

Collect Own Taxes, New Law Demands Of German Churches

LONDON—Under a new law which has come into force in Germany a fresh strain has been placed upon the churches in that they are now required to collect their own taxes. It is pointed out in the English Catholic Newsletter, which points out that this task formerly was performed by the Government.

Secret Documents Reveal Nazi Drive In France To Pervert Patriotism

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

"Criminals" not "martyrs" is what Hitler and his cohorts would make of patriotic French Catholics, Cahiers du Témoignage Chrétien warned in its discussion of the application of the three Nazi tactics—education, compromise and perversion—in both the occupied and the allegedly unoccupied sections of France. For this reason, there is no "bloody persecution" not at the start, but those who find "equivocation" in Hitlerian pronouncements when weighed against the facts, or who oppose recognition of the spiritual principles of Nazism, are apt to be accused of "political Catholicism, opposition to the Marshal's Government, dividing the unity of France, or of being the allies of Gallicanism and Communism."

"Prior to, but especially since the courageous Russian defense," the document states, "all patriotic resistance (in France) is attributed to Communism. All Christian resistance will find itself put in the same category! Can it be that the so-called patriots, who are collaborating in this confusion, do not realize that instead of combatting Communism, they are actually preparing its bed in our country?"

"To transform courageous Christians into 'criminals,' the first steps have already been taken. Since February (1941) a special police force, attached to the Secretariat of Information, has been engaged in surveillance of the mentality. Mail censorship and telephone surveillance make possible the preparation of dossiers. The regimen of secret denunciation has been instituted and functions in the street and over within the family, as it does in Nazi Germany itself! In schools and colleges, cells of the National Revolutionary Youth denounce fellow-students and professors. In some instances the Legion has been debased by the use of its members for an identical purpose. On all sides, the press has begun publishing warnings such as the one that appeared in Gringolre on June 27 (1941)."

The Gringolre warning was addressed to some "bad shepherds" who, "deaf to the appeal addressed to them by the greatest prelates of France, are combatting the Government of the Marshal and its policy from the pulpit."

Priests, particularly those who are members of Orders and Congregations, and influential Catholics naturally become the first victims of this special type of espionage and propaganda campaign based on contravention of the truth, such as the misuse of the late Cardinal Sadrillart's appeal to French Catholics to respect constituted authority. "If intimidation does not suffice," Cahiers du Témoignage Chrétien warns, "they (the Nazis) will go farther for it is essential, at any cost, to hinder the light that would dissipate equivocation. Catholics and other Christians of France, therefore, must expect to be calumniated, smeared and imprisoned and even to undergo a worse fate in proportion to their courage and their fidelity to Christ. At Paris already (November, 1941) many pastors and vicars have been imprisoned."

"As for us, our decision is made. Since the major interest of the Germans and their servitors is to foster and spread equivocation, our main duty as Frenchmen and as Christians is to dissipate it. Therefore, we shall not cease to set ourselves against the triumph of Nazi principles in no matter what form they are clothed."

Warning for France After quoting a passage from the June 29, 1941, radio address of His Holiness Pope Pius XII on "The

Right now it doesn't make much difference if a youngster can't remember his geography lessons from one day to the other. Cincinnati "Post."

Ways of Providence in Human Events" (the passage saying, "the Hour of God will come, the hour of mercy" and "justice, calm and peace will be restored") the document concludes with this appeal. "While awaiting the Hour of God, we will not cease to cry out: France, Take Care! Lest Thou Losest Thy Soul!"

Tells of Respect Held By Chiang Kai Shek For Church

MARYKNOLL, N. Y.—(N. C.)—Today as never before China's leader and his wife have a profound respect for the Catholic Church and its members, Chinese and foreign," writes Nicholas Chan in the current issue of Field Afar, Maryknoll's official publication.

"In spite of the reluctance of the priests, the war has projected Catholic action and Catholic ideas into prominence," Mr. Chan writes. He adds that Madame Chiang Kai Shek is reported to have remarked recently that she regrets not having known the world of Catholics sooner.

