

# Catholic Press Irked By London 'Times' Views on Russia Pact

LONDON (NC)—Two Catholic newspapers here express concern over a significant paragraph in a Times editorial on the Moscow Conference.

## Reports Status Of Japan-Held War Prisoners

VATICAN CITY. — (NC) — Reports from emissaries of the Holy See who have visited prisoners of war and civilian internees in Allied and Axis territories are carried in the latest issue of Ecclesia, monthly publication of the Vatican Office of Information for War Prisoners.

Statements that, through the courtesy of the American authorities, a Papal representative visited Italian and German prisoners in Algeria. Ecclesia says: "The prisoners themselves consider the treatment they received satisfactory. The food is in every way equal to that of the American soldiers, not only corresponding to the physical conditions of International Law, but also insuring in fact a healthier diet. The medical assistance rendered the prisoners in excellent in all respects."

Concerning the visits made by His Excellency the Most Rev. Padre Macchia, Apostolic Delegate to Japan, to Japanese military and civil concentration camps, Ecclesia reports:

That the general treatment of the prisoners conforms to International Law, which is observed by authorities. That some difficulties arise from the fact that the country, habits and mentality of the Japanese differ from those of the prisoners. As regards food and clothing, the prisoners receive the same treatment Japanese soldiers receive. (This is believed to be one of the points where the difference of habits between Americans and the Japanese would cause hardships for the prisoners.) There is a monthly distribution of soap, razors and cigarettes. Prisoners generally do not lack for money and are permitted to make small purchases. Some recreation and sports are permitted, even where obligatory labor and rigorous discipline prevail. Gifts from His Holiness Pope Pius XII to the prisoners and internees are faithfully consigned by camp commandants.

Do not trust in your learning, but rather in the grace of God Who comes to the aid of the humble and humbles the proud. The Imitation.

## Quest For A Weaver To Duplicate Christ's Robe Opens In Hollywood

Frank Ross, who will produce a motion picture based on Lloyd C. Douglas' re-creating best seller, "The Robe," will shortly begin one of the oddest "talent" searches ever instituted, states The Witness, Dubuque diocesan newspaper.

He is looking for a weaver to duplicate Christ's robe, the central element in the Douglas story and a garment with much more than historical significance.

It isn't decoration or detail that makes this robe a difficult creative problem—it is, rather, its simplicity. The original robe was a matter of simple weaving. It had no trim, no lace, no fringes, no buttons, no pockets, no anything that would be a hindrance to the weaver's work.

The film, "The Robe," is being produced by Frank Ross, who is also producing "The Sign of the Cross" and "The Sign of the Cross." The film is being produced in Hollywood.

The Catholic Herald sets the excerpt across three columns and features it under a four-column head. The Times paragraph reads: "Russia claims no extension of the frontiers held by her when Hitler unleashed his invading hordes in June, 1941, and after all that she has endured and achieved in the last two years, any proposal to curtail them would be clearly resented as ill-conceived and ill-timed."

The Catholic Herald points out that the frontiers held by Russia in June, 1941, include: (a) About half the territory of Poland, the new frontier settled by agreement with Hitler (Sept. 29, 1939), running along the Bug River and turning sharply westward above Lwow to include the cities of this southern region. (b) The three independent Baltic states of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia, turned into Soviet republics under Russian pressure (July-August, 1940). (c) Bessarabia (Russian before 1918) and part of Bukovina (July, 1940).

Diplomatic Editorials "Thus," comments the Catholic Herald, "the leading British newspaper is prepared to acquiesce in the cession of half the territory of a gallant ally, guaranteed by British treaty, and in the subtraction of three independent democratic states whose relations with the allies have always been friendly. That paper views as 'ill-conceived and ill-timed' any suggestions of the integrity and independence of these nations should be maintained in the fifth year of a war to defend right against might."

The Universe after reading the Times editorial asks what are the implications of the remarkable doctrine and attitude? "These 1941 frontiers, claimed as a reward of military prowess, mean the suppression of the independent nationalities, the cession to Russia of the portion of Finland for which she was expelled from the League of Nations for aiding, and the surrender by Poland of considerably more than Hitler asked for in 1939."

