

Expert's Advice

Despite Defects of Franco Regime Let Spain Work Out Own Destiny

Red Foothold in Spain Seen Aim of Probe

By J. J. GILBERT

Washington — It has been interesting, and a little disturbing, to some observers to note the alacrity, enthusiasm and even deliberation with which elements in this country have loudly expressed the hope that Soviet Russia might somehow "steam roller" the United States and Great Britain, and force the United Nations to "go all the way" against the Franco government in Spain.

It is certainly not argued that these demonstrators are opposing the United States because of devotion to principle. Any principle that would be involved in the move against the Franco government would be at stake many times over in the matchings of the Soviet Russian regime, both at home and in eastern Europe. Yet, these demonstrators are not clamoring for the UN organization to take any steps against Russia.

David Lawrence, distinguished Washington columnist, has helped to expose the false position of such demonstrators by pointing out that Mr. Lange, the representative of the present Franco regime, "doesn't realize the precedent he is setting" in asking for the action against the Franco government. Because, Mr. Lawrence says, if the Security Council takes the action Mr. Lange and Russia want it to take, "the way is opened some day to examine the government at Moscow."

Mr. Lawrence takes the position that the United States and Great Britain acted wisely in agreeing to "look into" the Polish proposal to exterminate the case of Franco and Spain. He says "totalitarianism is a threat to world peace wherever it shows its head—whether in Spain or Argentina or Russia."

Mr. Lawrence's Spain is a subject for examination by the United Nations Security Council—then, some day a small nation somewhere which finds itself threatened by a communist invasion can ask that the tactics and strategy of Moscow also be examined by the Security Council. But apparently, those in this country who are pressing most vigorously for strong and complete action against the Franco regime in Spain have no thought in their minds that the United Nations will ever be permitted to take such action against totalitarian Russia. They still speak of Russia as though it were a democracy.

Francisco as Aggressor? It can hardly be said that those who have been most persistent in vociferating for the United Nations to unhorse Generalissimo Franco are interested solely, or even chiefly, in fighting totalitarianism. If they were, they have an example of totalitarianism par excellence in Soviet Russia.

It can't possibly be that they think Franco is, or at any time soon will be, guilty of acts of aggression. If it is aggression they are worried about, why not let the Iranian question be aired? Why not investigate the plight of the Baltic States, Poland and the Balkans? One widely-circulated commentator has referred to Spain as the last fascist state in Europe. One wonders what he understands by fascist.

If one goes on asking questions like those, the matter seems

UN 'Oust Franco' Show Proves to be a Flop

By REV. E. A. CONWAY, S.J.

New York—The farce comedy entitled "Oust Franco," produced by J. Stalin and starring Oscar Lange and Andrei Gromyko, supported by Messrs. Bonnet of France and Najera of Mexico, has folded after only two performances at Hunter College here.

Neither of the principals was responsible for the flop. Not even Barrymore at his best could have done anything with the script they had to follow.

The audience had been promised sensational new disclosures of new acts of aggression by Franco which endangered international peace. What it heard was an hour-long Lange soliloquy that was as familiar as Hamlet's "To be or not to be." Mr. Lange did little more than repeat charges against Franco which have been the stock-in-trade of American leftwingers for months. In fact, he made the mistake of repeating verbatim the memorandum prepared in this country by a group of Francophobes led by Freda Kirshwey of The Nation.

Those charges, were in turn merely an adaptation of the arguments which the American group had already used successfully to stampede our State Department into its regretted condemnation of Peron, the Argentine dictator. Franco, like Peron, harbored Nazi war criminals. Like Peron, he held Nazi assets and allowed Nazis to control industries; like Peron, he permitted Nazi scientists to develop atomic bombs.

Mr. Lange had cause to regret his uninquiring acceptance of the well worn material provided him, when Delegate Cadogan of Great Britain defied one by one the blow-up charges of the anti-Franco front.

Monnet No Help. M. Bonnet, cast in the supporting role which obviously he did not relish, was no help at all to Mr. Lange in the one scene in which Mr. Lange expected to steal the show. Charges that Franco's activities on the French border had compelled France to close the Spanish frontier were made by the spokesman for the Warsaw regime.

But M. Bonnet missed his cue completely and the Soviet-Polish

Dutch Town Defers Carnival to 1970 In Keeping Vow

Tegeles, Holland — (NC)—This small Dutch mining town in the Limburg district will wait until 1970 for the next carnival, in keeping with a vow made by local church leaders in the winter of 1944-45, when it looked as if bombardments and famine would wreck great havoc in the town.

