

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

The advent of another Labor Day gives us a good opportunity to discuss the labor problem which has been so much in the forefront of public interest during the past year.

For a solution to the problems of industrial strife and economic crisis, we urge all Catholics, both employers and members of organized labor, to sit down and read the Catholic Labor Day Statement released by the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. (The complete text of this Statement is printed elsewhere in this issue.)

It might help to point out that the National Catholic Welfare Conference is the official organization which the Catholic Bishops of the United States have set up for the direction of Catholic affairs, particularly on a nationwide level. As a special unit of the N. C. W. C., the Social Action Department is concerned with the application of Catholic principles to economic and social problems. The Rev. Raymond McGowan, an alumnus of Rochester's St. Bernard's Seminary and a veteran student of Catholic social philosophy, is the director of the Social Action Department of the N. C. W. C. Assisting him are the Rev. John Cronin and the Rev. George Higgins, both well-trained and keen-minded students of the Catholic position on Capital and Labor. The Labor Day Statement, therefore, represents the best kind of Catholic thinking and enjoys the implicit, if not explicit sponsorship of the American Bishops.

The Labor Day Statement says many fine things which Catholic employers and Catholic workers should think about very seriously. But in view of the current conflicts now raging between Capital and Labor, the Statement's most important suggestion is that which urges an increase of labor-management cooperation and in particular, the setting up in each industry of occupational or "vocational" groups. These should be run away from the idea of occupational groups in industry is simple to understand and is most important.

At the present time one of the basic sources of economic unrest can be blamed on the fact that Capital and Labor are leading employers and employees are waging class warfare. Therefore, occupational groups are suggested for the purpose of their struggle to the detriment of industry itself and their clash of interests impedes the common welfare of all the people.

In this dangerous situation the theory of labor-management cooperation through the occupational group system gives us a solution. As explained in the Labor Day Statement, each industry should set up an occupational group which would include all interested parties: Labor as well as Capital; employees as well as employers. In each industry these groups or councils, composed of the representatives of management and labor, would seek to modify employment by maintaining standards of fairness with regard to wages, hours, prices, and business practice. Such groups would seek to avoid private industrial dictatorship by enabling labor to share in all industrial policies and decisions, and to exclude political or bureaucratic industrial dictatorship by keeping the immediate and day to day control in the hands of the agents of production.

The aim of this occupational group system would be to bring into industry self-government sufficient enough to reduce to a minimum conflicts arising from the selfish interest of the various industrial classes; to insure industrial direction to those most able to exercise it; and to eliminate the danger of undue government control which is always present when Capital and Labor fail to work together.

When they read what is suggested here, many sincere persons in management circles, even Catholics, are going to shout: "This is Bolshevism and Communism. This is Socialism." Our answer to this is "No." The idea of labor-management cooperation through an occupational group can be traced to the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas. It is supported by the teaching of Pope Leo XIII and is specifically recommended in the encyclical Quadragesimo Anno of Pope Pius XI and in recent statements of Pope Pius XII.

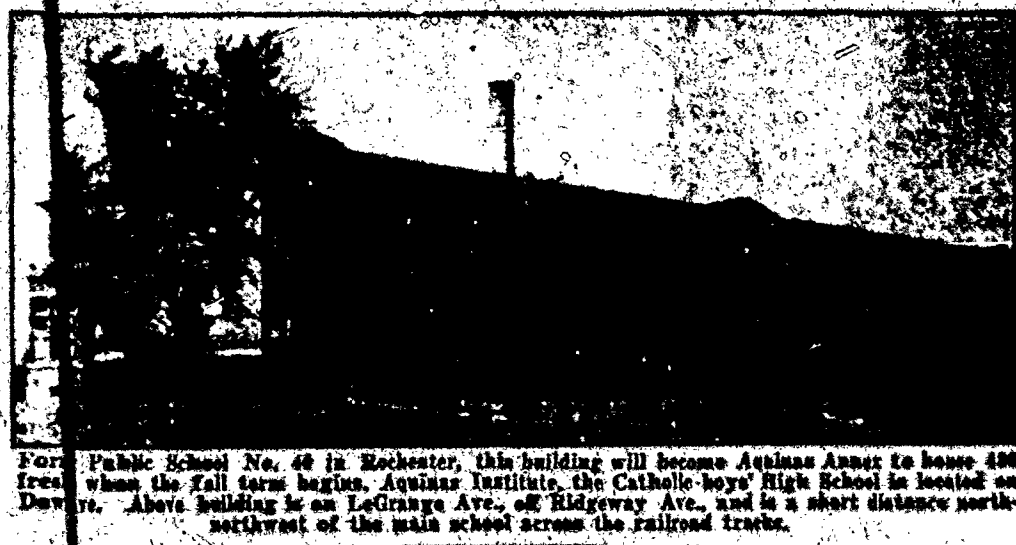
The occupational group system in industry is not Communist. It is Christian and also democratic. If anyone reads the Labor Day Statement of the Social Action Department with an open mind, I am sure that they will agree. Catholics who want to catch up with the progressive leadership of the Catholic Church in social matters can not afford to ignore it.

