Germans Favor French Policy On Schools

Freiburg, Germany — The Concordat between the Holy See and the German State of Baden is fully recognized by the authorities of the French zone of Germany, according to a decree just issued at Baden-Baden, French headquarters. This applies particularly to religious instruction in public schools.

The decree specifies that religious instruction under Church auspices can be imparted during regular school hours, and not on "free time" only. The only requirements are that parents specifically express themselves in writing as to whether they wish their children to receive religious instruction under the Nazi regime.

German Catholics in general comment favorably on French policy in matters of religion, and observers in the French zone agree that Catholics there are given greater leeway in promoting the interests of the Church than in any of the other zones.

In the French zone alone, over a dozen Catholic diocesan publications now appear regularly. The local Kirchenblatt, for instance, has a circulation of 120,000. No similar record can be shown in either the American or the British zone where church publications remain limited in number.

The Catholic publishing firm of Herder, is bringing out a series entitled "Documents" which is sponsored by a group of French Religious interested in promoting better understanding between French and German Catholics. The series includes both French and German pastorals not generally known in the respective countries, the French papers being reproduced in German, the German ones in French so that a large reading public may become acquainted with both.

Addresses of the Supreme Pontiff and noteworthy editorials of the French and German Catholic press are also included in these publications, which are widely distributed free of charge.

Organist at 27,000 Masses

Windsor, Ont. — (NC) — Cleophas Leturneau has played the organ for more than 27,000 masses at Ste. Anne's Church, in Tecumseh, says The Windsor Star. 78 years of age, he has been organist at Ste. Anne's for 53 years, although 35 years ago he lost the fingers on his right hand.

Communist Flag Flown In Ireland as Throngs Mourned Late Cardinal

Dublin — Cardinal MacRory's death — the loss to Ireland of so venerable and beloved a Primate — will remain a chief topic of our thoughts for long to come.

The Northern authorities facilitated movement across the Border of the mourning multitude, but they did not prevent the main street of Armagh being beflagged gaily, and the Red Flag hanging from many of the chief business places. As we drove into Armagh, this view of the Hammer and Sickle over our heads was, for most of us, the first sight we ever had of the Communist banner. It was "Victory Week," and this was the fruit of it. The writer remembers, at almost his last talk with the Cardinal how His Eminence dreaded a Red sequel to the war.

There was [illegible] in the behaviour of the Orange [illegible] [illegible]

Walshes Need St. Anthony

New York — (INS) — Six hundred pupils at St. Peter's Parochial school in Brooklyn this week are asking St. Anthony to find some place for the Walshes to live.

The Walshes, mother and father and nine children, were evicted from their five-room flat after being one and a half months behind in the rent.

The only shelter they could find was with a neighbor. There they shared a five-room house with a family of ten. And with New York's critical housing shortage there was no place else to go. So Sister Theresa Carmel, principal of St. Peter's, told the school's pupils to put things into the hands of St. Anthony. Even for that patron of the lost and missing, it is quite an order.

Blesses 400 Altar Stones for Europe

New York — (NC) — Altar stones, part of the equipment of 400 Mass kits being shipped to Europe by the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee through War Relief Services-N.C.W.C., were blessed in a solemn ceremony at St. Patrick's Cathedral, with Msgr. James Griffiths, Chancellor of the Military Ordinariate, officiating.

The Mass kits are being shipped to priests who have been released from concentration camps and have no equipment, or to parishes where churches have been completely destroyed during the war.

The equipment, valued at $32,000, has complete facilities for saying Mass and contains chalices, vestments, altar cloths and linens, cruets, bells, and other necessary articles.

8,500 Pounds for Czechs

Washington — (NC) — Approximately 8,500 pounds of clothing earmarked for Czechoslovakia have been forwarded to War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conferences by the National Alliance of Czech Catholics, a letter received here from the Alliance headquarters reports.

'Our Dead Are Not Dead'

Paris Ceremony Honors Christian Workers

Paris — (NC) — A beautiful ceremony in memory of the young Christian workers who died on the battlefield, in concentration camps, or with the Maquis was held at Notre Dame Cathedral.

The faithful filed past a cenotaph placed in the Cathedral, around which, every half hour, new guards of young workers relieved other guards, standing at attention. They wore white shirts decorated with a red Cross of Malta. In the afternoon, while the Cathedral bells tolled, the 'Jocists' carrying 200 standards, marched into the edifice.

Mass was offered by a priest who once had been a worker and who had been deported to Germany during the war. Those present recited the responses to special prayers written in memory of the deceased. At the Offertory, a uniform of a soldier imprisoned in a German camp, a uniform of a deportee of Buchenwald, and the [illegible] of a fighter who had died with the Maquis, were placed in front of the altar as symbols of the Sufferings, associated with Christ's sacrifice, endured by the youth. Two war orphans brought flowers and a [illegible] placed her widow's veil upon the altar steps. "Our dead are not dead. They are living among us," [illegible]

Catholic Chaplain Longest in Pacific

Honolulu — (NC) — The record for the longest continuous service by a Chaplain in the Pacific may be held by the Rev. Marcus A. Valenta, one-time Chancellor of the Archdiocese of San Antonio in Texas, according to The Catholic Herald here.

The paper notes that Father Valenta, now on Okinawa with the 47th Engineer Construction Battalion, has served in the Pacific without furlough since July 15, 1941.

