

Discriminatory School Testing Would be Banned

Albany, N. Y. — (RNS) — A bill to prohibit testing of school children in New York State along racial or religious lines has been introduced by Assemblyman Ithamar E. Jack, New York City Democrat. Mr. Jack said his measure was designed to eliminate "discriminatory practices" by various school boards in the state.

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ON GUARD

(Continued from page 1)

Senator Wagner asking him to obtain from the State Department confirmation and facts on the Father Braun story. (We also wired the same appeal to the Soviet Ambassador but as yet he has not replied.)

In view of the failure of the N.C.W.C. to track the silence of the State Department we were not too hopeful of success when we sent our wire to Senator Wagner but we were in for a surprise.

In less than twenty-four hours we received from Senator Wagner a long wire confirming the Soviet arrest of Father Braun and providing details of the case. And the authority for the Senator's information was the State Department!

For once, at least, the staff of this paper was eager to see

press day come along so we could get our story into print.

When the Catholic diocesan weeklies finally did appear that week, all of them, at least those we saw, featured an N.C.W.C. release which headlined a statement to the effect that the State Department had made no official confirmation of Father Braun's alleged arrest by the Soviets. Only the Courier-Journal carried the State Department's official confirmation of the Braun story.

Thanks to the efforts of Senator Wagner, we had the professional satisfaction of beating by one whole week the entire Catholic press of the United States and the N.C.W.C. News Service.

As Catholics we are always happy to welcome any stranger into the Household of the Faith but we are extra happy in the case of Senator Wagner — the man who cracked the State Department to give the Courier-Journal its best news beat of the year.

The Moscow attack against Pope Pius XII and his newly named Cardinals is a "stupor" blunder in public relations according to the verdict of fair-minded Americans.

The Soviet attempt to represent the Pontiff and the new Cardinals as anti-democratic reactionaries was launched in the pages of Izvestia, official news organ of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Soviet Union. This places the responsibility for this ill-adviced outburst directly upon dictator Stalin and those associated with him in the tyrannical rule of Red Fascism.

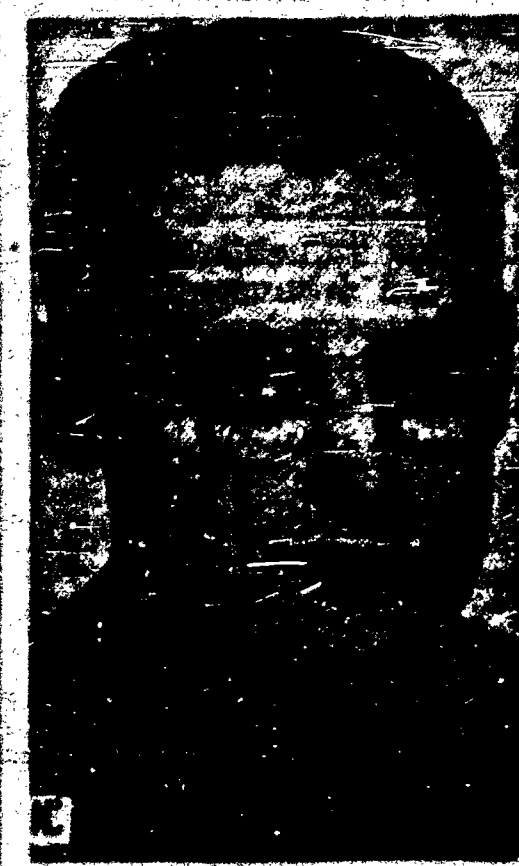
This latest of anti-Catholic invectives hurled forth by Izvestia is in the best (or worst) traditions of Moscow propaganda which is notorious for its shameless employment of slander, lies and doubletalk.

The fact that Kremlin spokesmen are forced to such dishonest methods betrays a most glaring weakness in the Soviet position, namely fear of the truth.

Izvestia accuses the Pope of trying to spread reactionary politics but never dares to quote one word of his teaching on democracy. Why did the Russian press, including Izvestia, refuse to print Pius XII's matchless exposition of true democracy?

Cardinal-elect Spellman is accused of friendship with Franco of Spain but no mention is made of the fact that the Archbishop is the man who smuggled the

Promoted



Rev. George G. Higgins, of Chicago, who has been appointed as Assistant Director of the Department of Social Action, National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, where he has been a staff member since May, 1944. Father Higgins is widely known for his work in the fields of labor and economics.

late Pius XI's condemnation of Fascism out of Italy and made it known to the world. Besides the prelate's war time record in the cause of a democratic peace is wholly ignored.