Municipal councilors voted unanimously to carry out the vow, made by the churchmen on behalf of the population, that the merry-making festival would be postponed for 25 years if the people of Tegeles were saved from the devastation that threatened them. The sparing of Tegeles, which followed the making of the promise, benefited not only the natives of the town, but 15,000 inhabitants of neighboring Venlo, who were evacuated to Tegeles by the Germans.

Encyclopaedia Lists Former Seminary Aide

Washington — (NC) — Seven members of the faculty of the Catholic University of America have been asked by publishers of the Encyclopaedia Britannica to write articles for the 1948 printing of the reference work. Included is the Rev. Joseph C. Fenton, former professor at St. Bernard's Seminary Rochester, N. Y., who has been invited to write on "Apologetics" and "Creeds."

Eastern Rite Catholics in Czechoslovakia

Prague — Many Eastern Rite Catholics who left Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia after it had been ceded by Czechoslovakia to the Soviet Union, have found a new home in northern Bohemia and Moravia, taking the place of the Sudeten Germans who are being expelled under the laws promulgated by the Prague government.

The number of Ruthenian Catholics on Czechoslovak territory is now estimated at about 100,000. and Czechoslovak Bishops, in recognition of their pastoral responsibility, are doing their utmost to provide priests for them.

A new Greek Catholic parish has been established at Brno, in Moravia, and Roman Catholic priests are being trained so that they may be able to meet the spiritual needs of the displaced Ruthenians.

Unaffected by Schism. Whatever may be the fate of Ruthenian Rite Catholics still living on Soviet territory, there can be no doubt that those in Czechoslovakia are in no way affected by the decision of the "synod" held at Lwow, which Moscow says decided to dissolve the 350-year-old union between the Ruthenian Church in Western Ukraine and the Holy See.

Ruthenian Catholics in Czechoslovakia are absolutely free. They have their own Bishop, the Most Rev. Paul Peter Golda, O.S.B.M., whose seat is in Presov, Slovakia, a network of parishes and parsonages, and publish magazines and other religious periodicals.

The arrangement concluded last year, under which Czechoslovakia agreed to cede Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia to the Russians, granted to the Ruthenians the right of active Romanism insofar as they wish to stay in their homes or to emigrate west to neighboring Slovakia.

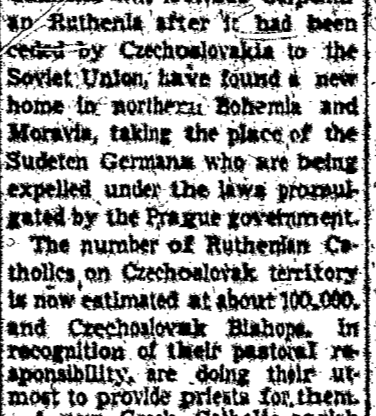
News of the settlement of Ruthenian Catholics in areas of Moravia and Bohemia that have been vacated by the so-called Sudeten Germans throws a revealing light on the tremendous forced shifts of populations now under way in Europe.

It has been reported, and not denied, that the Soviets are bringing thousands from the interior of Asiatic Russia to settle in the newly-acquired Soviet areas in the Baltic, eastern Poland and Sub-Carpathia. Thousands of the occupants of these areas, (as for instance, Eastern Poland) are shifted west to move into districts taken over from the Germans.

There have been previous reports of eastern Poles being settled in Silesia and other German areas placed under Polish jurisdiction by the Big Three agreement concluded in Berlin. The dispatch from Prague indicates that a similar shift is also taking place within Czechoslovakia.

This is neither the time nor the place to analyze which of these two schools of thought was correct. There is, obviously, not much to be said in favor of com-

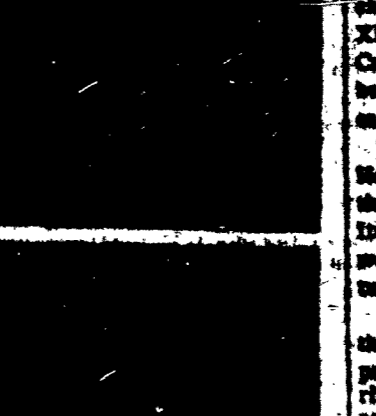
(Turn to page 3)



