

# British Catholic Press Frowns On Moscow Visit

By MARJORIE BARNARD

LONDON (NC) — Severe criticism appeared in the columns of the London Catholic press here commenting on the visit to Moscow of the Rev. Stanislaus Orlenski, an American priest of Polish descent, who has now returned to the United States.

Describing Father Orlenski as "an innocent abroad," The London Tablet declared the American priest has not acquired much skill in his choice of words.

The Catholic Herald said it was clear that Father Orlenski "in no way represents the views of the Poles in America, nor can he claim views in harmony with any important Catholic circles." The paper further commented:

### Whole Business Unbelievable

"What is unbelievable about the whole business is that Father Orlenski and his friends could for a single moment deceive themselves into the belief that their advances could have any other effect than to make any Concordat less likely rather than likely."

The view that Father Orlenski has not seemed to take account of the condition of the Poles, especially the children, under Soviet domination, was taken by the Catholic Times. The paper added:

that the Springwood, Massachusetts priest is being used for one-sided propaganda and seems to have left nothing to it gratis.

The University looked as perfectly accurate the description, "a political burlesque, staged and directed by capable Soviet agents," given by the Rt. Rev. McGr. Michael J. Ruddy, General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in his comment on Father Orlenski's trip. Monsignor Ruddy's statement, carried in a dispatch of the N. C. W. C. News Service, was published on front pages of Catholic papers in England.

### Secular Press Criticized

The British secular press was criticized by the University for the manner in which they handled stories of the priest's visit. The paper also stated:

"So far as the Vatican is concerned, his proceedings are about as relevant as those of Charles Chaplin, but when we consider what is being suffered by the Polish and other Catholics in the Soviet Union, we are more saddened than amused."

# Avers Persecution in Soviet Unparalleled

CLEVELAND, May 12 — Declaring in his Sunday sermon that persecution of the Catholic Church in Soviet Russia is without parallel in the annals of history, the Most Rev. Edward F. Hoban, Coadjutor Bishop of Cleveland also deplored the fact that Soviet demands on Polish territory have caused so little indignation in America. In part Bishop Hoban stated:

"If it was wrong for Germany to annex a part of Poland, then it is equally wrong for Russia to insist on the incorporation of the remaining part of the country. In Poland's hour of darkest justice demands that certain facts and moral issues be kept in mind.

"To her immortal glory Poland was the first nation to halt Hitler's procession of bloodless victories. Her people were determined to fight, even though they realized that the war meant temporary conquest and enslavement of their nation. They were convinced that peace at any cost is seldom a lasting peace and they believed that had they effect the resurrection of Poland.

the loyalty of their Allies would insure final victory over the enemy."

# Archbishop Spellman Poem to be Theme of Final Radio Drama

WASHINGTON — The prose poem, "The Rising Soldier," by the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, will be the theme of the last of the series of radio dramas on the "Catholic Hour" program, to be broadcast on May 21. It has been announced by the National Council of Catholic Men, producer of the "Catholic Hour."

# "MISSION SUNDAY OF THE SICK"



Mission Sunday of the Sick, which this year will be observed on May 21, the Feast of Pentecost, is publicized in the attractive poster distributed to parishes throughout the country by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. The missionary and the chaplain, among our wounded soldiers and the sick on the home front are depicted by the artist, J. Watson Davis. (C.W.C.)

# Point's Society's Trend Toward Jungle

BOSTON — If the downward trend of modern society continues, "we shall ultimately arrive at the conditions which prevail in the primitive jungle," declared the Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P., editor of the Catholic World, before the Diocesan Congress of Catholic Women held in Boston last week.

"What could be more casual than the kind of marriage symbolized by Hollywood and Reno and in vogue in almost every one of the 48 states?" Father Gillis asked. "There are many signs of degeneracy in modern society. One is the throw-back of music to the rhythms of the jungle. Another is jitterbug dancing, almost if not quite, as orgiastic as that of the lowest savages."

