

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

When the personable young Business Man sat down next to us on the train Monday afternoon we knew that he wanted to talk. He eyed our Roman collar and our copy of the New York Times. He had his opening.

"Did you read the radio speech which the atheist out in San Francisco made yesterday morning?" the Business Man asked.

"We were still on the front page of the Times and hadn't yet reached the story about the San Francisco atheist. But we knew that the Business Man was referring to Robert Harold Scott, a professor of atheist, whose right to air his views on the radio was affirmed on July 19 by the Federal Communications Commission.

"Many people have protested to the radio station against allowing the atheist to speak," continued the Business Man. "But the atheist really has a right to speak his views. Don't you think so?"

"We readily admitted that the Constitution of the United States guarantees freedom of speech to everybody in this country, even the atheist and the communist. Today our Constitutional guarantees of freedom are very broad and very liberal. We pointed out to our Business Man friend: 'The atheist and the communist have a Constitutional right to say what they like in this country. But they have no moral right to abuse their freedom of speech. Nobody, not even the atheist or the communist, is morally free to speak against truth or justice or charity.'

The Business Man agreed to this but was skeptical when we stated that the men who put the guarantees of personal freedom into our Constitutional Bill of Rights—the freedom of religion, the freedom of speech and the freedom of assembly—never expected that the day would come when an atheist would stand up in this country and use his freedom of speech to attack God.

"Are you sure of that?" queried the Business Man. "Yes," we replied. "Because of the Founding Fathers of this country is clearly revealed in the Declaration of Independence. In this document the Fathers of our Republic not only speak of Nature's God but state emphatically that all men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. When these same Founding Fathers framed our Constitution, they intended to give us a guarantee of our freedom of religion. It was simply a recognition of the fact that these freedoms could not be taken away from us by the State because a power higher than the State, namely God, has given them to us."

When the atheist Scott, therefore, appeals to the Constitution in support of his alleged right to speak against God he is appealing to a law established by men who wanted to recognize man's freedom of speech as a God-given right which the State cannot take away.

When the Business Man had left us we turned the pages of the Times to read the atheist Scott's speech but it was very disappointing. There is nothing new in Mr. Scott's attack on God and all that his speech proves is that the Modern Atheist is surprisingly behind the times in his thinking.

Mr. Scott bases his denial of an all-wise, all-good, and all-powerful God upon the presence of evil in the world. If there is a God who is all-wise, all-powerful and all-good, argue Mr. Scott, then this God should preserve the world from such natural evils as earthquakes, disease and sickness.

This problem of reconciling the presence of evil in the world with the goodness and power of God has been discussed almost from the dawn of history. In every age gloomy pessimists like Mr. Scott have raged against God because of the presence of evil in the world.

But Mr. Scott's argument against God has been answered many times. By St. Thomas Aquinas in the thirteenth century and by St. Augustine in the fourth century.

"If evil exists," says St. Augustine, "it is not because God lacks power or goodness, but, on the contrary, He permits evil only because He is powerful enough and good enough to bring good out of evil."

God does not cause evil. He only permits it because He is able to bring good from evil.

This is where Mr. Scott makes his mistake. Because his

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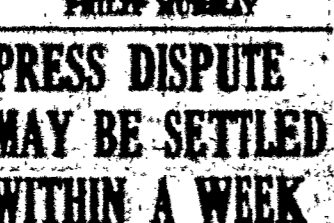
THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Diagnosed by NARAZETH ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL OF ROCHESTER WILL BE 75 YEARS OLD IN DECEMBER

Murray Bars CIO Red Purge; Split Feared

By VICTOR RIBBEL, Labor Editor, New York Post

Atlantic City—The little group around the young Catholic clergyman in the doorway of the CIO's Convention Hall here suddenly was startled by the hurried approach of an obviously angered chap quite prominent in American intellectual circles.



PHILIP MURRAY

PRESS DISPUTE MAY BE SETTLED WITHIN A WEEK

There is a fair hope that Rochester's "Little Iron Curtain" on news information may be lifted within another week, according to information obtained by the Courier-Journal today.

The city's two Gannett-owned daily newspapers—the Times-Union and the Democrat and Chronicle—have not appeared since November 8 when members of the Typographical Union, Local 15, failed to appear for work following a breakdown in negotiations with the Gannett management for a new wage contract.

The news blackout now two weeks old already has set a record in the history of Rochester journalism.

