

Reich Prelate's Letter Avers Soldiers Decry Persecution

Sub Rosa Leaflets Warn France May Lose Soul

(This is one of a series of articles based upon remarkable documents which have come out of France and are now in the possession of the N. C. F. C. News Service. These pamphlets and leaflets, secretly circulated, make known to Frenchmen the character of the offenses committed by the Nazi invaders.)

"France, take care lest thou loosth thy soul!"

This is the title and the message of the first issue of *Cahiers du Christianisme Tomographique*—Christian documents in pamphlet form published and circulated surreptitiously in France by the United Front of Combat and Spiritual Resistance for the Liberation of France. This first pamphlet released in November has been followed by others published bi-monthly.

The French who present these *Cahiers* to you the first pamphlet says, "are not making politics for or against this or that. Their one concern is to represent the slow asphyxiation of consciences. They supply you with registered facts and authentic documents. They remind you of doctrinal directives. They rely upon your ingenuity to amplify prudently and courageously the echo of these reports of Christian testimony."

Frudent and Distrustful

The prelude to the first article is a warning that "it is our right and our duty to be doubly prudent and distrustful when it is apparent that 'what is told us is untrue, and the truth is refused us.' The warning comes, it is stated, from 'the Voice of the Vatican, to which you should listen every evening (except Sunday) at 7 P. M. on 4-47.'"

In warning Frenchmen against losing their soul, the first article quotes "a German prelate who thus characterized the situation of his country at the time when the Nazi tide began to submerge it: 'An entire nation is on the way to losing its soul.' "A year ago," the article continues, "France, in her turn, was submerged and lost her liberty. Not merely the political liberty which she had to renounce as the consequence of her defeat; but also the spiritual liberty which she thought to safeguard by an armistice concluded in honor. She had a false conception of her adversary, no longer the Imperial Germany of 1941, but the Hitlerian Germany which is not satisfied with enslaving the bodies of nations, but seeks also to dominate their souls, to make them abjure their reasons for living so as to make their submissions more assured. . . . Those pages, limited strictly to the spiritual aspect of the present situation, are intended to open the eyes of all Frenchmen who still care for human and Christian values, to the following facts:

1. The fundamentally anti-Christian character of the mysticism that inspires Nazism.
2. The cunning processes of penetration and persecution employed by the Hitlerian mind.
3. Their application in France and the results so far obtained."

Persecution of Church

In discussing the anti-Christian character of Nazism, the article says: "There is not a Catholic who does not know that Bolshevism undertook to extirpate religion by violent persecution. Many, on the other hand, are ignorant of the fact that National Socialism is radically opposed to Christianity and that wherever it dominates, it unleashes a persecution, outwardly less violent, but nevertheless more dangerous and total than Communism. This persecution is a constant fact, it is a necessary consequence of the very doctrine of National Socialism; and both fact and necessity, recognized by the Church, are the reasons for the condemnation contained in the Encyclical *Mit Brennender Sorge*."

Noting that some Nazi propagandists claim that this persecution is only a "passing phase" made necessary by an excess of "political Catholicism," and that Rosenberg's "Myth of the Twentieth Century" represents "only private opinion," the article presents the following facts:

"1. Before becoming a political regime, National Socialism was and is a Weltanschauung—a con-

ception of the world totalitarian and intolerant of any religion because it is based on a mysticism.

"2. To this anti-Christian mysticism, Rosenberg gave a rational justification in the Reichism which became an integral part of the doctrine of National Socialism.

"3. The political aims of Hitler being nothing less than the domination of the world by force and by the dissemination of the Weltanschauung of National Socialism, there can be no possible conciliation or sharing of zones of influence by Christianity and Nazism. One of the two must disappear."

Hitler's Book Quoted

"In support of the above contentions, the article quotes from *Mein Kampf* and speeches by Hitler, Rosenberg's book, and a speech made by Franck, 'the Fuehrer of German Jurists,' at the Congress of Jurists in 1933. These are followed by excerpts from the Encyclical *Mit Brennender Sorge*.