Speaking on "Defenses of the Family," Father Gillis continued: "Worst of all, from the point of view of the survival of civilization is the disintegration of the family. Those who take part in this open assault upon the institution of the family berate us Catholics as 'medievalists' because we will not, as they say, 'go forward with them.' The truth is that we refuse to go backward with them. They themselves have gone not to medieval times but to prehistoric times. They repeat conditions that prevailed when the race was emerging from savagery, or as the evolutionists say, from sheer animalism."

"The Catholic Church stands unfortunately alone among all agencies of civilization as custodian of the sanctity of marriage and the integrity of the family and the home," Father Gillis observed. "She

would welcome assistance from other religious bodies, and from the State. Instead of assistance, she receives, generally, criticism and opposition for her staunch defense of the gospel teaching on marriage, divorce and the family."

# 10 per Cent Radio Sets Tune in Sunday On Catholic Hour

COLUMBUS, O.—As high as 10 per cent of radio sets of the nation are turned to the "Catholic Hour" program, which is produced every Sunday by the National Council of Catholic Men, it was revealed at the Fifteenth Institute for Education by Radio, held here under the auspices of Ohio State University.

# British Chaplain Killed in Action

LONDON.—One of the famous North England families of the "Fighting O'Callaghans," the Rev. James O'Callaghan, who was an assistant priest at Newcastle-on-Tyne's cathedral when war broke out, has been killed in action in Italy, where he was a chaplain. He was 34.

# Military Ordinariate Scores Protestant Stand on Draft Ruling

NEW YORK (NC)—Vigorous criticism of the contention made by 23 leaders of Protestant denominations that the Selective Service system would favor the Catholic Church if a ruling canceling draft deferments for pre-theological students were put into effect on July 1, is contained in a statement issued here by the Military Ordinariate.

Exception is taken by the Military Ordinariate to what is termed an "unwarranted inference" in the Protestant declaration, reflecting upon Catholic and other private educational institutions as being in "some manner undemocratic."

The Military Ordinariate also pointed out misstatements of fact in the published declaration of the Protestant groups, declaring: "It is not true that 'if the announced policy were put into effect, it would result in an unjust and intolerable discrimination against one religious group as compared with another.' The ruling applies to all religious groups alike."

The text of the statement issued by the Military Ordinariate follows:

"To misstatements of fact and an unwarranted inference are contained in the published declaration of the 23 heads of Protestant religious denominations to Selective Service in protest against a ruling which would cancel the draft deferment of pre-theological students.

Nothing Affects All Groups. "It is not true that 'if the announced policy were put into effect, it would result in an unjust and intolerable discrimination against one religious group as compared with another.' The ruling applies to all religious groups alike.

"It is not true that 'Roman Catholic students for the priesthood would not be affected by the new ruling.' More than half of the students for the Catholic priesthood in the United States would be affected, since the majority of such students receive their college training in schools other than junior seminaries. Only 23 of the 107 Catholic dioceses in the United States have junior seminaries.

"There is no unwarranted inference in the statement that 'the Protestant children for which we speak rely upon the public schools and colleges for the basic training of the young men whom they select for training for the ministry in their theological schools. Our churches do this as a matter of principle, because they believe in public responsibility for education in a democracy.'

Statement Called "Strange" "The plain inference is that private schools are in some manner undemocratic. The statement is all the more strange when we consider that of the 23 signers of the declaration and the three committee members who presented it to Selective Service, only one is listed in Who's Who as having received his pre-theological training in a state institution, while 16 are described as having studied in one or more private institutions that are either church controlled or were founded as church-controller colleges.

"Since when is it not good American doctrine to state that parents have certain fundamental rights in educational matters? Under the American system, parents are free to select a proper school for their children. Some parents exercise this right by sending their children

to a religious school, others send theirs to a public school. This is a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution. President Roosevelt exercised this right when he attended private schools. There is nothing undemocratic in parents sending their children to a Jewish religious school, a Protestant religious school, or a Catholic religious school.

