

Red Triumph at Prague Blamed on Lethargy Of Catholic Students

Washington—(NC)—Lethargy of Catholic and "Christian humanist" student movement throughout the world contributed in large measure to the capturing of the recent International Student Congress at Prague by leftist elements, Henry W. Briefs, Georgetown University graduate student, who was a member of the American delegation to the Congress, reported here on his return to the United States.



Peacetime

Mr. Briefs declared that there is still an excellent chance of making the International Union of Students, formed at the Congress, a truly representative organization. He pointed out that the "door to the U.S. is open to practically all countries," and that if the students from the Latin American nations would become fully affiliated with the international union, they would have enough votes to join with the students from the non-Soviet dominated nations and command a majority in the Council of the I.U.S.

Latin American Aid

"If Latin American student federations, for example, had been fully represented at Prague," the student delegate stressed, "the National Federation of Catholic College Students and the Newman Club Federation (the American Catholic organizations which took part in the World Student Congress) would not be forced now to consider withdrawal from an international student body which is capable of coping with the relief and educational rehabilitation problems of students throughout the world."

CHURCH LACKING IN TOP SCHOLARS

Union City, N. J. — (NC) — The Church in America does not possess her proportionate share of eminent scholars. She is sadly lacking in top-ranking names in literature, the arts, and especially in science. (The number of her sons and daughters on the staffs of colleges and universities is far below her ratio to the general population.)

Catholics comprise only 2.1 per cent of the faculties of our elite universities and colleges, only 2.2 of the faculties of the private universities and colleges, and only 4.6 per cent of the staffs of our teachers' colleges.

In the New England States, for example, where the Catholic population is densest, the percentage of Catholics to Catholic members of the faculties of non-Church colleges is as follows: New Hampshire, 33.2 per cent and 4.6 per cent, Massachusetts, 42.7 per cent and 2.9 per cent, Connecticut, 38.9 per cent and 1.0 per cent.

Writing in The Sign magazine here and using as his chief weapon a recent survey conducted by University of Notre Dame student Burnett C. Bauer, the Rev. John A. O'Brien, C. S. C., professor of religion at Notre Dame, has set down these conclusions and the figures behind them to show that the Church suffers "a lack which is costing us dearly in influence in the shaping of the thought and viewpoint of future leaders of America."

Belgian Cardinal Sees Red Struggle

Antwerp, Belgium — (NC) — A warning that Belgium will be in the foreground of a fierce, ideological struggle between Communism and Christianity was given by His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines, in addressing priests of his archdiocese at their annual retreat.

Characterizing communism as the greatest enemy of Christian civilization today, the Cardinal called upon his clergy to prepare themselves by special training and a holy life to enter the battle against this materialistic philosophy.

3 Brothers Wed 3 Sisters Bull, Que. — (NC) — A record of three brothers married to three sisters was set when Luchan Bailey married Miss Gisele Fournel at St. Roch's Church here. Their two families were next door neighbors.

'Evil Press' Scored By Canadian Bishop

Saint John, N. B. — (NC) — The most deadly of all weapons employed in the assault upon God and His Church, Christian faith and morals is the "evil press," Bishop P. A. Bray of St. John, said in a pastoral letter. He declared: "Lying newspapers, suggestive pictorials, filthy magazines not only suppress and distort the truth but also corrupt the mind and heart by appealing to depraved passions and by gliding vice and pagan living to make them look respectable and attractive."

Servite Provincial Renamed Chicago — (NC) — The Very Rev. Jerome DePencier was re-elected Provincial of the Servite Province of the Servite Fathers at a second term during the provincial chapter at the Servite motherhouse here.

Christening Quints' Baby Brother



Archbishop Alexandre Vachon of Ottawa, is pictured at the home of the famous Dionne Quints at Corbell, Ont., where he officiated at the baptism of their baby brother, Joseph Alexandre Claude, born September 2. He is the 18th child born to Mr. and Mrs. Olive Dionne. An older sister, Theresa, holds the baby as the parents and other children look on. (Photo Copyright 1946 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. (NC Photos))

FBI CHIEF GIVES '52-20' Clubs' Making Bums NEW RED WARNING Of Veterans, Priest Warns

San Francisco — (NC) — The nation's enemies are massing on two fronts — the criminal and the communist, J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, told the American Legion at its national convention here. Though he stated that America is nearer to gang control today than after World War I, Mr. Hoover placed his heaviest emphasis on the threat of communism, bluntly accusing the communists of "diabolical plots to wreck the American way of life."

