

# Present Status Of Education In Mexico Satisfies No One

MEXICO CITY (NC)—No one is satisfied with the present status of education in Mexico. Leftists are opposed to any efforts or actions tending to soften application of the law. Rightists will not be satisfied until the letter of the law, as well as the spirit of its application, is definitely modified by act of Congress.

Newsweek expressed the feeling of most Mexicans when it said in a recent editorial that Article 3 is being kept in the Constitution merely as a museum piece. "The Constitution, the principal support of the constitutional text, are for the moment in the back ground and no longer enjoy as thoroughly official favor," the metropolitan daily says.

In addition to the fact that no one, not even those who framed it, can give any clear interpretation of actual definition of the phrases used in Article 3, Newsweek says the whole intent of this article of the Federal Constitution, and its enabling act—the Education Law passed during the administration of President Lázaro Cárdenas—is not in keeping with the avowed policies of the present administration.

Article 3 cannot be explained but is explained by the "political and social atmosphere in which it was begotten," Newsweek says.

It describes this atmosphere as "official interest in getting complete control over the nation; no individual disavowal in the Revolutionary brains hitched to the chariot of the haughty leader and the urgency for great progress along purely negative lines—of which serves to explain the wharfare of want, easily viewed, is the worst pauperism in ideas, clothed with mediocrity and bungling and constituting one of the most unpopular offsprings that ever saw the light in Mexico."

Article 3 was born in the midst of characteristic clamor and wrapped in a Revolutionary thesis under the auspices of a man who was regarded as infallible.

### Public Hopes Dashed

Even now, the editorial states, with the Constitution still proclaiming that schools must be centers of "social" and "anti-familial" diffusion, everything that is said or done "in behalf of spiritual nobility, the profound meaning of patriotism, and the knowledge that we are something more than slaves and matter, will be contrary to the fundamental law."

"In other words," the editorial concludes, "culture and education, as contained and imparted outside the law, will be contraband and founded on contraband laws."

The hopes of the public that the National Education Congress, held here in January under the auspices of the Ministry of Public Education, would put an end to the confusion existing in the Ministry itself and bring about the enactment of Article 3 so as to prevent factious interpretations, were dashed. It merely proved itself unable to solve the education problem. The only modification of the text of Article 3 approved by the Congress was to change the phrase "rational and exact concept of the universe" to "scientific, moral and esthetic concept of the universe."

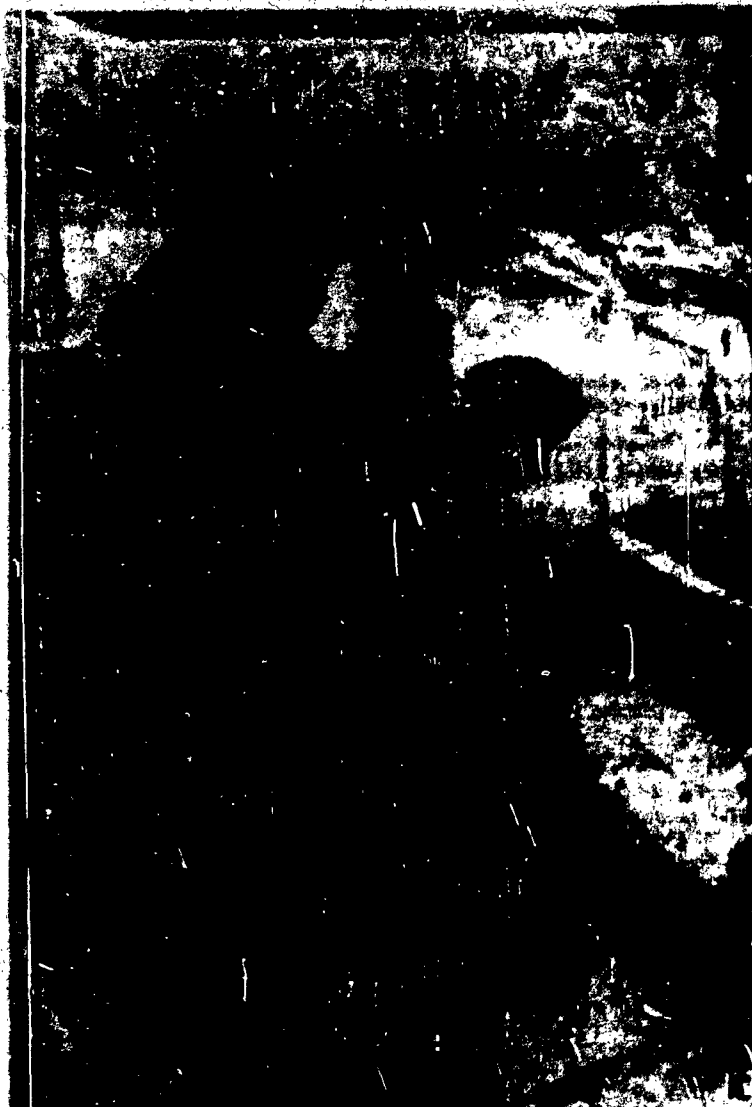
Excelsior called the work of the Congress "castles in the air." If the Chief Executive is sympathetic to Marxist ideas, the editorial said, the current ideologists can interpret Article 3 in a materialistic sense. If, to the contrary, the man in office shelters Christian sentiments and sane tolerance, then the exegeses of this precept will say—as is now happening—that it means Christian socialism. For this reason it is essential to rid Article 3 of its controversial terms.

