

Wide Benefits Seen For Catholic Pupils In New U.S. Lunch Law

Washington—(NC)—Wider participation by Catholic and other non-public schools in the national school lunch program is made possible through the measure signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

Leading the program on a permanent basis.

Stemming from the depression days of 1933 when the plan was adopted as a means of utilizing surplus planes under the old Federal Surplus Commodity Corporation, the program has been operated on a year-to-year basis. Under the new National School Lunch bill, the program now becomes permanent.

Upon signing the measure President Truman congratulated Congress on the wisdom of making the program lasting and permanent.

Under the new law, one of the conditions for receiving the greater participation in the program is that the school must be a non-profit organization or institution.

The new law further stipulates that in cases where State law prohibits the officials from providing funds for the program to non-profit organizations, the officials may provide the funds to the State.

Under the permanent operation of the law, the Federal Government will make the States pay for the program on a basis of 50 per cent for the first year and 75 per cent thereafter.

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NO ASSURANCE OF DEMOCRACY SEEN IN ITALY

New York (NC)—The victory of the Christian Democrats in the recent Italian elections in which the republican form of government was chosen by a majority of some two million votes is encouraging but does not of itself insure democracy for Italy, a Vatican radio commentator has pointed out, quoting the Vatican daily, Osservatore Romano. The broadcast was monitored in this country by the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service.

The speaker drew a parallel between conditions in Italy and those in France, where, he noted, the recent Constituent Assembly's experience pointed up the possibility of a wide and fundamental divergence of approach toward a "common democratic goal."

Broadcasting results of the monarchy referendum, the Italian radio also mentioned by 55.1% announced the return from 38,242 out of 38,377 districts a showing of 22,810 votes for the republican form and 10,700 for the monarchy.

Later but slightly less complete returns on the elections to the Constituent Assembly showed 60,123,353 votes cast for candidates of the Christian Democrats, 35.7% of the 167,000 districts that had been counted. Socialist candidates had taken 4,749,972 votes or 2.8% per cent, and the Communist list was third, with 1,287,054 votes or 0.8% per cent. This vote cast for candidates of a number of other smaller parties indicated a predominance of conservative tendencies among them.

France and Italy were faced by the same choice and the results show the same moral in fact, declared the Vatican radio commentator, who was not identified. "The French people have shown a determination not to cut across the historic and traditional principles and the Christian values which are the characteristic and guarantee of a democratic nationality, and it is on this sound basis that they have decided to found their social reconstruction, to insure, with union, cooperation among the nations."

The experience of the late Constituent Assembly in France revealed a difference in approach to the common democratic goal—a difference of such dimensions as to diverge toward two distinct goals—democracy and democracy and democracy. There is a parallel in Italy, the speaker declared, where the initial Christian Democrat victory is not necessarily final.

Quoting Observatore Romano as observing that the results of the vote are more encouraging than previous ones, the commentator pointed out that the vote of 22,810 in Italy is similar to that in France and, therefore, the Italians will be faced by the same questions arising from the combination of the various groups in the Constituent Assembly and the probability of its decisions.

The paper wisely says that it must not be forgotten that the Republic is an empty form without content. It is not a fact of democracy. It is an economic, ethical, democratic or totalitarian.

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'CONGRATULATIONS—CHIEF'



Chief Clergyman of the Indian Council Fire is shown congratulating Father Francis C. Young, only living white man inducted as an honorary chief of the Ojibwa tribe at Neopora, Wisconsin, on the occasion of the latter's silver jubilee in his Ordination to the Holy Priesthood. Father Young is the pastor of St. John's Church, Chicago. An honorary chief, the well-known sociologist, author of "Our Nation's Prayer," bears the title of "Singing Man Black Robe." (NC Photo.)

Christian Democrats Face Need of Italian Coalition

(The author of the following article which interprets the situation resulting from the elections in Italy is a well-known Italian writer.)

By FEDERICO ALESSANDRINI (Written for N.Y. News Service)

Rome—(NC)—The results of the Italian elections confirm the phenomenon already revealed in all post-war fields of public opinion: the social and political forces of these European countries that are free to decide their own destiny are arrayed either for progress based on these Christian values that are the foundation of western civilization, or for revolutionary violence, the radical principle that is inconsistent with Christianity.

Between these two great groups—Christian Democracy and Communism—there is a vast sector of undecided voters, who are on the one hand, determined to advance society, but on the other, reluctant to accept Communism without, at the same time, becoming trustfully Christian. These are the Socialists.

Other political groups still existing in different European countries, including Italy, are remnants of the past. Some of them will become absorbed in the greater realities.

As was foreseen, Christian Democrats won the Italian election in an almost overwhelming manner. Their party alone polled over eight million votes, against about nine millions for the Communists and Socialists together. In the Constituent Assembly the Christian Democrats will occupy more than 200 seats, but Socialists and Communists seats more.

