as private programs the provision of rosaries, prayerbooks, scapulars, medals and devotional articles to Catholic men called to military service from their areas. Some groups—such as Diocesan Councils of Catholic Women—are launching works in assistance of the Chaplains Aid Association.

First Cistercian

Okauchee, Wis. — Profession of the solemn vows of the Cistercian Order of the Common Observance has been made at Our Lady of Spring Bank Cistercian Monastery here by Frater Alberic Kullman. He is the first American to make his profession in the Order in the United States.