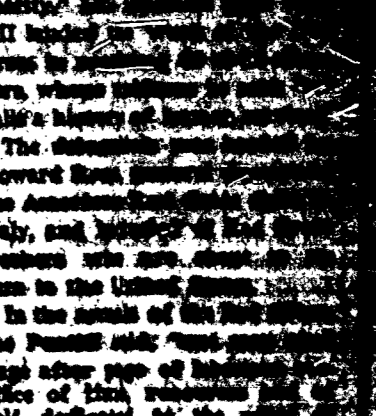
Richard Patten



Catholic church building



Church building damaged by tidal wave



Vatican official

Tidal Wave Hits Church

The Rev. J. Ryan Hughes, M.M., and two others stood on a stage at the Catholic church building at Halesowen, England, following the tidal wave of April 1. Some of the buildings were pushed 8 to 20 feet off their bases and cracked by the force of the wave. Photos courtesy Catholic Herald, Halesowen, (AP Wirephoto)

Vatican Conspiracy Stuff Disavowed by Czech Clergy

Prague — (NC) — In a Nihil obstat to the "Vatican conspiracy stuff" released by the Communist Czechoslovak Minister of Information at a party congress here, a Catholic priest, who was a prisoner in a Nazi concentration camp, made this comment:

"Mister Minister, we Czechs are not engaged in politics for our country not 'although we are Catholic priests.' 'Because we were Catholic priests.' 'Czech Catholicism has survived the anti-Rome movement of 1920. Those who are Catholics today are convinced that they can be good Catholics and, at the same time, good Czechs. Many of us have come to that conviction under the most tragic circumstances."

Archbishop Prevedel. "We all know, Mister Minister, that your 'Vatican conspiracy stuff' is artfully provoked and stirred, which will never undermine our confidence in the Holy Father. We shall not have lessons from you—whether in politics or in Catholicism."

"We are not engaged in politics; we do not strive for power or riches. What we want is a bit of real manly, even if only modest, freedom, because by our sufferings we have contributed to the preservation of that freedom which we fully deserve."

The priest who wrote these courageous words was the Rev. Adolf Kajer, S.J., editor of the Journal Hlasicki. His words were directed at Vladimir Kopecky, who in a speech at the Communist Party congress had said that "patriotic and democratic circles of the Catholic Church" are an obstacle "in stand loyalty by the Republic—in spite of all temptations emanating from the Vatican."

The priest who wrote these courageous words was the Rev. Adolf Kajer, S.J., editor of the Journal Hlasicki. His words were directed at Vladimir Kopecky, who in a speech at the Communist Party congress had said that "patriotic and democratic circles of the Catholic Church" are an obstacle "in stand loyalty by the Republic—in spite of all temptations emanating from the Vatican."

Pope Laments of U.S. Catholics

Vatican City — Pope Pius XII, in a letter to the U.S. bishops, has expressed his deep concern for the spiritual well-being of the American people, and has urged them to remain faithful to the teachings of the Church.

The Pope's letter, which was read in the Vatican on March 25, expressed his anxiety over the state of the world, and his hope that the American people would continue to be a light to the nations. He urged them to remain united in their faith and to work for the common good of all.

Advertisement for Anklets, featuring a picture of a woman wearing an anklet and the text: "Anklets, Shrink-resistant, 100% Pure Wool, Elastic Top, \$1.25 pr."

Large advertisement for Sibley's make-up, featuring a large illustration of a woman's face and the text: "Sibley's Color Cue Make-Up Kit, SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER, Dorothy Gray's Color Cue Make-Up Kit, \$2.00."

Advertisement for Upholstered Furniture and Rugs Cleaned, featuring a circular logo and the text: "Upholstered Furniture and Rugs Cleaned, Tub-Shadow-Striper Process, 3-DAY SERVICE, Stone 3322, wels & fisher, 21 Clinton Ave. E."

Advertisement for Milkmaid Cosmetics, featuring an illustration of a milkmaid and the text: "Milkmaid Cosmetics, Try washing your way to new, fresh radiance with Milkmaid Cleansing Milk, made with 99% pasteurized fresh dairy milk. Follow with Milkmaid Emulsion—a perfect foundation for make-up as well as a skin-softerner. MILKMAID CLEANSING MILK... \$1.75, MILKMAID EMULSION... \$1.75. Prices plus Federal tax. Toilettries, Aisle M, Center, Main Floor."