"Whereas the persecution of Bolshevism is simple, brutal and patent to all eyes," the article continues, "that of National Socialism is cunning, dissimulated and perfidious. To go to the length of killing is not repugnant to it, but it aspires rather to suppressing bodies and perverting souls." This process, it is pointed out, makes use of seduction, compromise, perversion, or destruction.

Planes Over Malta As Bishop Is Consecrated

LONDON (NC)—While fighter aircraft droned overhead, the Most Rev. Maurice Caruana, Bishop of Malta, officiated at the consecration of his Auxiliary, the Most Rev. Emmanuel Galea, in the Cathedral of bomb-ravaged Valetta on July 5. The co-consecrators were the Most Rev. Michele Gonzi, Bishop of Gozo, and, by special permission of the Holy See, the Rev. Magr. Giuseppe Apap Bologna, Dean of the Cathedral.

The ceremony followed a night of air raids, but the Cathedral was thronged with peasants, monks, soldiers, sailors, airmen and school children. At the conclusion of the ceremony a Te Deum was sung. Afterward Bishop Galea appeared on the balcony of the Cathedral and received an ovation.

Library of Classics

QUITO. The Rev. Aurelio Espinosa Pollt, S.J., Corresponding Member of the Spanish Academy of Language, and Dr. Julio Tobar Donoso, President of Catholic Action, are members of the Ecuadorian Cultural Commission recently appointed to supervise publication of a library of Ecuadorian classics.

Australian Priests Laud U. S. Catholic Troops For Their Faith and Example

BRISBANE, Australia. (Delayed)—"Australian priests who have come into contact with Catholics in the American Army are impressed by the candid manner in which they approach them, by their knowledge of their faith and their devotion to the Mass and the Sacraments."

This statement was made in an editorial in the *Catholic Leader*, official organ of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The tribute was indorsed at a gathering in Melbourne by the Rev. Bernard Stewart, senior chaplain to the Australian Army in Victoria, who said he was "deeply impressed with the manly faith of the American Catholic troops."

"Australian Catholics are proud of the American men," he said. "Australia is a land of freedom, and

That persecution of their Church at home is causing indignation among Germany's fighting forces is declared in the letter sent by the Most Rev. Conrad Groeber, Archbishop of Freiburg in Breisgau, to the Nazi Minister of Culture and Public Education at Karlsruhe, Baden.

Text of the letter follows:

"Mr. Minister: I addressed my letter of Oct. 31 to you in an effort to obtain the cessation or at least some mitigation of the really hard and unjust treatment which is being inflicted upon my clergy. Instead of this, your reply dated Nov. 24 repeats your accusations against my clergy. You go even farther for you declare that the 'anti-patriotic attitude' of the clergy should not be attributed to the unjust measures taken against them by the State or the Party but that the cause is without any doubt the attitude taken up to the present by their Bishop. Incapable Understanding"

"In seeking to substantiate your charge you produce a collection of sermons I have delivered on several occasions of pilgrimages or other religious manifestations. You write that the content of these sermons is equivalent to high treason. In order to arrive at this judgment you rely on reports which the most elementary justice should have prompted you to submit to me, since you are certainly very well aware of the fact that there exists a certain type of religious witnesses rather unworthy of credit, who alter the meaning of words, even and especially when they are the words of a Bishop. I might even go so far as to believe that some among those who listened to my words, in order to use them against me were incapable of understanding them.

In truth, I have never attacked, either in public or secretly, National Socialism or the National Socialist State as a political authority, but out of a Christian and dramatic sense of duty and honor, I have protested against attacks the targets of which, actually even in school books, are Christianity and the Catholic Church.

My duty to protest. In doing this I did not, contrary to that which you write in a manner most offensive to me, conduct myself as though I were an 'element without conscience,' but rather as a loyal German citizen who holds the truth and Christ above everything else. If one is no longer permitted in Germany to explain and to defend Christianity and the Church, if certain circles go so far as to declare those who act according to their conviction traitors to the country and enemies to the State then, in truth the most elementary rights of man and all legal guarantees for the freedom of religion and of the Church are things of the past. This is the reason why I think it my duty to protest in the most solemn way.

