

Russia's 'Religious Tolerance' Held False

London—(NC)—Russia's apparent change of heart in allowing a certain measure of religious tolerance "can never be of her wool and warp as long as she remains committed to the materialistic principles of Karl Marx," writes the Most Rev. Richard Downey, Archbishop of Liverpool, in the Liverpool Cathedral Record.

"The continued attacks in Moscow journals are directed superficially against the Catholic Church as a powerful world-wide religious organization," the Archbishop states, "but funda-

mentally they are aimed at Christianity and religion in general for the simple reason that religion of any kind is incompatible with that dialectical materialism upon which communism is based, and which regards religion as merely 'the opium of the masses.'"

Recalling the attack on the Vatican by the Russian Orthodox Church, made in a statement issued by the Patriarchs at their meeting in Moscow to elect the new Patriarch of all the Russians, Archbishop Downey writes:

"It would seem that the newly freed Orthodox Church of Russia is being called upon to pay a high price for its belated resurrection, and it may be recalled that not so long ago in the days of its persecution by the State, the Holy Father expressed his sympathy with it in its suffering."

Discussing the attitude of the Soviet press to religion, and in particular its accusation of the Catholic Church as being "pro-fascist," Archbishop Downey quotes from a letter in which members of the Catholic Labor Union in Quebec asked Prime Minister Mackenzie King to enter a protest with Marshal Stalin against the "malicious, fanatical and ridiculous charges" made by Soviet newspapers against the Vatican and the Pope.

PRELATE GREET'S GENERAL "IKE"



The Archbishop of Rheims, the Most Rev. Luigi A. Marnett, shakes hands with General Dwight D. Eisenhower during ceremonies which made the Allied Supreme Commander a citizen of honor of the city, site of the final German surrender. Army Radiophoto. (NC photos.)

Briton Asks Places For Poles in Peace

London—(NC)—"Poland should be given a place at the peace conference. She should be honored for her struggle and given that place of honor as a free and independent Poland," John McGovern, Catholic Member of Parliament, told 15,000 members of the Scottish Polish Society at the celebration of Poland's national day in Glasgow.

"If this war should end without complete independence and justice for Poland, then it will have been a hollow mockery and all the moral pretense will be of no avail in the story that shall be written by future historians," Mr. McGovern added.

"While we may not agree on all questions we do agree on common decency between man and man and nation and nation," he said. "One of the galling things to me in the past year in regard to the small nations is that the press and politicians have put them in the background as being of no consequence in this great struggle that was declared to be the crusade for moral and humanitarian principles."

"Poland chose to rely on the word of her friends, Great Britain and the other nations associated with her. Is that word to be recalled? Is Poland deserted? Is she to be thrown to the dogs in this tremendous world? Our pledge to Poland must be fulfilled."

St. Pothinus

—Bishop, governed the See of Lyon during the persecution that broke out in that city in 177 and during which many were martyred.

Diocesan Drive To Aid Poland Set June 3-17

An "Aid For Poland Campaign," sponsored by the Bishops of the United States will be conducted in all Polish parishes of the country from June 3 to 17.

His Excellency Bishop Kearney has appointed the Rev. Joseph A. Bakerak, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, Rochester, as Diocesan Director of this campaign. Polish parishes of the Diocese participating in the Campaign and also designated as collection centers, include:

- St. Stanislaus and St. Theresa's, Rochester; St. Calmel's, Elmira; St. Hyacinth's, Auburn; St. Stanislaus, Bradford; and St. John's, Newark Valley.

In a letter read in these churches last Sunday, His Excellency, Bishop Kearney urged generous and quick response to the Campaign. "He who gives quickly, gives twice as much," he stated.

Items sought for the relief of war-stricken Poland include canned goods, used clothing, shoes, and medical supplies.

Arrangements have been made for the transportation of all relief materials, as soon as they are collected, to the needy areas of Poland.

British Bishops Plan Church Building Fund

London—(NC)—The Bishops of England and Wales are forming a fund to help with the rebuilding of the cathedrals, churches, schools and ecclesiastical buildings destroyed or damaged by the war in Europe.

From a central fund amounts will be distributed to the Hierarchies of the countries concerned. The fund will be named the Catholic European Reconstruction Fund.

Catholic Book Week To be Held Nov. 4-10

St. Louis—(NC)—With "Keys to World Peace—Christian Books" as its theme, the observance of Catholic Book Week, sponsored by the Catholic Library Association, will be carried out on a more complete national scale than ever before.

For this year's observance, to be held from November 4 to 10, organization has been completed in 35 states. The first Catholic Book Week observance was held in 1940.

Rumonia Food Rationed

London—(NC)—In Rumania, where food used to be plentiful, rationing was until recently only Continental in character without bread.

Centenary of the Peace

St. Louis—(NC)—The centenary of the Peace of Westphalia, which ended the Thirty Years' War, is being celebrated in various ways.

Peace Conscription Opposed in Illinois

Rock Island, Ill.—(RNS)—Acting on a resolution prepared by the Most Rev. J. H. Schlarman, bishop of the Peoria diocese, members of the Rock Island deanery of Catholic women are on record as opposing peacetime conscription.

"Compulsory peacetime military service for the security of America deserves consideration only if it is the one and only means of preserving that security," Bishop Schlarman said. "This measure means regimentation of youth. It imposes on youth, under penalty of life, the opposite of normal, free citizenship. It disrupts the continuity of educational life and interferes with individual business endeavor."

The bishop said such training would be "detrimental to the religion and morals of our youth, abandoning to the government the duties of the home and the school in matters of discipline, physical fitness and American indoctrination."




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