Opportunities Loom For U. S. Catholics In China After The War

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Postwar China will offer tremendous opportunities for American Catholics who are specially trained, such as doctors, professors, hygienists, social workers, and journalists.

A hope recently expressed by Bishop Paul Yu Pin, Vicar Apostolic of Nanking, that Americans will volunteer for postwar work in China has met with extraordinary response.

Nearly 5,000 letters have been received by the Bishop who is currently engaged in Washington.

They have come from persons of all faiths and in many walks of life, men and women, civilians and members of the armed service, representatives of the professions, and persons possessed of varied technical skills. All attest their desire to share in the reconstruction program that is being planned for postwar China.

Because some have indicated a belief that the actual work was in immediate prospect, Bishop Yu Pin has issued a statement explaining that the recruiting of personnel is a postwar project.

"The Chinese Government," His Excellency said, "has not yet officially organized formal recruitment. This will come after the war. Private organizations and companies in the United States have begun their planning, and acting as individuals, are arranging with Chinese companies for future collaboration.

"As a Catholic Bishop of China, I also wish to take my part in this planning, and while welcoming all cooperation, my immediate interest is limited to those of my own faith. Hence after the war I will maintain a placement bureau in Nanking with its requisite affiliations in the United States. This bureau will recruit Catholic men and women who desire to spread the kingdom of God while exercising themselves in their own career. Their apostolate will be through Catholic Action, which does not mean doing any good work for the Church, but radiating Catholicity in their own sphere through their own profession. Hence these men and women will not be lay helpers of a missionary. They will come as teachers, doctors, to work perhaps in Catholic Hospitals and schools, perhaps in non-Catholic or private institutions. Their influence will depend on the force of their own Catholicity. Hence no one will be accepted who does not possess the the double qualification of zeal and some particular skill.

"China has no shortage of manpower; she is not looking for laborers. She has need of experts—those who can teach or direct others. My bureau therefore will consider only those who are proficient in some line, such as college professors, doctors of medicine, experts in public health, hygiene, social service, and journalism. Catholic technicians, if they have the proper qualifications, will be introduced to government agencies or to private Chinese concerns.

"While awaiting the end of the war, there is much that can be done by way of preparation. A knowledge of China's history, institutions, customs, geography and current events will make residence in China much more profit-

Nurse-Heroine

Two Catholic nurses were lauded in recent press dispatches from Italy. Army Lt. Helen Talbot, of Des Moines (upper photo), was credited with organizing surviving nurses and taking charge of the surgical section of a field hospital on the Anzio beach-head after it was bombed by the Nazis. Lieut. Ann Bess Berry, A. N. C., of Natchez, Miss. (lower photo), was one of two American nurses aboard the British hospital ship St. Andrew, sunk by German dive bombers off Nettuno, Italy. Rescued, she is pictured at an Allied base in Italy. (N.C.W.C.)

Catholicism And Communism In Italy

By Don Luigi Sturzo
Founder, Italian Popular Party

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Izvestia's recent attack on the Vatican may be purely a political move. Those who, like Walter Lippman and Dorothy Thompson, connect that fact with other recent ones, such as Stalin's refusal of American intervention in the Polish question, the report (as a trial balloon of Ribbentrop's peace talks with English agents, and even the rebuff against Wendell Willkie's recent New York Times' article, are right: it is all bound together and conforms to a plan, comprising the autonomy (to a certain extent) of the sixteen Soviet Republics.

It seems to me that it is intended to be a warning to the Vatican not to take a stand in favor of the Monarchy in Italy, of Franco in Spain, of Petain in France, of the Hapsburgs in Austria, nor of the Polish government-in-exile.

It may not be far fetched to consider it as connected with the fact that Cardinal Lavitrano of Palermo published a month ago, a letter in which he affirmed that "Communism is the most irreconcilable enemy of Christianity." From the reports given and denied about that, it is understood that in Palermo there was a certain resentment that undoubtedly reached Moscow. It seems that the head of the AMG informed the Cardinal that they considered his statement inopportune.

ONE OF FIVE

Whatever the incident in Palermo may have been (the Berlin Radio affirmed that the AMG prohibited, for a month, all sermons in the churches of that city), it is a fact that in Italy the Communist party is one of the five which constitutes the Committee for Liberation; that among those five is the Christian Democrat Party.