Warning of the success of the communists' boring-from-within tactics, the F.B.I. director said the communists had made their greatest gains within the last five years. In America's famous tolerance for all peoples, he said, the communists had found our "Achilles Heel."

Calling on all lovers of freedom to prepare to protect their liberty, Mr. Hoover said: "We are rapidly reaching the time when loyal Americans must be willing to stand up and be counted."

Chicago — (RNS) — Jobless pay for veterans is "rapidly making bums out of splendid ex-service men," the Rev. Hugh Calkins, O.S.M., of the Our Sorrowful Mother novena charged here. His opinions were expressed in the weekly Novena, publication of the movement conducted nationally by the Servite Fathers. Referring to some of the jobless veterans as members of "52-20 clubs" (\$20 a week unemployment compensation for 52 weeks) Father Calkins said he was asked to state his opinion by "womenfolk of many good families."

"The tragic pity of genuine heroes going to get mentally and morally upset any priest," he stated. "Maybe the jobless are to shake up the dole grabbers. There are now over a million and a half veterans receiving up to 25 weeks from the Government. Must they all loaf?" Father Calkins charged that good jobs go begging "while thousands of unemployed vets, fully able to work, haunt taverns, play the races, gamble freely, vegetate in homes whose families work hard daily."

"America is a bit fed up with 'they must get adjusted,'" he added.

"The 52-20 clubs are ingraining a way of life that ruins men. Members will soon hit the sidewalks of our big towns, drifting the aimless way of dozes, drunks, hoboes, while still protesting the world owes them a living. It should concern them right now, people end in hell for lazily ignoring their opportunities."

Vatican Prestige in Italy High, Sumner Wells Says

New York — (NC) — The prestige of the Holy See among the people of Italy has been enhanced by the fall of the fascist regime and is now higher than it has been for many decades, former Under Secretary of State Sumner Wells writes in his new book, "Where Are We Heading?" published here by Harper and Brothers.

Mr. Wells states that, in the political crystallization which took place in Italy after the war, the popularity of the Vatican and of the Pope himself has assumed great practical importance. The constantly increasing strength shown by the Christian Democratic party cannot be regarded as a phenomenon completely separated from renewed Italian confidence in the Church, he believes.

"The fall of the fascist regime, after its persistent efforts to undermine the standing of the Vatican with the Italian people, has added to the prestige of the Holy See," the former State Department official declares. "The courageous resistance to the German invader and to the fascist puppet government, as often demonstrated by the parish priests, as well as by some of the Italian hierarchy, added to the moral strength of the Church. Finally, the stalwart position maintained by the Supreme Pontiff himself, and the realization of the Italian populace that it was owing primarily to the Pope's own efforts that the Holy City had been saved from destruction, greatly enhanced his popularity and influence."

Chapel To Be Built At Berchtesgaden

Munich — (NC) — Forty-three farmer families who had been evacuated in 1937 by Hitler's orders from the Obersalzberg region, which subsequently became Hitler's mountain eyrie near Berchtesgaden, recently took part in an outdoor Mass celebrated on the very spot which formerly was Hitler's stronghold. A small chapel that stood on the spot in 1937, but had subsequently been destroyed by the Nazis, will now be rebuilt so that the last traces of the tyrant's castle that once dominated the landscape will be wiped out.

GERMAN PEASANTS HEAR LAST MASS IN DESERTED VILLAGE

By VACLAV MYSLIVCO (N.C.W.C. News Service Correspondent)

Prague — (NC) — When I was in Slovakia, I witnessed a scene which I shall probably never forget.

It was in the parish church of Vrcko, in a district where, for many years, there has been a considerable German-speaking population. These Germans, too, are being expelled from Czechoslovakia, in accordance with the inflexible policy of the Prague government.

The Germans, all sturdy peasants, had come to the church for the last Mass before they had to leave. It was the church where most of them had been christened and where their marriages had been blessed. The church, decorated with pious inscriptions in Gothic characters, was packed with German peasants, all in their Sunday best, carrying prayerbooks and rosaries.

Before the organist arrived, an old woman started to sing a German hymn and all joined in. They sang well, young and old.

