

Now It Can Be Told

Fulda Letters Reveal Reich Schism Threat

Washington—(NC)—Two letters, written more than four years ago, the texts of which have become available in this country, demonstrate strikingly how the Church in Germany has braved persecution and the threat of schism in a spirit of courage and unwavering devotion to the Rock of Peter.

The two documents are a letter dated June 24, 1941, which the German Bishops addressed to His Holiness Pope Pius XII on the first day of their annual meeting at Fulda, and the Holy Father's reply, dated September 8, 1941.

The German Bishops, before detailing the hardships and persecutions suffered by the Church and the faithful, express their conviction that "in unbreakable union with the Holy See and only through that union, we shall lead the Church even in Germany to victory."

The Bishops explain how the freedom of conscience is suppressed to an intolerable degree; how work in hospitals, for prisoners of war, among military foreign laborers is interfered with; how priests are arrested for reminding their flock of Catholic teaching on marriage; how religious instruction of the young is curbed; how school prayers have been abolished, and the Catholic press is suppressed.

Yet, they continue, "all these measures are a beginning. Far more significant is the intention forthwith to establish a national church for all Germany, which is certainly to be independent not only of Rome, but of Christ and a personal God."

"The situation, Holy Father, is critical in the extreme," the Bishops continue.

Then they explain the measures taken by the German Episcopate to continue spiritual ministrations "within the limits of the recent restrictions" and to show the faithful of today "what faith in a personal God and faith in the Redeemer means for them, what it has meant for Germany during all the centuries of her history." The Bishops express their determination to combat the schism resulting from attempts to found a national church.

In his reply, Pope Pius XII assures the German Bishops that he always shares their cares and anxieties. "Although now in Germany," the Pontiff writes, "there rages the slow martyrdom of Confessors rather than the quickly accomplished consummation of the Martyr, it is not on that account a less serious persecution, for immense forces are at work, with elaborate sagacity and untiring persistence, to snatch away from Christ the souls that were redeemed by His sufferings."

"Indeed," the Pope continues, "such cleverly organized schemes against religion are all the more to be feared for the more subtle art and the greater insidiousness employed in the effort to deprive the generous sons of Germany entirely of nourishment for their faith."

The Holy Father "heartily ap-

Don Sturzo Arranges Sailing on Gripsholm

New York — (INS) — Don Luigi Sturzo, frail, 73-year-old Sicilian priest who gained world fame in the 20's as the chief opponent of Mussolini's rising Fascist regime, is preparing to return to Italy, ending his 21 years' exile.

Don Sturzo founded and was former secretary general of the Popular Party, which, renamed the party of Christian Democracy, now rivals the Communist party as the most powerful political group in Italy.

Don Sturzo, who has made tentative arrangements to return on the Gripsholm, this week came to his country from England in 1940.

proves" of the measures taken by the German Bishops for the preservation of the faith in many, which they expounded in a Pastoral on June 26, 1941. These measures "are worthy of your brave apostolic spirit and well adapted to the needs of the hour," the Pope writes.



Pictured with Papal Guards at the Vatican are, left to right: Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, his son, Lt. John Eisenhower, and Gen. Mark Clark, who were received in private audience by His Holiness Pope Pius XII, on September 13. (NC Photos.)

COURT UPHOLDS JERSEY BUS LAW

Trenton, N. J. — (RNS) — The constitutionality of the state's parochial school bus law of 1941 was upheld here by the New Jersey Court of Errors and Appeals. Under the law, boards of education are required to provide for parochial and private school pupils the same transportation facilities afforded to pupils of public schools. The Court voted 6 to 3 on the question.

Challenging legality of the act was A. R. Everson, executive vice president of the New Jersey Taxpayers' Association, who was joined in his action by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr. Everson charged five violations of the state constitution, including the use of public funds for private purposes, and the Civil Liberties Union alleged that the law violated "the historic doctrine of the separation of church and state."

Chancellor Luther A. Campbell, who wrote the majority opinion, said it was the intent of the law that "pupils may be transported to parochial schools only as an incident to the transportation of pupils to the public schools."

According to that construction, he pointed out, pupils of parochial schools merely were sharing privileges already provided for pupils of public schools.

"To give such aid to some parents," he declared, "and thus enable them to comply with the compulsory statutes, and to deny it to others in an identical physical situation, on sectarian grounds and on less than a prescribed penalty would be a denial of the equal protection of the laws."

Papal Audience

British Prelate Asks:

Food for the Germans, Prayers for Russians

London—The Most Rev. Bernard Griffin, back in London from a tour of Europe, issued an urgent appeal for food for the Germans and prayers for the conversion of Russia. The problem of feeding Germany is a world problem, not one for Britain alone, the Archbishop said.

Many nations are still living in luxury and it is for them to send food by all ships available instead of talking about export trade, Archbishop Griffin said.

"It is fantastic to talk of returning home after all I have

seen," Archbishop Griffin said. "There is utter destruction in Munster, Munich, Berlin—they are simply shambles. There are no homes left. There is pallor and lassitude among the people in Berlin. The saddest sights are those of undernourished children."

Archbishop Griffin described the "horrible facts" of violation of women and looting by the Russians. In Vienna 100,000 women have been violated, not once but many times, including girls not yet in their teens and aged women, the Archbishop said.

Archbishop Griffin met all Bishops in the British zone and led them in prayers for food and for Russia's conversion. He met Michael Cardinal von Faulhaber and other German Bishops in the bomb-shattered Munich palace.

Archbishop Griffin said that "without acknowledgment of God's rights and observance of His laws, no country, however powerful may be, its arms or however numerous its armies, can finally succeed."

"That lesson," he said, "can easily be learned from the defeat of Germany. We pray, therefore, for the return of Russia to God and to the full observance of His laws. We pray with confidence."

"The Russian people are naturally a religious people, but they need freedom to express themselves, freedom to worship God, freedom to teach God's truth, and freedom to receive the ministrations of God's ministers."

Referring to the pressing problem of German schools and re-education of youth, Archbishop Griffin said: "If reeducation in Germany is to succeed it must be through the denominational schools. No other method is possible."

he said, "were responsible for a great deal of the folly committed by Australian women during the war."

Urging proper education for parenthood, the Archbishop termed the modern day nursery for children "a snare and a delusion," and asserted it was only justified in "dire necessity," such as the illness of the mother.

Australia Prelate Stresses Women's Moral Obligations

Sydney — (RNS) — Methods of combatting "evils that are destroying the moral fibre of the nation" were advanced here by the Most James Duhig, Archbishop of Brisbane, at an interstate conference of Catholic women, sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of Australia.

The Archbishop urged Catho-

lic women to oppose holding social functions in hotels "where the young might be tempted to strong drink," and to keep from the home newspapers and magazines "which feature low level illustrations and details of sordid sexual crimes."

He also called for strict control over motion pictures which

Introducing Our New

Tonic Cream Pack

PERMANENT WAVE

with Shampoo and Setting and Conditioning Tonic Cream Pack . 15.00

The new wave is a permanent wave that is easy to set and easy to maintain. It is a wave that is not only beautiful but also healthy for your hair. It is a wave that is not only beautiful but also healthy for your hair. It is a wave that is not only beautiful but also healthy for your hair.