Direct negotiations were established between the Typographical Union and the Gannett Company, and Elmer Brown, literary editor of the Times-Union, and a person close to the situation informed the Courier-Journal that these direct negotiations established last week have "brogged down," but State mediator Doyle is reportedly working to revise proposals for direct negotiation "as soon as possible."

Three proposals should be ready "in a day or two," the Courier-Journal's informant stated, and he added that as soon as direct negotiations are established the newspaper troubles in Rochester should be settled "within a week."

Complicating the progress of the first meeting was the fact that members of the Typographical Union working on Gannett newspapers in other cities are also in disagreement with the management over the issue of wages.

Reds Mock Our Prayers

Paris—(RNS)—Catholic newspapers in France have expressed indignation over reports that Catholic prayers are being parodied in Communist-controlled regions throughout Yugoslavia.

The invocation used by Catholics in blessing themselves, it is asserted, has been changed to read: "In the name of Stalin and of Tito and of the Holy Spirit of World Communism. Amen." In many instances parodied prayers are allegedly being posted on classroom walls and in public places.

Prayers in the Lord's Prayer have assertedly been changed to read: "Our Stalin, who art in Russia, hallowed be thy name, thy will be done in our country as it is in Russia, give us this day our daily bread, forgive not the trespasses of those who have harmed us, but lead them into concentration camps, as they led us. Amen."

New \$100,000 School Will Be Built in Greece

(Sketch on Page 1-A)

Plans to erect a modern, fireproof \$100,000 school building to replace the present overcrowded, inadequate and antiquated building now in use, have been announced by the Holy Name Society of St. John's Church, in Greece.

As soon as materials are available to construct a new building the present school which houses about 150 pupils in its five classrooms, will be torn down to make room for the new eight-classroom structure.

Located at 2380 Ridge Road West the present school, at least a part of it, is 70 years old. School children of the parish first received instruction from the Parish Priest in the basement of the church. Three years later, in 1875, the rear portion of the present building was erected to house the nuns and the school room.

Cost of the new school house has been estimated at \$100,000 and the Holy Name Society of the church, organized on June 13, 1845 by 13 men, will spearhead a funds drive in December to raise the necessary money to inaugurate the project.

The Rev. John J. Baker, pastor of the church, has been named honorary chairman of the drive committee. Others on the committee are Milton Grapenstreter, general chairman; John Goeding and Norman Sleyer, co-managers; Ed Cardinal, treasurer, and John Williams, secretary.

JESUITS LEAVE ON GLOBAL TOUR

New York—(NC)—On a round-the-world journey to survey the missions of U. S. Jesuits and others in Iraq, the Near East, India, Ceylon, China, Japan, the Philippines and the mid-Pacific islands, the Rev. Calvert Alexander, S.J., editor of Jesuit Missions, and the Rev. Bernard Hubbard, S. J., widely known "Glacier Priest," departed from here this week.

Father Alexander described the trip as a "jumble attempt to augment the 72-volume Jesuit Relations," the first volume of which contains reports and letters about the missions founded by French Jesuits among North American Indians. The priest-editor said they will send back accounts of their voyages to the Catholic Press.

He also disclosed that Father Hubbard, a top-ranking outdoor photographer with still and movie cameras, will attend to the pictorial recording of their trip. Father Alexander has been an editor and writer for many years and prior to entering the Jesuits was a reporter on The St. Louis Globe-Democrat and The St. Louis Star-Times. Father Hubbard became known as "the Glacier Priest" through his scientific work in the Alps and in Alaska.

Philadelphia to Protest Philadelphians—(NC)—A mass meeting in protest against the persecution of the Church in Yugoslavia will be held in Convention Hall here December 1, sponsored by the Philadelphia County chapter of the Catholic War Veterans.

Czech Bishops Hold Conference

Prague—(RNS)—Catholic bishops from all parts of Czechoslovakia have arrived here for a two-day conference to discuss plans for intensified programs of Catholic social and spiritual activity throughout the country.

The meetings will be presided over by the Most Rev. Joseph Beran, newly elevated Archbishop of Prague, and will be attended by large numbers of priests who were interned in concentration camps during the German occupation.