To date, every religious controversy has been put aside in Italy. The five parties have been in agreement about their political activity, which had been fixed authoritatively by the Congress of Bari, held the end of January. It is said that the Pope had manifested his preoccupation about the probability that some Communists would participate in a future Italian government, but that report has had, till now, no confirmation.

In November, American newspapers informed us that in Naples the clergy favored the formation of the Blue Party, which upheld, as the future king, Humbert of Savoy, as against those who proposed a regency in favor of the seven-year-old Victor Emanuel IV. But it seems that either the report was exaggerated since it is certain that the clergy in Naples kept out of the debate so as not to arouse any anti-clerical resentment.

In Italy today, there is a period of waiting because the Bagdolio Government is purely technical and provisional; the King is discredited and disliked by the democratic parties (he has declared he will make a decision as soon as he returns to Rome); and the Allied Commission of Control (America, Great Britain and Russia) is responsible for the execution of the decisions made at the Moscow Conference, as soon as the military situation permits it.

On the other hand, in the eyes of Italians, Pope Pius XII's personal prestige has now increased enormously. By refusing to accept the German proposition of leaving Rome, by declaring he will remain in the Eternal City whatever the outcome, by his readiness to share the griefs of siege and war with his beloved Roman children, he has proven himself a true pastor and true Italian.

Tomorrow, when a democratic government is formed in Italy, and the question of the future regime is discussed, it is my impression that the Italians will have no desire to arouse an anti-religious campaign nor a political campaign against the Vatican, as occurred during the last century.

I have confidence in the Italian good sense; I have complete faith in the efficacy of truth; I have a great hope in the activities of my Christian Democrat friends in the social field of labor and in the field of constructive politics.

BREAD COMMUNISM

It has been said in American newspapers that in Italy Communism is making great progress. The fact is that a population without sufficient daily food, with little or no clothing, that is afflicted with inflation and the black market, that does not earn a decent salary and in some places cannot even find work, can become communistic overnight. But that is not the atheistic communism condemned in Pius XI's Encyclical: this is "a communism of the stomach." There is even the other: that which was organized in the underground during the Fascist period and which emerged (like the other parties but stronger than the others) after the fall of Fascism and which always had and still has dealings with Moscow.

In Italy, it has not, to date, taken any anti-clerical trend, but who knows what it will do after Izvestia's attack against the Vatican? It is to be hoped that there will prevail the idea of not breaking the actual coalition of the five parties over such a burning question as religion. The only aim today is, and must be, to rid every corner of the country of Germans and Fascists. After that, every party must revise its program and methods. And, I hope that no party shall approve an anti-religious strike against the will and the stand of the great majority of the Italian people.

(Released by Religious News Service)

No 'Red Hats' Until Peace

VATICAN CITY. — Creation of new cardinals by Pope Pius XII probably will be deferred until after the war.

Indications here are that the next Consistory of the Sacred College of Cardinals will be one of the first signs of the return of peace to a wartorn world and the reconciliation of all peoples.

As was noted at the beginning of the war, the Holy Father seems decided, for the duration of the conflict, not to create any new Cardinals. For a time last fall it was thought that a Consistory might be called before the cessation of hostilities, at least to confer the Red Hat on those prelates who, by reason of the positions they hold or of the dioceses they govern, seem already destined to become Cardinals. However, the turn of events is believed to advise against this, at least for the present.

The College of Cardinals normally should comprise 70 members in recollection of the first 70 disciples of Our Lord. All Cardinals are nominated exclusively by the Holy Father.

The Sacred College has rarely been complete. After the last Consistory held by Pope Pius XI on Dec. 12, 1937, the number of Cardinals was 69 but, in the six years that have elapsed, numerous vacancies have occurred. Following the death of the Archbishop of Tarragona, Cardinal Vidal y Barraquer, and Cardinals La Puna and Cremonesi, the number of Cardinals has dropped to 45. Of these, 25 are Italians.

Total Abstinence Move Adopts 5-Year Plan

PHILADELPHIA. — A five-year plan to intensify and promote its Crusade of Total Abstinence has been inaugurated by the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America.

Spiritual Director of the Union, His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, recommends that abstinence societies be established in seminaries, high schools, academies, grade schools and institutions.

The five-year-plan is in preparation for the celebration in 1949 of the one hundredth anniversary of the coming of Father Mathew, the Apostle of Temperance, to America to establish here his Crusade of Total Abstinence, which he had carried on in England, Ireland and Scotland.