Tears in All Eyes An automobile brought a Slovak priest from a nearby parish to offer the Mass. He was young and knew the German language well. He preached a sermon, first in Slovak and then in excellent German.

There were tears in all eyes when the priest read the Gospel for the Sunday. It was from St. Luke, 19, 41-47: "And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, 'If thou hadst known, in this thy day, even thou, the things that are for thy peace.'"

After the Mass the German parishioners crowded around their Slovak priest to say goodbye to him.

On that Sunday, the little church at Vrcko echoed for the last time the "Water Usner" and the "Hellige Maria." When the Germans have gone the place will be utterly deserted, because there is no one who might be willing to replace the hardy German farmers and till their fields on the slopes of the mountains. The work is much too hard and Vrcko will soon be a deserted village.

Christian Brothers Get Soviet Estate

Washington — (NC) — The Soviet Union has turned over possession of an estate here, which it has been using to house a nursery school for children of the Soviet Purchasing Commission staff, to the Christian Brothers, who acquired it as a site for their new St. John's College. The Brothers sought to take over their property in August, to remodel the building for the use of the freshmen of the prep school, but the Russians obtained an extension of occupancy. The building will not be ready now until the spring semester.

Retreat Priest Aids Mother Cabrini Statue

San Jose — (NC) — A priest who in 1913 conducted a retreat attended by Mother Cabrini, first U. S. citizen saint, heads the committee of a parish group raising funds for a memorial statue of the saint. He is the Rev. Aloysius J. Riccardi, S.J., pastor of Holy Family Church here.

Verdict at Nuernberg Introduced Moral Law To World—Dr. Walsh

By the VERY REV. DR. EDMUND A. WALSH, S.J. (Dr. Walsh, vice-president of Georgetown University and regent of the School of Foreign Service, author of the following article, returned to Washington from Nuernberg last week. He has been consultant of the staff of Justice Jackson.)

The significance of the historic process at Nuernberg does not lie in the conviction or acquittal of this or that war criminal. The permanent value of those ten months of laborious and painstaking argumentation goes far deeper than the condemnation of Goering or the release of Von Papen, Schacht and Frick.

They might all have been found guilty and we still could have lost our cause if certain fundamental principles had not been boldly established.

These principles for the future conduct of international relations are set forth in the Opinion, the long review of fact and law with which the court prefaced their judgment of guilt or innocence in respect to the individual defendants.

For the first time since De Victoria made his audacious claim for justice in dealing with the Indians of the New World, another daring advance is made to introduce the "new law" into the council chamber of nations and diplomats. No longer can a government launch an aggressive war or subvert a common decency under the protection of the immunity previously claimed for a sovereign state.

What Nuernberg achieved was to put all governments on notice that they are responsible to the common conscience of humanity as well as to the narrow national interests of a given state of the directives of their own legislature or the orders of some temporary dictator.

As a result, the rights of minorities, the dignity of human personality and the responsibilities of religion have been vindicated by judicial action, and crimes against these bulwarks of freedom have been punished by concrete penalties in the name and by the authority of 21 nations.

It must always be remembered that the Nuernberg trial was not an act of reprisal by the four great powers who sat on the bench. They were the spokesmen and the agents of 21 nations which signed the Charter of the Court and bade their agents take such action as the evidence warranted.

To provide that evidence, a careful search of the Conscience of Europe turned up the most amazing collection of documents ever assembled in any one place. In the field committed to me in the persecution of the Christian



DOCTOR WALSH

1,000 Year Rose Survives Bomb

Cologne — (NC) — A 1,000-year-old rose bush which has become a landmark of the city of Hildesheim has survived the ravages of war and even the many bombings of the city. The Hildesheim rose bush was planted some time in the ninth century in the cemetery adjoining the cathedral. Today it is almost amidst the rubble, the cathedral itself having suffered tremendously from Allied air raids. Masses are still being said in a sector of the crypt that was preserved.

The rose bush withstood the flames and the poisonous fumes, and the branches still cling to the remaining bricks of what was formerly the cloister. Its roots which reach deep into the soil were protected so that new branches, and leaves could come to light this Spring. Some of them have already grown to a height of almost two feet. The fresh green contrasts the avesome surroundings. No less than 25 rose buds were counted in June.

Although no scientific proof can be produced, it is assumed that its origin dates back to the foundation of the Hildesheim bishopric in 615.

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