This represents British policy we should be spared the offensive mockery of any more references to the Atlantic Charter, which provided for the restoration of sovereignty rights and self-government to those who had been unjustly deprived of them. It was one of the Pope's points that the will to live of one nation should not involve the death of others. We hope that Catholics and others who are pledged in this country to support these points will be alive to their responsibilities."

The Tablet makes no direct reference to the frontier question but in an editorial on the Moscow conference makes it clear that Cordell Hull and Anthony Eden are in Russia as representatives of countries whose aims and purposes have been clearly stated from the beginning of the struggle, and that they are not matters for debate or to be whittled away.

## Italian Priests In China Held In Jap Prison Camps

NEW YORK. — Italian Catholic priests at Taihang and other occupied towns in Hebei province were not to be released, according to reports from the Italian government.

## Charities Set Post-War Social Problem Study

BUFFALO. — Geared for a discussion of the many social problems which will grow out of the war, the annual joint meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Charities and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held in this city from Nov. 12 to 15.

# 'Good Neighbors' Resent U. S. Protestants' Mission Moves

Rising indignation of Latin American Catholics against Protestant propagandists continues to be reported in the Latin American press. Latest to join the Catholic chorus of protest against Protestant missionary activity among Catholic peoples of Latin America

are the voices of two prelates from the Central American republics of Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

A Pastoral Letter on the "Church and Primacy" by the Most Rev. Juan Odendahl, C.M., Vicar Apostolic of Limon, Costa Rica, deals with intensified Protestant propaganda in his Vicariate.

Choosing particularly Evangelists, Seventh Day Adventists, and Jehovah's Witnesses of attacking and insulting with diabolical hate the Catholic Church and the Sovereign Pontiff, Bishop Odendahl says:

"In combatting Protestant propaganda, we have no intention of attacking the numerous Protestants within the Vicariate who, peaceably and with good faith, practice their own beliefs and almost invariably show great respect on the occasion of public manifestations of the Catholic Faith."

La Prensa, secular daily newspaper of Managua, capital of the Nicaraguan Republic, has also editorially called attention to the significance of "the existence among us of 'evangelizing missions.'"

"We are, inclusively, a people with an ancient and a more ancient Christian heritage than any of the North American communities. La Prensa adds: "We are not in need of evangelization because, for centuries, the Gospel has been the heartbeat of our culture and the foundation on which the spirit of our nationalities rests. And no country in the world—no matter how illiterate and powerful—it may be—has the right to ignore this fact and to offend us by sending 'missionaries' to us, and much less a people and a nation of this, our own Continent."

"We are opposed to Protestant missions because out of their 'cults and schools' in Hispano-America have arisen disturbers of the social order, communists and 'followers' of every sort, the instigators of those laws and the attempted bloodshed and spoliation that has confronted Hispano-America in the past century as well as the present."

## On Catholic Hour



Rev. T. L. Bouscaron, S. J., of the faculty of West Baden College, West Baden, Ind., who is the November speaker on the Catholic Hour program, produced Sundays at 8 p. m. E. W. T., by the National Council of Catholic Men, over the NBC network. Father Bouscaron, who was a U. S. District Attorney in Oklahoma before entering the Society of Jesus, will speak on "The Foundations of Peace." (NCWC.)

# Defends Colored Race In Equality Fight

"The world of color, 14,000,000 strong, has risen from its knees, and now challenges the white world its moral right to exploit it on the basis of color alone," is the warning of the Rev. James A. Hyland of the Holy Ghost Fathers of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

"Colored leaders insist on equality among all people and this insistence on equality has a spell that makes fanatics of men who have been oppressed for centuries," he stated.

In one of his frequent pleas for race equality, Father Hyland, who spent fifteen years of missionary work among the Negro population of the Southern states said: "America's declared intention to bring the democratic way of life to all people will be smothered unless the 'color-barrier' is dropped on our own home front."

