

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

Once again Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov has stolen the spotlight of international attention.

Speaking this week before the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mr. Molotov launched an unexpected proposal for a worldwide reduction of armaments.

Delegates listening to him were dismayed but hardly surprised when he repeated the Moscow party line currently chanted by every Communist, which accuses the United States of atomic imperialism and dollar diplomacy.

What did surprise the delegates and bring them up straight in their seats was Mr. Molotov's sudden plea for world disarmament.

For a long time many of us have been disappointed at the alliance and indifference of our western statesmen on the matter of disarmament as a necessary step to world peace. The fact that Mr. Molotov has been on them to the punch should be a matter of embarrassment to other statesmen of the United Nations.

It is very odd, too, that it is a Soviet statesman who has taken the leadership in demanding something which the Vatican has urged for many years as a necessary condition of peace. As this column has pointed out again and again, the modern Popes have repeatedly insisted that disarmament is necessary for the economic restoration of the world and the prevention of war.

According to our modern Pontiffs, armaments lead inevitably to war and inflict upon the peoples of the world a crushing burden of taxation which reduces them to impoverishment.

And now Mr. Molotov has come forth in the Assembly of the United Nations to state his complacency of Soviet peace utterances. Calling for a universal reduction of armaments, he points out that the accomplishment of such an objective "serves the interests of the people by lightening their heavy economic burden caused by excessive expenditures for armaments which do not correspond to peaceful postwar conditions."

This is Molotov speaking. Not Pope Pius XII. And when Pope XII there is reason for cheering all around.

The United States through Warren Austin, chairman of its United Nations delegation, has made a prompt pledge to support Soviet Russia's new proposal for armament reduction. There are many difficulties in finding the practical solution to the problem of world disarmament but if the United States and Soviet Russia, the two strongest nations in the world, are earnestly intent upon it should be able to find this solution. And if the peoples of the world have any appreciation of their own interest, they should back this effort to the fullest.

Are Mr. Molotov and his government sincere in their proposal for disarmament? Mindful of Russia's wanted military prowess and Moscow's fifth-column efforts to conquer the world for Communism, it is only natural that some statesmen are skeptical of Mr. Molotov's disarmament proposal.

According to James Reston of the New York Times, some delegates who listened to Mr. Molotov the other day, expressed the fear this disarmament offer was surrounded with so distorted an attack on the American atomic energy policy and on those who oppose abolition of the veto that it produced an atmosphere detrimental to the disarmament plan he proposed.

So far Mr. Molotov's proposal for disarmament is very general. He has not offered, as yet, the practical details. What has he in mind for the numerous Red Army divisions now bristling behind the Iron Curtain? What about the Soviet munition and armament factories? What guarantees and checks has Mr. Molotov in mind for preventing any nation from arming secretly? These are the things which we want him to explain to us.

If Mr. Molotov is sincere about worldwide reduction of armaments the war-ridden peoples of the earth will support him wholeheartedly.

If Mr. Molotov is bluffing then the statesmen of the United Nations should call his bluff.

Mr. Molotov, tell us more about this idea of laying down our guns.

Catholic Women

HEED THE BISHOP'S CALL TO UNITY UNDER THE N.C.C.W. BANNER

(Story on this page)

Churchill Deplores Persecution by Tito Of Church in Croatia

London—(Cable, N.C.)—Winston Churchill in the House of Commons said that the "circumstances of the trial and condemnation of Archbishop Stepinac of Zagreb have created widespread regret," which was greeted and approved with calls of "hear, hear" by the Members.

Mr. Churchill added: "The Catholic Church and clergy in Croatia are being persecuted with the greatest severity, and the strictest measures of a police government are applied against political dissenters."

Mr. Churchill, replying as opposition leader in the foreign policy debate to the survey of Europe by Prime Minister Attlee, complained that the Premier had ignored some facts. Conditions in Yugoslavia, Mr. Churchill said, were "sinister and melancholy."

The whole country is being, as far as possible converted into a communist area," he added. "Communism is being taught in schools and every effort is being made to create a Soviet socialist republic in closest association with Moscow."

Collective Red Blied

On Moscow, Britain's wartime Premier had this to say: "We are in the presence of the collective mind whose springs of action we cannot define. There are 19- or 14-year-olds in the Kremlin who hold all Russia and more than one third of Europe in their control. Many stresses and pressures, internal as well as external, are working upon them as upon all human beings."

"I cannot presume to forecast what decisions they will take or to observe what decisions they may have taken already," still less can I attempt to forecast the three-factor in their action. One of our main difficulties in judging all these matters is that real intercourse and intimacy between our people is all too rare and our purposes are very much discouraged and that it is prevented by the Soviet Government."

He added that he was now "in the presence of something very much more difficult to measure than what was set out so plainly in the pages of 'The Campaign'."

