

# German Hierarchy Unconvinced By U.S. Stand on Banned Pastoral

Frankfurt—(NC)—“For the sake of good relations” the Bishops of Mainz, Fulda, and Limburg, whose dioceses are located wholly or partly in the American zone of occupation in Germany, have agreed to withdraw the Pastoral which was decided upon by the Hierarchy of western Germany and was to be read from all pulpits within their jurisdiction on Easter Monday.

The Bishop of Treves (Trier) who had been approached by the French authorities when they learned of the contents of the Pastoral on Easter Saturday, also acquiesced in the face of official pressure.

The Bishop of Mainz, however, let it be known that he will address a letter to the Allied Control Council in Berlin, expanding on the Pastoral in order to stress its highlights which he is anxious to bring to the special attention of the occupational powers.

Capt. Dumont F. Kenny, Religious Affairs Officer of the Military Government of Greater Germany, said that the Bishop of Limburg had sent the text of the Pastoral to American authorities five days before its planned release, but that the document had not been received until after the holidays.

Voluntarily Withdrew  
“When we pointed out,” Captain Kenny added, “that, in our opinion, the Pastoral contained certain inaccuracies, the Bishops voluntarily withdrew the Pastoral so far as it was practicable at that time. Consequently, it was read only at a few small places in our zone.”

“We did not ask for the Pastoral to be withdrawn,” Captain Kenny said, “but simply suggested that some of its criticisms of American policy be reconsidered in the light of our observations. It is our policy that pastorals and other pronouncements by church authorities shall not be subjected to previous censorship, and of course, we did not exercise any threat.”

The “Inaccuracies” to which Captain Kenny referred are, in reality, but a matter of what one might term appointment between the various zones of occupation, because the Pastoral deals competently with four major grievances which have no less emphatically been voiced by other pastorals in the various zones.

The American authorities feel that the objections raised by the Bishops do not concern the American so much as the other occupation authorities. Specifically, American officials point out that the complaints of the Bishops about ruthless expulsion of Germans from the eastern provinces of the Reich and about so-called agrarian reform apply, in the main, to the Russian zone; that the complaint about injustices suffered by German prisoners of war should be addressed to the French government; and that the complaint about lack of discrimination in carrying out the declassification policies does not appear justified, so far as the Americans are concerned.

German Mistake  
While this is undoubtedly correct in a sense, it is also true that grievous mistakes have been, and are being made in connection with all these problems—in the American as well as in the British, French and Russian zones.

The Bishops in drawing up this joint Pastoral have but echoed the sentiments not only of German Catholics and many non-Nazi Germans but also those of many American and other Allied officials in Germany, who have felt for a long time that the policies of the occupational powers are open to severe criticism on a good many counts.

# CATHOLIC MOTHER OF 1946 AND A FEW REASONS FOR HER SELECTION



A wife, mother, and civic worker was honored by the National Catholic Conference on Family Life when Mrs. Joy Seth Hurd, of St. Clement's parish, Lakewood, Ohio, was chosen as "The Catholic Mother of 1946." She is pictured here with most of her family on the occasion of the return of five of her sons from the armed services.

Washington—(NC)—Navy deplores the loss of life and persecution suffered by just one of the millions of Yugoslavians during the last five years. Illustration of the generally depressing conditions of Church and people in the war-torn country.

No less than 23 priests of the Diocese of Ljubljana (Ljuban) in Slovenia, one of the liberated republics comprising Yugoslavia, have died since 1941. A number of theological students killed or executed is at least as high: 35 priests are in prison in the present time; 57 parishes are without a resident priest; over 200 priests, religious and seminarians of the diocese are in exile.

These figures are taken from authentic reports reaching this country on the condition of the Church in the Diocese of Ljubljana. The reports state that all schools in charge of religious have been confiscated and that religious have been expelled from many convents, orphanages and educational institutions.

Religious Study Banished  
Theological education is banned in all public schools, Ljubljana and in many rural schools, and it is stated to be the policy of the present regime in Slovenia that religious instruction be given only in churches.