Last Week's ABC Paid Circulation 25,915

THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

READ "Catholic Action" to bring Christmas cheer to war-torn Europe.

Quinas Annex in Former Public School



Form Public School No. 49 in Rochester, this building will become Quinas Annex to house 1500 boys when the fall term begins. Aquinas Institute, the Catholic boys' High School is located on Devon St. Above building is an L-shaped drive, off Ridgeway Ave., and is a short distance northwest of the main school across the railroad tracks.

Dicesan Schools Open Sept. 4 Wh 30,000 Enrollment Seen

With instruction in the diocesan schools of Rochester, Dicesan Schools will open on Sept. 4 with an enrollment of approximately 30,000 students.

Philippine Aid Asked By Bishop Kearney

A collector for the restoration of Catholic institutions in the Philippines will be taken up in all churches of the Rochester Diocese this Sunday (Sept. 1), at the request of His Excellency Bishop Kearney.

Relief Outlook Dark in Germany Says NCWC Aide

Newark, N. J. (RNS)—More than \$100,000,000 has been spent by the Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference since its establishment in 1943, Dr. Edward E. Swanstrom, assistant executive director, said here.

Schedule of Bishop's Appointments on Page 4

Billy Co Leads Stars in Rosary

Pittsburgh (NC)—The story of Billon, heavyweight prize fighter, a group of Pittsburghers is in the possession of the Rosary. The heavyweights of the Rosary were paid, was brought to light when donated \$3,000 to the new St. Heart School and Convalescent for the purchase of one of the Madonna.

Catholic Schools—Diocese of Rochester Official School Calendar 1946-1947

Table listing school calendar for 1946-1947, including dates for school opening, examinations, and holidays.

Gen. Clay Stays German Bishops' Plea to Truman

Lieut. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, U. S. Deputy Military Governor in Germany has refused to transmit to President Truman an appeal from the German hierarchy in behalf of millions of German refugees now pouring into western and southern Germany from the eastern districts of the Reich.

This was revealed at the Bishops' annual conference held last week at Fulda, ancient See of St. Boniface, according to dispatches of the N.C.W.C. News Service.

The German hierarchy had asked General Clay to forward to the American President an appeal signed by them, which described the sufferings of the expelled persons and asked help for these refugees.

Calling for United States leadership in establishing a new Christian social order, the Labor Day Statement advocates an early national meeting of freely chosen representatives of organized labor, management, agriculture and the professions to discuss the establishment of an occupational group system.

Such a system, the statement says, would aim to bring into industry sufficient self-government to reduce to a minimum the conflicting interests of the various industrial classes.

Various matters concerning the relationship of the Church in Germany with the Allied military authorities are understood to have been studied by the German hierarchy at their meeting in Fulda, it is reported by Max Jordan, N.C.W.C. correspondent.

The first of these letters is reported by Jordan, as three letters which were addressed to the Allied Control Council in Berlin by leaders of the German Episcopate.

The second letter had to do with the disposal of a complete list of all members of the former German Wehrmacht who had been found by American troops. This list is of particular interest because it contains the names of many German soldiers and officers who were known to have died in battle or to have been taken prisoner.

In most instances, the families of these German soldiers have never been notified as to the fate of their deaths, either because the official notifications failed to reach them during the last chaotic stages of the war or because the German army authorities were unable to complete the job before the collapse of the Reich.

In the view of the German Bishops, the preservation of these files is of utmost importance, in order to relieve the uncertainty of many German families and also because in some instances remarriages depend on official notices regarding the death of former husbands.

Allied authorities have, however, decided to destroy these files as "war-potential" and have informed the Bishops of that effect. Now negotiations are to be made by Cardinal von Preysing in Berlin and it is hoped that an agreement can still be reached.

Uncertainty over the future status of the Church in Germany caused by information that the Allied occupation authorities consider the existing Concordats with the Holy See to be no longer valid—stood foremost among the problems faced by the members of the German Episcopate.