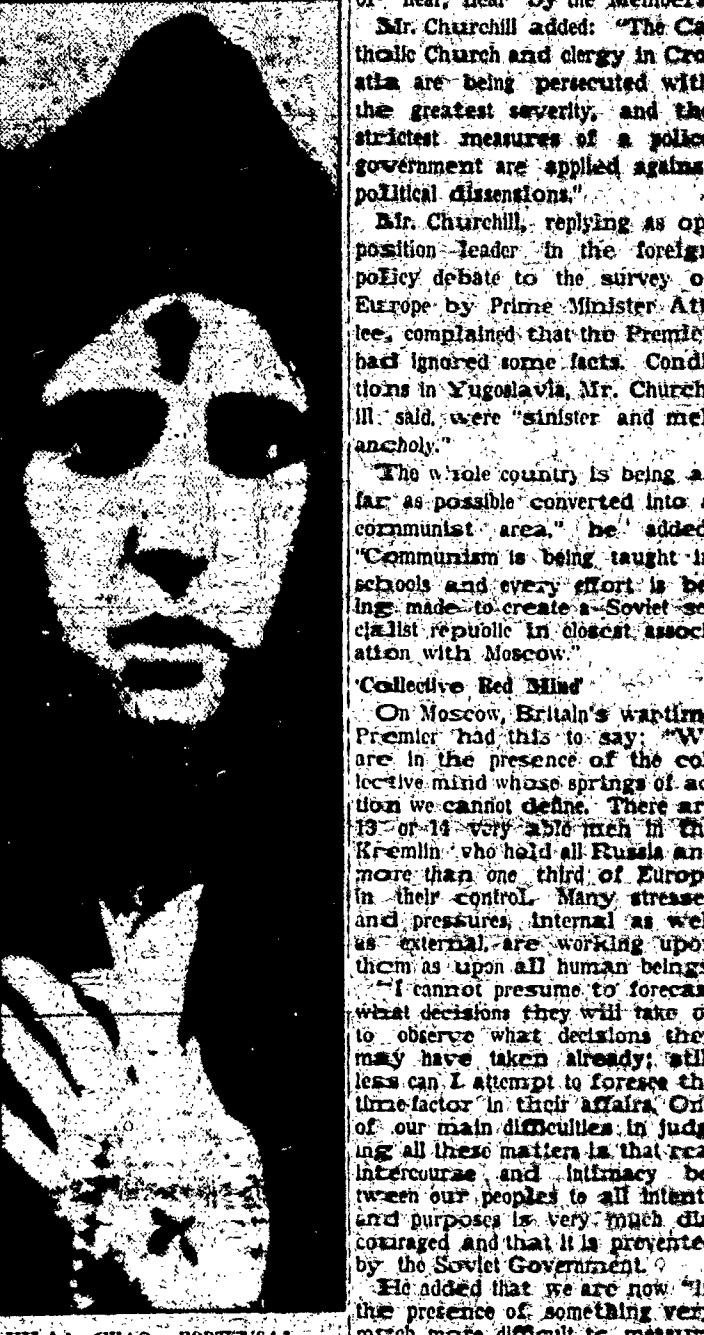
Sir Patrick Hannon, Catholic leader in the House of Commons, urged that speedy action be taken over the situation in Yugoslavia where the Government, as indicated in the harsh treatment of Archbishop Stepinac, aims at expelling Christianity altogether.

Minds Of Policy

In a written reply to the Catholic member, Christopher Hollis, undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, Hannon stated that Foreign Secretary Bevin, after seeing the preliminary report of the British Ambassador at Belgrade on the Stepinac trial and sentence, has not previously formed any grounds for varying the views expressed earlier.

He added that Mr. Bevin on October 9 replying to a letter of Cardinal Griffin said: "His feeling then was it would be improper for His Majesty's Government to lodge a protest with the Yugoslav government concerning the arrest of Archbishop Stepinac since the question was one of Yugoslav internal politics but that he would watch the case carefully in case it might be found useful at a later stage to make our views known to the Yugoslav Government."

Mr. McNeill added that no direct representations had been made to the British Government by the Vatican, "although their point of view has been fully explained to His Majesty's Ministers at the Holy See."



ARCHBISHOP STEPINAC OF ZAGREB IS SHOWN IN A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT THE TRIAL AND CONDEMNATION OF ARCHBISHOP STEPINAC OF ZAGREB AT BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA.

RECORD 19,702 WATCH AQUINAS DROP THRILLER

Two Catholic high schools playing in Red Wing Stadium Sunday set an all-time sports attendance in Rochester when Catholic Central High of Detroit tossed out Aquinas Institute of Rochester in a thrillingly packed game before 19,702 spectators. Score was 15 to 20.

Brought to their feet repeatedly during the contest by the gallant fight of Aquinas' Larry Wright coached outwrestled Harry Finn, the crowd maintained order throughout. Both schools are in charge of the Basilian Fathers congregation.

Coming from behind after the powerful Sharracks from Detroit led by 13 to 0, the sturdy Aquinas' elvers sparked by Landry and Ryan battled to a 20-19 lead only to lose out. In the last moment when Art Rosen of Detroit tossed the winning pass to Dick Ciesielski, making the score read 25 to 20 for Catholic Central.