He was stationed at Schofield Barracks when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor; served on Canton Island in 1942 and 1943, and returned to Pearl Harbor toward the end of the latter year.

Joining the 1398th Engineers Construction Battalion in May, 1944, Father Valenta went with them to Saipan, and later was transferred to the Tenth Army and took part in the invasion of Okinawa. Father Valenta expects to return home early in 1946.

Masses in Bombed Osaka

Tokyo — (NC) — An auditorium in the center of Osaka has been obtained by Bishop Paul Taguchi of Osaka for religious services. Occupation troops along with native Catholics, attend Masses in the auditorium on Sundays. The Osaka Cathedral and the two other Catholic churches of the city were destroyed during the war by fire bombs.

Gypsy Tribes Attend Queen's Funeral Mass

Los Angeles — (RNS) — One thousand members of nine Gypsy tribes attended a funeral Mass in the Church of Our Lady Queen of Angels here for their queen, Darinka Lee, who died at the age of 72. She left 14 children and 137 grandchildren.

Led by a band playing haunting Gypsy airs, mourners were accompanied, to the church by three trucks piled high with floral pieces. Seven sons, who, according to Gypsy custom, had remained unshaven since the queen's death, and seven daughters, in flounced, spangled skirts, but without jewelry, marched beside the casket.

Following the burial ritual in Calvary Cemetery, mourners covered the casket with coins as it was lowered into the grave. Tree branches in falling-leaf symbolism, were laid at the cemetery gates in honor of the Serbian-born queen.

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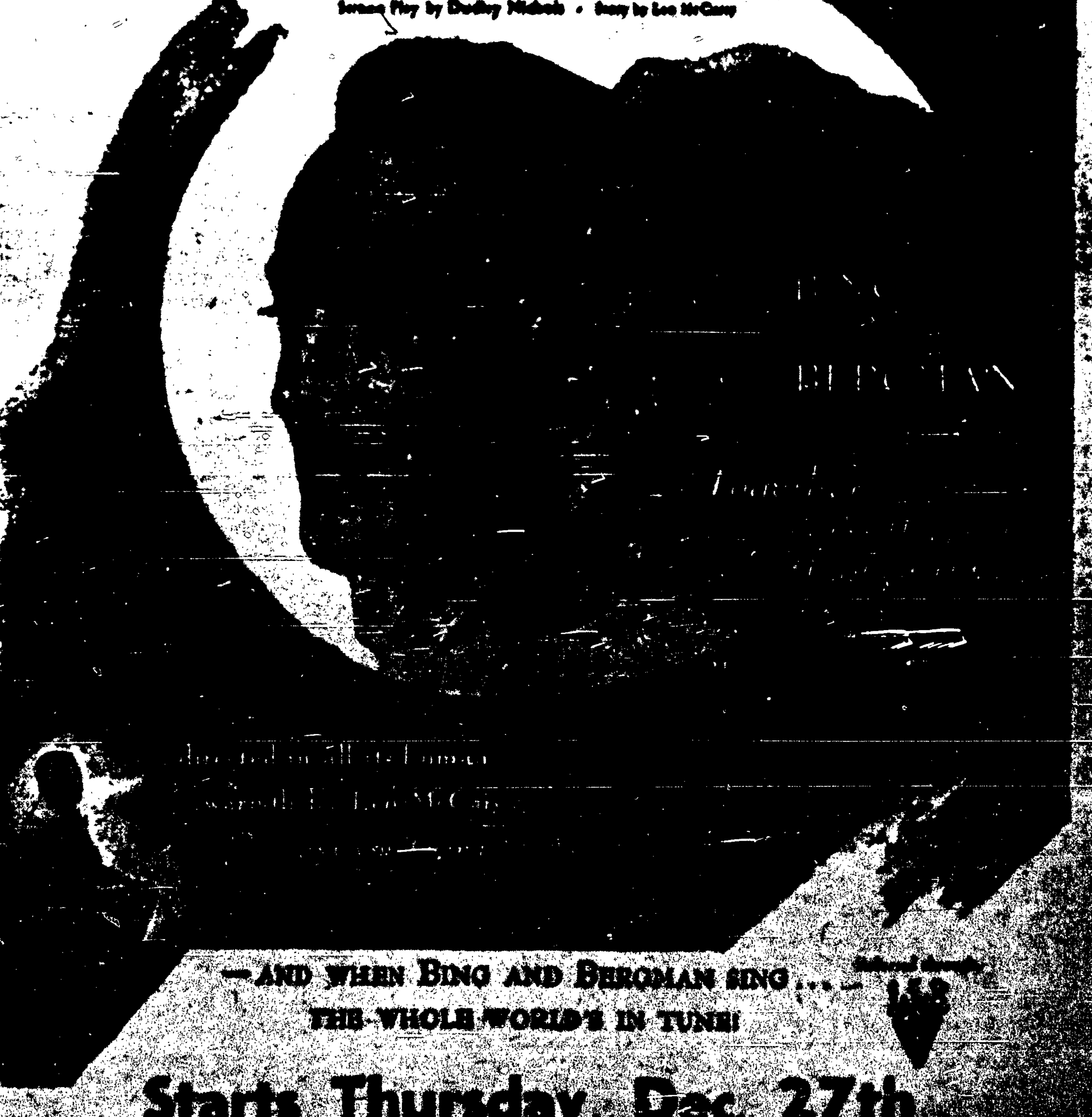

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