The National Union proposes to carry on its campaign of total abstinence, under the direction of Cardinal Dougherty, throughout the nation, calling on all persons who have been at any time associated with the Union or with any total abstinence society or have taken the pledge of total abstinence, to unite their efforts with those of the Union in carrying on the crusade.

Succeeds Fr. Cleary As Newman Chaplain

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Rev. Donald Cleary, priest of the Diocese of Rochester, has been succeeded by the Rev. Michael Mulvey, C.S.Sp., as National Chaplain of the Newman Club Federation.

The appointment was made by the Most Rev. James H. Ryan, Bishop of Omaha and Chairman of the Youth Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, after consultation with the Most Rev. James A. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester and Episcopal Moderator of the Newman Club Federation.

Father Cleary, formerly Newman Club chaplain at Cornell University, is now serving as Chaplain in the United States Army Air [illegible]

[illegible] stability of many [illegible] great pillars of

Future of Montezuma Seminary Assured

WASHINGTON, D. C.—One of the greatest factors fostering Good Neighbor relations between the United States and Mexico today is seen in Montezuma Seminary, located near Las Vegas, N. M., where Mexican candidates for the priesthood are educated. The seminary is generously supported by the Bishops' Emergency and Relief Committee out of funds raised annually in parish churches in every United States diocese.

"The institution is an offering from the heart of the United States to Latin America and one perfectly in keeping with the civil policy of our country to further the Good Neighbor program," declares a statement of the Most Rev. John Mark Gannon, Bishop of Erie and Chairman of the Bishop's Committee on Montezuma Seminary.

"The number of priests in Mexico today is but [illegible] what it was before the persecution," the Bishop's statement says. "Hence the Hierarchy has welcomed the help of the United States in rebuilding the Mexican priesthood. Today, every diocese in Mexico, without a single exception, has benefited by the addition of native priests who received their training for the priesthood at Montezuma."

"All students graduated from Montezuma return to their native dioceses imbued with good will toward the people of the United States."

Support of Montezuma Seminary is but one of more than a score of projects financed out of funds contributed in the "Bishops' Relief" appeal. Among the most important are the works of charity of the Holy Father on behalf of innocent war victims, refugees, interned civilians and homeless peoples throughout the world, as well as material and spiritual welfare being supplied to American servicemen in all theaters of war.

Chaplain Impressed With Piety Of Natives On Isles In Tarawa

Father Norton told of spending sometime with Father Grandgeorge, of the Fathers of the Sacred Heart, and of taking several trips in outrigger canoes from Beito to neighboring islands. He said that the mission priests and nuns of the islands had lost everything to the Japanese, and many of them had been living like natives.

"There are four Sisters with him (Father Grandgeorge). Supplies were brought to him and the Sisters. Flour and canned butter pleased them beyond all belief. Cigarettes are like money with the natives and he got plenty of them.

"I stayed with him all night and on Sunday I said Mass and gave Benediction. The Church is pretty, the island beautiful. The natives are happy and willing to work. They are good Catholics.

"At Church the people all squat on mats. They love the Rosary. Beads are seen all over. They are very attentive at service. They have evening service four times a week with Rosary, Litany and singing. The priest goes to a new village each Sunday. His parish is about 40 miles long."

Priests Eager For Russia Mission

LOS ANGELES. — Almost 100 priests in all parts of the world "now preparing" to carry out the mission of the Church in Russia eagerly await the day when they can carry the Cross into that country, according to the Rev. John H. Ryder, S.J., pastor of St. Andrew's Russian Catholic Church here, who is preparing himself for that mission.

Father Ryder believes the mission will be carried out in our times. The cry of Russian souls for the fountains of living water will be heard, he says, and that day will be hastened by the prayers of earnest Christians the world over. Within a few years, comparatively speaking, he expresses hope, the number of priests preparing for the work among the Russians will increase to several hundred. Others will follow in their training and, if Providence permits, in their footsteps, he says.

More people than ever are finding out that success has a habit of coming around while you're busy.—Arkansas Democrat.

Mothers At Sunday Mass, Nursery Cares For Infants

PITTSBURGH. — (NC) — The growing number of women with small children who cannot attend Church on Sundays in Sacred Heart Parish has resulted in opening a Sunday morning nursery, in charge of the Sisters of Charity. It is located in the Girls High School, immediately adjoining the church, and it is open from 9 A.M. until noon on Sundays. Women with children too small to be taken to Mass may leave them in the nursery school during the service.

There is no charge for this service, and parents now have no excuse for not attending Mass on Sundays.