Christian Democrats' job therefore, have to align themselves with some smaller political groups in order to make sure that the future Italian constitution does no harm to Christian liberties and the rights of the Church.

To explain the situation let us take this example: There is much talk about legalizing divorce. If Socialists and Communists were favorable toward introducing divorce in Italy, Christian Democrats, in order to

WORLD MORAL LEAD UP TO U. S. OURSLER SAYS

New York—(NC)—Facing the greatest opportunity in its history, the United States should assume the moral leadership of the world, but at the same time it should correct its own immoral record, Fulton Oursler, widely known author and editor, said Sunday in an address on the Catholic Hour radio program.

"We have the chance to better the world by setting our own house in order," Mr. Oursler declared. "By being true to ourselves we shall give the rest of the world its greatest moral example. No iron curtain can hide that example forever from men's eyes."

Referring to the wave of "ferocious and dangerous strikes," Mr. Oursler asserted that where "the blame lies is incidental; the fact remains that when all negotiations fail, there can be but one conclusion—on one side or the other someone wanted too much!" The black market, he said, "is caused by the meeting of two immoral forces—in him who buys in a plenary or order, or covetousness; in him who sells in greed."

Mr. Oursler said that the moral breakdown in our national life, the speaker said, adding that crime has grown to such proportions that "three major crimes a minute is our average—and the annual cost of fighting it is more than \$15,000,000,000."

"For much of this," Mr. Oursler said, "we may hold accountable the secularized education in our public schools. You can teach about banks and labor unions, about hospitals and orphanages, about public buildings and art museums, but you dare not say one word about the churches and synagogues in the community—for that would be religious instruction in the public school is illegal. It is a crime to teach about God. It is a wonder that millions of Americans are religiously illiterate, that they entertain a negative prejudice toward religion."

In the name of the separation of Church and State a havoc has been wrought in public schools without discussion all offenses and discrimination against us in the past; we regretfully point out that church—and particularly Catholic—schools and the teaching of religion are the object of organized attacks, in violation of laws enacted this year which guarantee freedom of religion; we persist in our support of confessional schools, because in their development we wish to form the most faithful servants of democracy's nature, the Christian Hungarian.

The Catholic weekly New Man has published a provocative and widely read article on the relations between Church and state in Hungary. The article comes to this conclusion: "A country which is predominantly Catholic being deprived of intercourse with the head of the Church is in itself an impossible situation, and the lack of diplomatic relations leads after due time, to hostility."

The meeting adopted a seven-point resolution, the main points of which were the following: "We are willing to pass over

30 Britons to Carry Cross 300 Miles into France

London—(NC)—Some 30 robust young Catholic men will leave Britain on July 1 carrying with them a heavy six-foot wooden Cross which they are to bear through France to Vesely, southeast of Paris, in a "Calvary" pilgrimage for world peace.

As their 300-mile walk under hard conditions wears its end they will be joined on the road by other similar groups, all heading for Vesely's Benedictine monastery where 600 years ago St. Bernard himself preached a Papal crusade.

There delegates from many nations will hold a congress for an international crusade of penitence to obtain world peace. Their crosses will be planted as a Way of the Cross, a permanent expression of the union of world Catholics in a single embracing aim.

His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, has approved the project so far as Britain is concerned. At Vesely the pilgrimage was arranged by the Benedictine Fathers with the support of the Archbishop of Sens.

The Rev. General Vaux, O.F.S., well-known British Dominican, writing on the pilgrimage arrangements which his Order has undertaken in this country, states: "There is a widespread sense today of the threatened doom which hangs over our civilization. Some are tempted to feel that it is inevitable; that there is nothing to be done; but that can never be the Christian view."

The meeting at Vesely, Father Vaux explains, presents an opportunity for "an immense act of prayer and reparation, as the necessary condition of fruitful action; and the establishment of a centre, uniting all the various peace activities of the various nations, and giving them renewed vitality by contact with one another, so that from this centre a more intense and powerful effort to realize on earth the promised peace of Christ may be begun and sustained."

Hungary Anti-Religious School Proposals Scored

Budapest—(NC)—The people of the towns and villages in Hungary have reacted vigorously to the proposal to withdraw state aid to church schools and to halt religious education. Hundreds of thousands of private individuals, Catholic societies and parishes have flooded government leaders with telegrams of protest.

In a similar action, thousands of Catholic parents held a mass meeting in the southern Hungarian town of Kaposvar. The meeting was presided over by the unexpected appearance of His Eminence Jacek Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary.

The Cardinal, who was received with great enthusiasm, announced in his address that Lutherans and Calvinists are aligning themselves with Catholics in the struggle to maintain sectarian education in Hungary.

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