### Organizes Military Chaplains' Corps

BOGOTA, Colombia.—The Rev. Padre Pablo Galindo, Chaplain General of the National Army, started the task of organizing the military chaplains' corps throughout the country on his recent visit to the garrison quarters in the southern sections of the country. With the approval of the Ecclesiastical Authorities and of the National Government, the first appointments of chaplains for the various garrisons, the Military Academy and the School of Artillery have been made.

Did you know that during the Klondike gold rush in 1898 eggs became scarce in Dawson City? Finally when 25 dozen eggs were brought to that city they sold for \$720, or at \$28 an egg. And the eggs weren't even fresh!

### AMERICANS AT HOLY LAND SHRINE



Brother Camillus Latta, O. F. M., of Texas, formerly stationed at the Franciscan Monastery, Washington, D. C., is pictured as he acted as guide to some unnamed American soldiers and nurses at the Shrine in the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem. (N.C.W.C.)

## Reports Monastic Severity Marks Existence Of All People In France

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

"The monastic life as led in a normal world has become the normal life of France," a well-known priest-writer still resident in that country has succeeded in informing the N.C.W.C. News Service.

There is a notable difference, however, the priest-writer informs, for in the ordinary monastic life, although the fare is simple, one does not leave the refectory hungry. This, he assures, does not hold true in the "monastic life" that is led in the France of today.

"We get up two hours before sunrise," the priest-writer continues, "and children set out for school while it is still dark. No one ever gets used to a black-out. Without exception, even among the well-to-do, one could eat a second dinner immediately after getting up from a meal and without feeling any discomfort. In a normal world, eggs, oil, fish, vegetables, even honey, and jam, are familiar sights on a monastery's refectory table, but the French housewife cannot get any of these without coupons and frequently after standing in line for a long time outside a shop, she goes home empty-handed.

Each of Heating, Shoes. Monks, as a rule, have to fireplaces of central heating for their cells; but there is a common health in the community room of a monastery where they may warm their chilled bodies. In European homes this winter there is no fire. Monks wear sandals and their long robes cover bare legs. French men, women and children are wearing wooden shoes—if they can get them, for even these are rationed and the inexperienced cannot carve a satisfactory shoe. Bare legs are a badge of honor; no decent French woman would wear stockings now if she had them, since they would infer collaboration.

Some city-bred women who formerly would not have lost an even a bathroom floor now are walking barefoot from the farthest

where they have sought refuge, carrying their shoes. If they have a pair until they get to the edge of town, those with children have moved to the country, when possible, because a growing child has a slightly better chance to keep on growing on a farm. But even on farms the food is limited, because the farmer has first choice of all produce.

"The religious life of poverty and obedience has become the general rule; the penance of the cloister is universal. It would be something of guesswork to attempt to say how much religion has gained by this enforced monastic life, but surely so much suffering and privation should accrue toward the salvation of souls.

"There is a dearth of almost everything in France and even administration offices can get only a third of their paper requirements. School children are allowed about

one-fourth of the paper normally used. Newspapers are reduced to small sheets. Practically no books are being printed. Those who can still muster a feeble fist predict that banks will have to close for lack of paper money, and that post offices, too, will go out of business.

Support of the Clergy. "With the Separation of Church and State in 1902, confiscation of Church property by the State entailed maintenance of property by the State, but no longer was any provision made for the salaries of pastors. The French Hierarchy instituted the dealer du culte—the religious mite collection—to which the majority of the French people contribute. In 1941 the scale of contributions was increased in many dioceses because of the rising cost of living. But the maintenance difficulties of the clergy have increased since then.

## Envoy Expresses China's Gratitude To Pontiff

VATICAN CITY.—His Holiness, Pope Pius XII formally received the credentials of Dr. Cheou Kang-Sie as representative of the Chinese Republic at the Vatican, and Observations

Romano declared that the expert, ease, vast culture and earnest activity of the diplomat presages great success for him as China's first Minister to the Holy See.

The Chinese Minister expressed to the Holy Father the deep satisfaction of the Chinese Government and people at the actual consummation of the long-desired diplomatic relations with the Vatican, and recalled the benevolent interest shown on many occasions by the former Roman Pontiffs, especially Pope Pius XI, in China. The diplomat indicated, too, that a profound impression had been created in China by the Apostolic teaching of the present Holy Father, and he expressed the hope for the complete realization of the Sovereign Pontiff's hopes and gra-

teous efforts for a just peace in the world.