"A few years ago," the writer says, "Chinese officers told the Maryknoll missionaries in Kweilin that Chiang Kai Shek in a lecture to army cadets had proposed the Catholic mission as a model for their imitation. Throughout an entire class period, Chiang Kai Shek described the devotion and self-abnegation of these representatives of Christ."

Proud of Faith Mr. Chan adds that in China "very few people are hostile to Christianity or to any particular religious belief." "As a Catholic I have travelled widely and have always been accorded respect when it became known that I desired to

Lacking any organization or machinery for the collection of taxes, the Newsletter states, the churches find themselves in wartime unable to meet the situation. Previously the Government had collected the tax and turned the money back to the churches. "Indeed," the Newsletter states, "this has been the source of the boast that the Nazis gave the churches many million marks a year for their upkeep."

Noting that the Nazis are making capital out of the position in which the churches have been placed, the Newsletter says:

"When the Catholic and Protestant churches of Augsburg sent a joint letter to all the employers of Northern Bavaria, asking them to collect the tax from their employees in the old manner (i. e., at the source) and so ease the tremendous burden now imposed on the churches, the Schwarz Korps protested vehemently, insisting that the church tax is a private debt, that the collection of this debt is not as important as armament work, and that employers should mind their own business."

practice faithfully my religion," he goes on.

"I feel very proud of the supremely worthy position which our religion occupies in China today," Mr. Chan says. "The bombs dropped on me from Rangoon, they did not take me to the caves of Chungking, but they deepened my confidence in my own people, and my pride in my fellow Catholics. Being bombed is not without its compensations."

Mr. Chan pays tribute to "the steady and substantial part which Chinese Catholics are playing in the war effort." He himself, he stresses, is of a family that has been Catholic for 10 generations. "A family that has given martyrs and confessors to the Faith."

"I have known many Catholic priests in China, both Chinese and foreign," he writes. "I have a distinct opinion about them. They are altogether too modest. They have too long hidden their light under a bushel, they have seldom been recognized in public life. However, it is said that this quality has had advantages for the Church, since, rather than having been caught up in public affairs, the priests have been able to work undisturbed among the people and to strengthen our ranks with converts. Today we number over 3,000,000 Catholics. Everywhere I go I find at least a small group of Catholics, and in the larger cities there are generally a number of flourishing parishes."

New Mission Bishop



Most Rev. James F. Eich, O. S. F. S., formerly of Philadelphia, who was consecrated Titular Bishop of Cynapolis and appointed Coadjutor to Bishop Klemann, Vicar Apostolic of Great Namaqualand, Southwest Africa. A missionary there since 1921, the new Bishop was consecrated in Fella Cathedral, June 28. He is an American member of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. (N.C.W.C.)

BLESSING: PERU TO N. Y. TO SPAIN



Most Rev. Jose Garcia Falger, O. S. A. (right), Vicar Apostolic of the Augustinian Mission of St. Leo of the Amazon, and his brother, Rev. Gregory G. Falger, O. S. A., of the Church of St. Nicholas of Tolentino, New York City. The new Bishop, on the day of his Episcopal consecration, at Lima, was able, by means of a three-way telephone connection, to give his blessing to his mother and sisters in his native town of Pajares del Puerto, Spain, and to his brother in New York. (N.C.W.C.)

10,000 In Australia Hear U. S. Chaplain Urge World To 'Go Back To Christ'

BRISBANE, Australia — "The world's trouble is not so much that it has ceased after a fashion to love Christ, but rather that it has ceased to have faith in Him. It is not a

want of affection, but a want of belief in Him that is so pathetic today," Father Joseph Boggins, S. J., U. S. Army Chaplain, told a congregation of more than 10,000 people at the annual Corpus Christi demonstration at Nudge College here in a sermon which he gave at the invitation of the Archbishop of Brisbane, the Most Rev. James Dunig.

The invitation to Father Boggins came after the favorable comment on his sermon at St. Stephen's Cathedral here, at the commemoration of Anzac Day. In past years it has been the custom of the Archbishop to give the Corpus Christi sermon himself.