Democracy's Pioneer Schools. "These schools antedated the public schools in many sections of our country. They were the pioneer schools in the early days of democracy. They develop the moral and spiritual life of the children in a special way as a preparation for good citizenship. The history of American education has woven into it inextricably the patriotic service of the religious schools of the land. Religious schools as well as public schools prepare American children for democratic living.

"We are, of course, in entire agreement with the major premise of the signers that the supply of clergymen should not be shut off or curtailed because of the war, and we are perfectly willing to join in asking Selective Service for a more favorable interpretation of the Selective Service Law in order to continue bona fide students in their preparation for the ministry."

# SOVIET BISHOP DIES; BLESSED STALIN RULE ATTACKED PAPACY

LONDON (NC) — Metropolitan Sergius, Orthodox patriarch of Moscow and all Russia, under whom the Russian Orthodox Church became reconciled with the Soviet Government after surviving 23 years of Soviet persecution of religion, died in Russia May 15, according to a Tass announcement. The Metropolitan was 78 years old.

The Patriarch came into world attention when he announced support by the Russian Orthodox Church of Russia's war effort against the Nazi invaders, and when the church was restored officially by the Soviet Government in 1943. He was elected patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church on September 8 of last year, and assumed his duties, with the tacit consent of Premier Stalin, on December 3.

On April 7 of this year he attracted attention by an article in the Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate, reviving a traditional hostility toward Rome by attacking the Catholic Church and the claim of the Pope to be Vicar of Christ. He was widely answered by Catholic spokesmen, who linked the attack against the Catholic Church with those appearing in Soviet newspapers, as a means of furthering Russia's political aims.

Shortly after the restoration of the Orthodox Church, the Patriarch announced that it gave its blessing to Soviet rule, and a day later, on September 14, 1943, an order was promulgated by the church expelling all pro-Nazi from its ranks. The patriarch also became the author of a volume, widely circulated abroad under the aegis of the Soviet Government, attempting to minimize the Soviet persecution of religion.

# Five Sullivan Brothers Always Stuck Together Recalls Their Former Pastor

SUPERIOR — The five Sullivan brothers, who met death together on the cruiser Juncau in battle near Guadalcanal, always stuck together in life, says Father Theodosius Piaszneyer, O.F.M., chaplain at St. Francis hospital here, who was at one time the Sullivan family's pastor.

Father Theodosius was doing pastoral work in Waterloo, Iowa, the Sullivan home town, when he met the heroes' family. That was in September, 1923.

"I was out to take a census of the parish and stopped at the Sullivans. They had just finished supper, and a very good one from what was left on the table. This was our first meeting and they pre-

ferred me very much at first sight. Before I left their home I enrolled the five boys and their names in St. Mary's school," says the priest.

"In all his contacts thereafter with the five Sullivan boys, the fact that impressed Father Theodosius was that they always stuck together, through anything and everything. They were just ordinary children, real boys, rough-necked as most boys are at that age. Boys, I believe, are bolder when they belong to a gang, but when they are all brothers well-only say that got into trouble with one of the Sullivans could also figure on the other four," states the Franciscan priest, recalling his days at Waterloo.

The Sullivans' farewell to St. Mary's School is remembered by their former pastor. It was typically Sullivan. The whole family went to the Sacraments, the five boys, their sister and their parents. The five boys then went to St. Anthony's shrine and each lit a candle. Their deaths, he recalls, were also typically Sullivan. Two were in the boiler room of the ship, the other three on deck. Those on deck were hunted overboard. The youngest of the five appeared on the surface of the water and called each of his four brothers, by name, then went under. He was pulled up later, but died almost immediately from his wounds. This information on the deaths of the brothers was given him by an eye-witness, says Father Theodosius.

# Ask Religious Freedom for Freed People of Europe

BOSTON — (NC) — The Massachusetts State Council, K. of C., at its convention here this week, condemned in a resolution any attempts that might be made to force the liberated peoples of Europe to cease worshipping in the religion of their choice or to restrict the activities of their religious institutions.

The resolution expressed hope that the Allied governments will put in charge of areas overwhelmingly Catholic those who have an understanding of and sympathy with these peoples.