Opportunity for private ownership of farms and professional and social equality with his white neighbors are the only democratic and Catholic answer to the so-called "Negro problem," "race riots and the 'black harvest' that the Communists are reaping daily," the priest insisted.

Answering rumors that Negro associations are making alliance with Communists, Father Hyland contended: "If Negro groups have made common cause with Communists it is because they feel that they cannot fight and win against racial prejudice alone. They fear that they cannot win without an alliance with some strong group willing to back up their cause, and just as the U. S. government made an alliance with Russia to strengthen our forces against the Axis, the Negroes will join the Communists. While Catholics could form that group but the color-barrier is allowed in too many of the Catholic churches, schools and organizations and the fact that only 2% of the forty thousand Negro churches are Catholic is a direct slap in the face to those thousands of people who crave religion."

Father Hyland, who is vicariously engaged in the Nation's social plan of organizing the Negroes, believes the Negro does not want to be singled out for special treatment special justice or special charity. He sees quickly through the white man's plans and schemes for his betterment and resents being termed a problem.

## Inferior in Culture

"We are opposed to Protestant missions not only because they are a sort of hate and calumny directed against our Church, but because they represent among us a very inferior type of culture. The mediocrity and ignorance of their native pastors as a whole is something that ought to alarm the directors of our education because, although it is insignificant, they do have some influence over a sector of our population."

Concluding its extremely frank editorial, La Prensa expressed the hope that "more authoritative voices than ours would be heard." Immediately the Most Rev. Canuto Reyes y Balladares, Bishop of Granada, sent to La Prensa a statement headed, "We take up the gauntlet!"

Congratulating the daily upon its editorial which contended that Protestant missions in Latin America are "a primordial cause of discontent, friction and real discord between our peoples and those of North America," and advocated the termination "once and for all, and the sooner the better" of this cause for misunderstanding, the Bishop of Granada said: "We are entirely in accord with the opinion launched with such reasonable evidence, because—as the editorial says—we are not ignorant of the Gospel of Christ which was brought to us before it was to them, coming from a legitimate source and not adulterated like that which the Protestant missionaries are now trying to implant."

## GUADALCANAL NATIVES INSIST ON BEING CALLED THEIR CHRISTIAN NAMES

NEW ORLEANS.—All the natives of Guadalcanal have Christian names and insist that they be called by the full name. They demand Joseph, Nicholas and Benjamin, not Joe, Nick and Ben, the Rev. Francis P. Donohue, formerly assistant pastor of St. Matthew's Church, Monroe, La., wrote to Roger Baudier, Editor of Catholic Action of the South. Father Donohue is with a Seabee outfit.

"Our camp," he wrote, "was near Kokombono village and within a few days the natives came smilingly to see the new 'atu' or priest, and to kiss his hand, after the custom taught them by their French Marist missionaries, two of whom were bayoneted by the Japanese along with two Sisters from the village of Rubatu."

"Very gentle and highly intelligent, the natives made friends with the Seabees and surprised them greatly by conversing in English which they had mastered to an appreciable extent within one year. On Sunday they assisted at Holy Mass very devoutly, to the edification of the Seabees."

"'Go, Father,' said a bright eyed lad from Brooklyn, 'they know just what to do, don't they?' 'They probably figured the same about you,' I told him, explaining that the natives—or kanakas, as they are called—had been good Catholics for generations and well instructed in the Faith. At Mass we gave them the front seats, since this was their land and we were really the visitors. Their very presence was the best sermon on the Faith, uniting men of all nations in the worship of God."

## NCCW Publishes Birth Control Leaflet

WASHINGTON.—A leaflet entitled "Nurses Who Don't Nurse," by William C. Smith, a discussion reprinted from Our Sunday Visitor of activities of nurses of the Planned Parenthood Federation, has just been published here by the Committee on Family Life of the National Council of Catholic Women. The author bases his discussion on the statistics of the Planned Parenthood Federation as furnished in an article in a recent issue of The American Nurse.