Declaring that with bombs raining death and destruction from the sky, with huge tanks plowing through the ruins of devastated cities, man has substituted the discoveries of science for the cruel task of mass slaughter, Father Boggins said:

"With the means of building a paradise at his disposal, why is man building an inferno? The answer is quite simple. He has neglected the great truth that peace and justice cannot long endure in a world that ignores God and His laws. The development of man as Son of God, as heir of heaven, has not kept pace with the development of man as inventor, as tireless student of

nature's laws. While science in the last century has moved with the strides of a giant, man has crawled with the slowness of a snail, when he has crawled at all, along the path of moral progress. He has failed in a large measure to put into practice the lessons of love of God and of his fellow-man, lessons so important that Jesus Christ, true God Himself came into the world to teach them. Instead of obeying God's teaching man, yielding to the instincts of a beast, has used the powerful instruments of modern science to give vent to his cupidity, hatred and vengeance. He is throwing bombs and mechanical hurricanes at whole civilizations.

"Go back to Christ! That is the message which a world in flames needs today. That is the message which should be carried in the headlines of our papers, proclaimed from our pulpits. That is the message which should become the marching cry of a crusading mankind as it sets out to rebuild the world on a foundation that will last to the end of time. The folly of trying to build a new world without first improving the builder ought by now to be apparent to every thinking man and woman.

"It is not knowledge that the world needs today. We are clever enough, indeed, we are sometimes too clever for our own good. It is not power we need for we have in our keeping inexhaustible resources. Faith in Jesus Christ is our great need at this present hour."

Heads Seminary

Joliette, Que. The Rev. Ernest Aubin, C.S.V., has been named Superior of the Joliette Seminary, succeeding the late Rev. Alphonse de Grandpre, C.S.V.

How Former Atheist Joined In Reciting Rosary In Java Battle Told By Soldier

ADELAIDE, Australia The daily recitation of the Rosary by Catholics, non-Catholics and a former avowed atheist followed by unexpected rescue, are among the experiences related by an Australian soldier, alumnus of one of the great Catholic Colleges in Australia, who was posted missing after the battle of Java, and who has written home telling of six weeks' harrowing experiences before rescue came. The letter appeared in The Record, Catholic weekly of this city.

"The Japanese invaded the area where I was stationed and came with numbers and with equipment so many times superior to those of the small Allied forces that the latter, despite great gallantry, never stood a chance," he writes. "From then on until very recently I have had almost a story-book life of escape: fugitive wandering with 30 others over the most rugged mountains under a blazing tropic sun, sleep always with myriads of mosquitoes, sometimes under stars, sometimes under storms, getting odd meals of native corn and rice

wherever possible, perpetually fighting unknown diseases; and ultimately striking an unexpected but glorious rescue to Australia, just as physical strength was failing so badly that four members of our party had died, and many others had become pitiful, helpless cases, without use of their limbs. Every one who pulled through is now a hospital case.

Prayed and Prayed

"For my own part, I am among the more unfortunate—very weak from hunger and fever, but progressing well. Now that all is over, despite all the anxiety and hardships, I shall always thank God for the experience. If it has not made me a better man it certainly should. While we tramped our way—men for the most part without health, without strength, and many without hope—I found that prayer once again sustained my spirits as nothing else could do. It made me feel confident that some day, somehow, I should pull through to safety. I prayed and prayed, including the 'Thirty Days'

Prayer' for an early return home; it seems that my prayers are being answered to the letter.

"An open increase of prayer among our party was an interesting side of our trek. Five of us were Catholics. The remainder ranged from regular Protestant churchmen to avowed atheists. Early in the journey we Catholics began a daily Rosary. To our surprise a professedly casual Protestant soon joined us at his own request. We were still more surprised when he stuck with us on Sundays after some of the others had organized a Sunday service of their own. That man now intends seeking instructions in the Catholic Faith. After three weeks, every man was openly devoting at least a little time to prayer. During the fifth week one of the formerly staunch atheists began kneeling with us at our Rosaries. In the last week that man died uttering Catholic prayers. I am sure that every man who survived our experience has been drawn closer to God in consequence."