Responding to this address, Pope Pius XII thanked the Chinese Minister for the noble sentiments he expressed in tracing the historical account of the Apostolic interest of the Roman Pontiffs since the Thirteenth Century in promoting the welfare of the Chinese people, so richly and eminently endowed with natural gifts.

When, O my God, did I ever deserve so great a favor as to be made worthy to suffer for the Name of Jesus? O well-paid fighter, even though that does not follow which I do, I thank God, and which has served me, to come hither? Blessed Charles Spina.

## War Reverses Protocol As Cardinals Call Upon Archbishop Spellman

VATICAN CITY (NC)—The current visit of the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, to the Vatican, has produced the unique situation in which Cardinals are calling on an Archbishop, instead of the Archbishop calling on Cardinals, as protocol requires.

This has been made necessary by the fact that, in view of existing circumstances, Archbishop Spellman is restricted to Vatican territory, except where Italian permission is obtained to travel in Rome. He is residing at the Villa Gabrielli, which is on the property of the North American College on Janiculum Hill. This property enjoys Vatican extraterritoriality under the treaty between the Holy See and Italy. Because Archbishop Spellman is not going beyond the confines of the Villa and of Vatican City, it is impossible for him to call upon the Cardinals, as protocol requires.

Nevertheless, Vatican circles continue to emphasize the religious character of Archbishop Spellman's visit to the Eternal City, and in regard other explanations as mere unfounded speculation.

It is noted here that the earlier flood of excited rumors and conjectures in Rome and elsewhere regarding the scope of Archbishop Spellman's Vatican visit are now subsiding. This is believed here to indicate that the purely normal character of the visit is becoming more widely appreciated. The normal character of the visit, it is pointed out, is emphasized by the Archbishop's many conferences with officials of the various Sacred Congregations of the Holy See, and with representatives of religious communities having houses in the Archdiocese of New York. It is noted that the Archbishop has had several conferences with officials of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith.

Pray often that you may be safeguarded against a sudden and unprovided death, and above all, that you may be fortified by the Holy Vinticum against the dangers of your last hour.

### ARCHBISHOP SPELLMAN'S TRIP PRIMARILY TO VISIT TROOPS, SAYS PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON.—The primary objective of the current trip to Europe of the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York and Military Vicar, is to visit American military and naval units abroad, President Franklin D. Roosevelt told newspaper correspondents here this week. The Archbishop is making the trip in his capacity as Military Vicar, he said.

President Roosevelt said he had no comment to make upon reports that Archbishop Spellman was on a special mission for him, or that he carried any message to the Vatican. The President said he saw the Archbishop before his departure.

### European Press Kept Busy Speculating On Visit Of Archbishop

VATICAN CITY.—(NC)—While the European press manifests but little interest in the visit of the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, to the Vatican, the printing of the usual conjectures and speculations, Archbishop Spellman himself continues to follow out the heaviest possible schedule of conferences with ecclesiastical authorities and the representatives of religious communities.

Some of the Swiss press assert that "many observers believe" that Archbishop Spellman's visit to the Vatican signifies the proximate nomination of Archbishop Spellman as a Cardinal.

La Liberté, the widely known Catholic daily of Yverbois, Switzerland, says it would be idle, regarding Archbishop Spellman's trip, to repeat all the rumors spread abroad in connection with the visit to the Vatican of Myron C. Taylor. President Roosevelt's personal representative, "We must limit ourselves," that paper says, "to seeing in this visit a new and consoling sign of the esteem in which Governments hold relations with the Holy See, and to formulate the hope that ultimately they will turn to her to initiate peace talks."

DNB, the German news agency, quoted a Swiss paper last Sunday, said reports from Rome said Archbishop Spellman would go to North Africa and England to visit Catholic chaplains and troops after he leaves the Vatican. DNB added that the alteration of Archbishop Spellman's itinerary to include the Vatican was made on the Archbishop's initiative.

The Gazette Times reproduced the "amusing" report in the Brooklyn Eagle that Archbishop Spellman had come to the Vatican to induce His Holiness Pope Pius XII to remove to Brazil.

### ITALIAN MISSION FUNDS INCREASE DESPITE WAR

VATICAN CITY.—(NC)—Contributions made in Italy to the cause of the Mission have increased steadily despite the war. It is noted here, in 1942 Italy's Mission contribution amount to more than 3,000,000 lire.

### Coadjutor Bishop Of New Zealand Named

VATICAN CITY.—The Rev. Hugh O'Neil, director of missions actively in the Diocese of Dunedin, New Zealand, has been named Coadjutor Bishop of Dunedin with Right of Succession. It is announced in a decree published in Ombudsman's Bulletin. The Most Rev. James Whyte is Bishop of Dunedin.