"When I recall the firm and clear promise made when the Concordat with Rome was under negotiation, and when, on the other side, I review the violations of this same Concordat and the attacks on Christianity and the Church, when I know further that these attacks profoundly distress the German people, who already are deeply afflicted by the war when I express the opinion that in Germany in spite of recent declarations of the Fuehrer not everyone is free to be happy in his own way, then I

am convinced that I am not committing an error."

Probably Men's Absence

"Perhaps it is admissible to conclude that just those are enemies of the State and traitors who started and who maintain with fanaticism this fateful division of the German people, who, profiting by the absence of the men in the war, seek to destroy Christianity and the Church.

"As far as I myself am concerned, I shall, since right and duty exact it, continue to fulfill my obligations with devotion and in all honor, including my obligations toward my country, and I shall wait with patience for the moment when I may be judged and treated like a faithful German in accordance with the demands of justice, or at least of decency.

"Even if this hope should not be realized, I would not change this attitude, because it is dictated to me by my conscience and it depends neither upon the favor nor the disfavor of man.

"If the State wishes to regard me as an enemy of the Fatherland or as a traitor because I am pleading publicly for Catholic education and Catholic principles, it is free to do so. But in that event the State is going beyond its competence and this injustice will hurt authority itself.

"As I did before, I shall continue to defend my clergy against all unjust accusations; I shall protest against all unjust treatment, and through the spoken and the written word I shall seek for my protests the greatest possible publicity. If I, the Bishop, were not to act in this way, upon whom could my clergy rely—my clergy whom certain persons wish to see despised by the people as a foreign element?"

"Wherever there may have been failings or bunglings, which are always possible, I have been far from approving them, but I refuse with all my energy to allow members of the clergy to be accused of being foes of national defense to have them submitted to odious

ARCHBISHOP VISITS LABOR CAMP



Most Rev. Luis Chavez Gonzalez, Archbishop of El Salvador, one of the youngest Metropolitans in the Americas, pictured with a group of Salvadoran defense workers at the Panama Canal whom he visited recently during a trip to Central American countries. Archbishop Chavez personally invited all the Bishops of his sister republics to assist in the First National Eucharistic Congress to be held in El Salvador in November. (N.C.W.C.)

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Work Begins On Dionne Quintuplets New Home

CALLANDER, Ont. A contract for the new home which will house the Dionne Quintuplets and the other members of their family under the same roof, has been awarded to the Loberge Lumber Company of Sudbury for approximately \$50,000.

This is the dream of Mr. and Mrs. Olivia Dionne, parents of the famous five little sisters, soon to be realized. Work is beginning at once.

It was just a year ago that Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn of Ontario announced that the eight which Mr. Dionne had been carrying on for sometime to have the quintuplets returned to their parents' home was recognized. The new home will house Mr. and Mrs. Dionne, the eight-year-old quintuplets and the seven other Dionne children.

BISHOP RECOMMENDED TO HEAD 'HOMES' COMMITTEE

BUENOS AIRES. -- Dr. Carlos Pueyrredon, Municipal Intendant of Buenos Aires, in a message to the City Council on social conditions, recommended that the Most Rev. Miguel de Andrea, Titular Bishop of Temnos, head the special committee in charge of the construction of homes for the working class. The Executive Department has prepared a program for the construction of hygienic, well-lighted and properly ventilated homes for workers. Dr. Pueyrredon said in his message that he considered that the appointment of Bishop de Andrea would assure the realization of the program.

Twin Brothers Members Of Oblates In Canada

OTTAWA. -- With the recent ordination to the priesthood of the Rev. Francis Campbell, the English-speaking Oblates of Canada have the distinction of having twin brothers as priests in the Order.

The Rev. Francis Campbell, 23, of Toronto, was ordained two years later than his twin brother, the Rev. Kenneth Campbell, for he started out to study medicine.

There is another set of twins who are priests in Canada, but one is a Jesuit and the other a member of the diocesan clergy. They are the Rev. Leonidas Primeau, of St. Boniface, Man. and the Rev. Joachim Primeau, S.J. They are 34 years of age.

Has 242,053 Volumes

Quebec. The library of Laval University, one of Canada's finest sources for research workers, now has 242,053 volumes. This is an increase of 4,111 volumes over a year ago. In 1925 the library had only 15,000 volumes, but each year since that date there have been substantial additions.