Thirty-six priests and four seminarians were killed by partisans forces up to the end of the German occupation in May, 1945. Since that time, the reports state, 34 chapters of the "Ustasha Anti-Communist" (Ustasha) Guards have been executed. "These executions were preceded by no legal process," the reports say.

Of 22 seminarians who died in 1945, 20 are continuing their studies in Italy. Of the others, about 40 who were forced to return to Yugoslavia were subsequently put to death. A similar fate befell a great number of the 10,000 priest students who were forcibly returned to Yugoslavia from Austria, where they had fled with the retreating German forces.

Witnesses Present  
The authorities have stopped payment of salaries and salaries in prison, and persecuted leaders, which formerly helped support the process, have been consigned to a similar fate.

Separation of Church and State, suppression of religious instruction, civil marriage and agrarian reform have been used by the Slavonic government, the

# BIRTH CURBERS SEEK OUR AID

(N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)  
The birth controllers, apparently admitting they have come up on dismal days, have taken to flooding Catholic homes with letters begging contributions to their cause. It has been disclosed that some of the letters are undated, some on regular letterhead of the Planned Parenthood Federation, some on stationery of a special fund campaign of the Federation; some on private stationery—but all the letters carry the same plea, for money to aid the distribution of birth control propaganda.

The letters carry a variety of signatures. Some are dated, others not and apparently the pleas are sent out about a month apart. Samples from some of the letters are:

Undated: "I urge you to read this because it is a matter of national importance. One of our committee members plans to write you soon regarding your support of our program."

Another dated February 11: "We seek \$240,000 for our national, state and city programs. Please help us carry out this work for 1946 by sending your gift today." Still another dated March 11: "The Federation has no endowment, so please contribute generously now."

And another dated April 15: "In February of this year, 67,527 more couples took out marriage licenses than in February 1945."

# Catholic Mother of '46 Has Fifteen Children

Cleveland—(NC)—Mrs. Joy Seth Hurd, a convert to the Faith and wife of a Cuyahoga County judge, who is the mother of 15 children and in the past year has welcomed five more, is the mother of '46.

Announcement of the award, made annually on the Feast of St. Monica, came from Miss Mary Callahan of Notre Dame College, Cleveland, president of the Family Life conference, which is affiliated with the Family Life Bureau, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Mrs. Hurd, whose children range in age from 2 to 34, with six of them still in school, is president of the Cleveland Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, a member of the board of trustees of the Motion Picture Council of Greater Cleveland, the Cleveland Board of Christian and Jewish, the Catherine Horstmann Training Home for Girls, and the Women's Board of St. John's Hospital. She also finds time to participate in the activities of seven other organizations.

Active in USO  
During the war she took an active part in the work of the USO at the Cleveland Terminal, made addresses on behalf of the war effort for the Office of Civilian Defense of Cuyahoga County, and helped in the recruiting

# Fifty Priests in Single Diocese Slain Under Regime of Tito

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where everyone, even father, shared the work as well as the joys of life.

Noting that he has been acquainted with Mrs. Hurd for the past 25 years, Mr. Schmitt seconded her selection as Catholic Mother with these words: "Upheld, generous of her time and talents, radiating cheerfulness, inspiring confidence in God, the living exponent of a workable, because truly Christian philosophy of life, we greet her as a splendid choice to serve as the inspirational model for the women of our nation in 1946."

Mrs. Hurd is the kind of a wife who says that she wishes she were as good as her husband, and the kind of a mother who cheerfully accepted the responsibility and the burden of a very large family, because her philosophy of life is basically a real trust in God. Mrs. Schmitt said.

Mrs. Hurd was born Frances Elizabeth Sumner in Cleveland in 1893, daughter of a printer who was employed for many years by the Cleveland Plain Dealer and later conducted his own print shop.

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If you wish to make the MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA for your mother, we will gladly send you, or to her, a MOTHER'S DAY greeting card telling her that a Mother's Day Novena is being made for her at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows.

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