The Bishops' concern over the future relationship between Church and State in Germany has its immediate cause in a recent communication from the Allied authorities informing them that the existing Concordats governing these relations are no longer considered valid.

His Eminence, Michael Cardinal von Faulhaber, Archbishop of Munich and Freising, in talking to this correspondent, said somewhat wistfully: "The trouble is I don't smoke." Then, after a pause, the venerable Cardinal added: "But I think my Vice-General does."

Catholic Labor Day Appeals Urges Employers-Workers To Unite in Each Industry

"Organized labor may be confident that the clergy, in loyal devotion to the social teaching of Christ and His Church, will continue to encourage and vigorously to support the workers of America in their legitimate striving for justice."

This assurance is contained in a Catholic Labor Day Statement prepared by the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and released by the N.C.W.C. News Service.

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U. S. Cigars Set Fulda Precedent

Fulda, Germany (NC)—"I am afraid I have introduced an innovation at the Fulda conference of the German Bishops," said Bishop Aloisius J. Muench of Fargo in revealing that he had distributed American cigars and candy to the Prelates after a dinner which preceded their formal meetings.

Card. Spellman Hits Russia Food Handling

Soviet Russia is charged with oppressive treatment of the starving of Poland and Austria, by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman who has issued a new appeal in behalf of the world's 200,000,000 hungry, stricken peoples.

Writing in the current issue of Good Housekeeping magazine, the Cardinal warns the democracies that they must help the world's starving people as an act of "self-protection against the spread of Bolshevism."

In a strong plea for Europe's famished victims, the Cardinal writes: "It is a shameful symbol of the peace under which we are now living that the horrors perpetrated by the Nazis are now being practiced by the victorious Allies on the Poles, on neutrals like the Baltics, who wished only their independence; on the people of Germany; and on satellites unwillingly forced into German and Russian orbits."

"In Poland alone, the first nation to take up arms for the principle of freedom, there are today almost a million orphans and thousands of her war-torn, hunger-bitten wid and young—she takes her from the plague of her Catholicism."

"While a million soldiers of the Red Army live well on Polish soil a million of Poland's innocent children die of starvation, and the Slavs no longer count; and the Slavs are being hunted and starved and will perish in the earth unless we give them immediate help. In Italy families of seven and eight live in caves and eat garbage, while hundreds die of malnutrition."

"From Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia, at least a quarter of a million people, many of them hardy farmers, were deported to Siberia, where the average length of life is five years. Hungarian and Rumanian families of ancient German descent have been made to pay for their sins at the German gulags by being deported to unknown destinations in Russia for slave labor. And while children in Vienna die from starvation the Russian armies lead from their pastures the milk cows of Austria."

Immediate Aid Suggested

If immediate aid were not forthcoming from the democracies, famine would make the post-war period "the last night of civilization," Cardinal Spellman states.

With America here the front of the fight against hunger, the Cardinal warned that no nation and no nation could claim a monopoly of a right while others in the world starve.

"We must save and share," he warns, "not as a matter of charity, but for justice and our self-preservation against a dictator, which thrive upon bodies and minds of the hungry. Do we not know that starving men are the first and sharpest tools of the dictator who feeds them?"

Cardinal Spellman said that the first and sharpest tools of the dictator who feeds them are the hands of new dictators may become the weapon of a new war. Have we not recently changed the names of the tyrants and the type of the tyrannies?

Italy Collapsing Said Prelude to West's Ruin

Warning that "the collapse of Italy under unjust peace terms will be the prelude to the destruction of the West," Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston told the Sons of Italy at their annual Mass here, that "no peace will be just for Italy or safe for the world which forces the Italian people, if they wish to survive, either to surrender themselves out to the propitious nations of the West or to abandon themselves to the slavery of the East."

Italy forms "the intellectual and spiritual boundary between the insurgent East and the re-born West," and finds herself once again "at the cultural crossroads of the world," the Archbishop said. He added: "Small wonder that those who are seeking to establish a new and powerful empire in the East are bargaining ruthlessly for black power and prestige in the lands within and around the Italian peninsula. The impetuosity of the East are abroad men, they will know that every weapon they touch on the greatest form of Italy will be the form of Western civilization and will strengthen its political, cultural, religious and military amplitude, at the East."

Referring to the present Paris conference, which the peace treaty with Italy by the agreement of the German project that "our diplomatic representatives as they discharge their diplomatic duties will not be blind to either the moral idealism or the political realism which constitute the true grounds for a just peace for Italy."