Tributes to Coach Wright and his Aquinas squad which in his first year under his tutelage of talented football highlights with their play Sunday came from sports writers, radio commentators and Coach Hal Shields of the Detroit team. Shields said Aquinas had improved a third and percent over last year.

Wroblewski and Roman were outstanding on a Catholic Central High team that had lived up to its reputation as nationally tops in high school football. Fleucher, Farrell, Behl, Walker and Miller were also in the line-up for Aquinas.

A 'DELEGATE' FROM TEXAS



Bishop James J. Kearney of Rochester is pictured with temporary Honorary Fathers of the Holy See at the Congress of the Confederation of Christian Doctrine in Boston where His Excellency was a speaker.

800 Diocese Women Plan Rochester Meet

With reorganization of the theme, the Twelfth Diocesan Convention of Rochester Diocese Council, National Council of Catholic Women will be held under the patronage of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney in Rochester, Thursday, Nov. 7-8.

Expected to attract 800 Catholic women from various sections of the diocese, the convention will open with Holy Mass in Old St. Mary's Church, Washington Park. Bishop Kearney will preside at the Mass to be followed by the living and deceased members of the N. C. C. W. and will preach the Convention sermon.

Speaking at the Twelfth National Council of Catholic Women Convention he has emphasized that the Diocese of Rochester is to be sought as an ideal for the future of the group, and to make the Diocesan motto "pious and give everyone a chance to talk" maintain regular speaking nights; move for selected leadership; and apply the method of open discussion.

Beatification of Nun Attended by Pontiff

Vatican City—(Radio, N.C.)—The Beatification of Sister Teresia Kusnetzka Verzel, Italian foundress of the Society of the Daughters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, took place Sunday with the traditional Solemn Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. His Holiness Pope Pius XII came from his summer residence at Castelgandolfo in the afternoon to sing the Oration of the newly blessed and preside at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. After the ceremonies the Holy Father returned to Castelgandolfo. Sister Teresia lived from 1801 to 1872.

All Germans Guilty, U. S. Booklet Charges

By MAX JOBDAN

Berlin—(NC)—Catholic officials of the Military Government in the American zone of occupation in Germany, are incensed by a case of government propaganda—clearly emanating from Washington—which runs counter to the very principles of American policy as recently enunciated by Secretary of State James E. Byrnes in his speeches at Stuttgart and Paris.

A brochure, entitled "Occupation and the Civilians' Role," issued officially by the U. S. Forces European Theater, handed out to newsmen among the civilian employees of U. S. Military Government. Its 47 pages are filled with pictures and cartoons that will necessarily arouse hatred. "This is hate-mongering of the worst kind," an American observer remarked. The brochure reflects the thinking of those who believe that the re-education of the German people can be brought about by rubbing in their defeat. While a clear distinction was made in recent speeches not only of American but also of British and Russian governmental leaders from Nazi criminals and the rank-and-file German, the brochure insists on the theory of collective guilt.

The following paragraph is typical of the rant of this publication: "Making us feel sorry for them is one of the few weapons the 'little' Germans have left. . . . These 'great' Nazis you'll say. . . (but) these 'little' Germans are the people who accepted slave labor and were glad to get it. . . . It's hard to realize that the Franciscan who does your laundry may have known about concentration camps and shrugged his shoulders. . . . There are few who can be accused as 'great' Germans. There weren't enough to start with."

On other pages the author has to admit that "even Germans were enslaved if they dared display anti-Nazi or democratic lines," and that "Germans are like anybody else," i. e. good and bad. Yet he maintains that there is a collective guilt of the whole German nation. He does not like the idea that Americans should have any sympathy for the innocent victims of the Nazis.

The regret German trucking along the streets with a load of firewood may not look pretty," says he, "but he has a lot in common with a trapped rat." Whether this is meant to apply to undetected women and children, to millions of homeless and to the large group of Germans who were freed from Nazi jails since the end of the war is not explained. No mention is made of the persecution suffered by the Christian churches under Hitler. (The clergy secretary for Greater Rome, in a recent issue of the "Daily Worker," has said that the Catholic press is not one of whom we should expect to be re-educated.)

The lack of wide-spread German resistance to the Nazi regime is ignored, and all the blame at stake are gratuitously simplified by stirring up distrust and suspicion.

The whole argumentation of the brochure is torn to pieces in its last chapter where it is admitted that "at least the Nazis murdered those of their own citizens who resisted the madmen," and by claiming that "his madness is not a disease peculiar to Germany." Yet the general tone of the publication remains directly negative and bitter. The accompanying pictures were selected to stress this negativity and the illustrations were drawn with the intention to keep alive feelings of hate and vengeance.

PONTIFF CALLS FOR TO AID AGAINST MENACES TO THE CHURCH

ROME—(NC)—Choosing one of the greatest assemblies of Catholic prelates and bishops that has ever been held, Archbishop Bernard J. Cushing of Boston, 62 years of age, on Oct. 10, called for aid against the dangers of the Church.

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Feast on Friday Meat Permitted

Feast of All Saints, Nov. 1, falling on Friday this year, permits the eating of meat on that day. The vigil, Thursday, is a day of fast and abstinence.