Prague on Labor Unit St. Paul—(NC)—Rev. Francis J. Gilligan, professor at St. Paul Seminary here and chairman of the Minnesota Governor's Interracial Commission, has been named a member of the newly formed Labor Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

U. S. Bishops Score Delay in Peace Claim Reds Debase Human Rights See Respect for Man as Peace Key

U. S. Bishops Elect. Abp. McNicholas

Washington—(NC)— Archbishop John T. McNicholas, O.P., of Cincinnati became the Chairman of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference yesterday, when the ten Archbishops and Bishops elected to compose that body met at the headquarters building here and organized.

The members had been elected at the three-day annual meeting of the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States which had just closed at the Catholic University of America.

Other members of the N.C.W.C. Administrative Board for the coming year are: Archbishop John Gregory Murray of St. Paul, Vice Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the N.C.W.C. Peace Department; Bishop John Mark Gannon of Erie, Treasurer of the Board; Bishop Michael J. Ready of Columbus, Secretary of the Board; Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans, Chairman of the Legal Department; Archbishop John J. Milty of San Francisco, Chairman of the Department of Catholic Action Study; Archbishop James H. Ryan of Omaha, Chairman of the Department of Education; Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, Chairman of the Youth Department; Archbishop Robert S. Lopez of San Antonio, Chairman of the Department of Lay Organization, and Bishop Karl J. Alter of Toledo, Chairman of the Department of Social Action.

Archbishop McNicholas to Form Board

Archbishop McNicholas to form the Administrative Board after an absence of one year. Archbishop Lucy and Bishop Ready become members for the first time.

Their Excellencies Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, and Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, and Bishop John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, who served on the Administrative Board last year, were not eligible for reelection to the present board, because they had each completed the maximum of five consecutive one-year terms.

The session of the general meeting of the Archbishops and Bishops which elected the new Administrative Board of the N.C.W.C. voted to amend the by-laws, so as to invite the American Cardinals to attend all meetings of the Administrative Board, to participate in its deliberations and to serve on special committees when desirable.

Mgr. Howard J. Carroll was again named General Secretary of the N.C.W.C. The Rev. Paul F. Tanner was renamed Assistant General Secretary.

The general meeting also voted to appeal to the Holy See to have St. Lawrence named the national patron of American farmers.

Protestants Pray For Quebec Cardinal

Quebec City—(RNS)—A prayer for the restoration to health of Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Quebec, was offered here by delegates to the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Churches, which represents nine Protestant denominations.

Mother's Peace Plea to Cardinal Read to Molotov, Bevin by Byrnes

Olivia, Minn. (RNS)—A gold star mother sent a plea for peace and "the little people" of the world to Francis Cardinal Spellman and since has been amazed at the attention it attracted.

Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, forwarded the letter from Mrs. Stanley Schelle, Olivia housewife and a Methodist, to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes.

FOUR CARDINALS AT MEET

Washington—(RNS)—Four Cardinals, including the President of the American Bishops' Conference, met at the headquarters of the National Catholic Welfare Conference yesterday.

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Churchgoers Protest Atheist's Radio Talk

San Francisco—(RNS)—Indignant churchgoers hurraed Station KQW, Columbia Broadcasting System outlet here, with protests for allowing atheist Robert Harold Scott to spend thirty minutes arguing about the existence of God.

Fred Ruegg, radio station program director, said an early tabulation of listener reaction showed that about 20 per cent of the calls and the first 300 letters opened supported Mr. Scott's opinion to deny the existence of God over the radio.

A much smaller percentage, he said, supported Mr. Scott's beliefs.

Calls of protest against the broadcast started shortly after Mr. Scott went on the air and continued during the day. One protesting minister threatened to organize a boycott against KQW.

No comment was made by the San Francisco Council of Churches or by the headquarters of the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Archbishop Beckman Of Dubuque Resigns

Washington—(NC)—The Holy Father has accepted the resignation of Archbishop Francis J. L. Beckman of Dubuque. In view of the condition of his health, it was announced here today by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

The Holy Father has appointed Archbishop Beckman as Titular Archbishop of Phyllis, Coadjutor Archbishop Henry P. Kohlmann now becomes Archbishop of Dubuque.

North American College Rector Named

Washington—(NC)—The Most Rev. Martin J. O'Connor, Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton, Pa., has been named rector of the North American College in Rome, according to word received at the apostolic delegation in Washington, D. C.

DP's Rights To Freedom Defended

Washington—(RNS)—The American Bishops' Conference yesterday defended the rights of the Democratic Party to freedom of expression and the right to hold office.

The bishops' statement, issued after the annual meeting of the conference at the Catholic University of America, said that the party's right to hold office is a fundamental principle of the American Constitution.

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