Izvestia charges Cardinal-elect Griffin of London with hostility to Russia but fails to explain that the English churchman has been a courageous champion of justice for Poland and a forthright foe of dictatorship in any form.

The three new German Cardinals are slandered as the patrons of "German Fascism" but Izvestia forgets (or does not know) that these same bishops are the men who fought Nazism in the very streets of Germany and withstood Hitler to his face and that at the very time when Stalin and Molotov were arm in arm with Hitler and von Ribbentrop!

Izvestia also charges "opposition to the democratization (this should read sovietization) of Poland" against the heroic Cardinal-elect Sapieha of Cracow but does not tell that this most popular of Polish leaders was the great stumbling block to the Hitler agents who tried to Nazify Poland.

This stupid attempt of Izvestia to discredit the Catholic Church has another significance. The searchlight of truth directed by Catholic spokesmen against the ruthless activities of the Soviets is having its effect.

The Pope's personal revelation of Russian persecution of the Ruthenian Catholics and the disclosure of Russian tyranny elsewhere as presented in the free Catholic press are exploding the myth of Stalin democracy.

The Izvestia attack on the Vatican was too stupid to succeed but resulting between the lines we see fear in the angry eyes of Moscow — fear of the truth!

Tokyo's Catholic University Fights On to Survive

New York — (NC) — Bombardment from the air in World War II was only another blow in a long series of misfortunes affecting the Catholic University of Tokyo, as recounted in the current issue of Jesuit Missions published here, but most of the school's buildings are still standing and the school's work will go on.

Before the war the University had a total of 977 students, enrolled in the two major faculties of liberal arts and commerce, a college preparatory course, and an evening school. It was engaged in the compilation of a Catholic Encyclopedia for Japanese, the publication of the semi-annual "Monuments Nipponica," and the sponsorship of a Catholic Information Bureau and a cultural forum.

Obstacles Increase

A year after the university was founded by German Jesuits in 1918, World War I broke out and the missionaries in charge were isolated from all support from their homeland. In 1923, with communication restored the famous Tokyo earthquake reduced the buildings to rubble.

Next a government regulation required private universities to deposit in government banks a fund of 500,000 yen, plus 100,000 yen for each separate curriculum, in order to have their degrees recognized. The funds were raised and in 1930 a new building was completed. Then the worldwide depression struck.

In 1938 all Japanese university students were required to take military training and participate in Shinto ritualistic parades. The Catholic students refused to bow before Shinto shrines and were reported to the Minister of War. This resulted in the stopping of military instruction at the Catholic University and involved the school in difficulties.

With the Sino-Japanese war, a rise in prices and the conscription of youth made life at the University "almost impossible." The harassing conditions came to their peak in 1941 when Japan went to war against the United Nations, and most of the faculty was ultimately interned.

Red Cross Aids Nuns to Rebuild China Orphanage

Washington — (NC) — On isolated Tientsin Chusan Island off the coast of China, the Sisters of Charity who are making valiant efforts to rebuild their ravaged orphanage and hospice for the poor will receive help in the form of American Red Cross civilian relief supplies. It has been announced here. The Sisters were captured by the Japanese in 1943 and interned at Shanghai until the war's end.

Bishop Kearney Newman Club Guest

New York — (NC) — Msgr. Fulmer J. Sheen, of the Catholic University of America, will deliver the principal address at the 27th annual convention of the New York Province of the Newman Club Federation here from February 1 to 3.

Monsignor Sheen will speak at a breakfast on February 3, which will follow a Mass offered in St. Patrick's Cathedral by Cardinal-designate Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, at which delegates will receive Holy Communion.

Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester, Episcopal Moderator of the Newman Club Federation, will be among guests at the breakfast. The theme of the convention will be "Religion Explores the Atomic Age."

The strongest bridge to other people can be built with "beams" from your own eyes.

Forecast of Mikado's Conversion Denied

Tokyo — (NC) — Dr. Shigeru Nambara, president of the Imperial University at Tokyo, disavowed the statement attributed to him that the emperor of Japan together with his household was preparing to embrace Christianity.

Declaring that he had been "entirely misunderstood" by an American newspaperman, Dr. Nambara emphasized that he had no inside information whatever concerning the emperor's intentions and that he had claimed to possess any such information.

Dr. Nambara, who is himself a Christian and the first Christian president of the Imperial University, had voiced the hope that, some day, the emperor may decide to become a Christian. It was from this statement that the original misunderstanding arose.

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