U. S. Proposals for Care of DPs Seen 'Inhuman'

[illegible] — (NC) — Proposals [illegible] United States Army plans to [illegible] displaced persons from [illegible] in that country were strongly [illegible] Rep. James H. Morris, [illegible] Representative of War Relief Services—National Catholic [illegible] Conference, on his return [illegible] from a fourteenth [illegible] France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Austria [illegible] England, where he studied [illegible] for resettlement projects [illegible] refugees.

"It would be criminally inhumane and unjust," Mr. Morris said, "to add this burden to those now existing in Germany. Other than their complete [illegible] to care adequately for [illegible] own people, the Germans [illegible] in contact with the assembly [illegible] of some 14,000,000 Volksdeutsche who have been returned to Germany."

Large groups of Germans who [illegible] according to their native [illegible] in other countries such [illegible] Switzerland, upper Silesia, [illegible] Rumania and Yugoslavia [illegible] have now been evicted [illegible] Germany, have, according to [illegible] Morris, no means of support [illegible] Germany and are living in [illegible] and hardship. To add [illegible] 600,000 Displaced Persons [illegible] of the U. S. Zone of Germany, where only crime is thriving because of, to this people [illegible] want and insecurity [illegible] could be utter folly, he stated.

Solutions

While strongly criticizing the [illegible] proposed treatment of [illegible] persons, Mr. Morris voiced great appreciation for the [illegible] pending him by the [illegible] authorities, including [illegible] Joseph T. McGarraghan [illegible] aid in carrying out his mission.

[illegible] UNRRA, the intergovernmental agency at present in charge of the care of displaced persons, ceasing to function with [illegible] three months, the task of a solution to the problem of the displaced persons becomes a [illegible] on the assistance of the United Nations according to Mr. [illegible]

[illegible] Haskin was received in [illegible] audience with His Holiness Pope Pius XII who ordered [illegible] to [illegible] the plight of the [illegible] refugees and of [illegible] unwilling to return to their homelands. The Holy Father, after receiving expressions of gratitude extended by Mr. Morris in the name of War Relief Services—N. C. W. C. for his help and interest, stated that he considered it his duty to aid this humanitarian effort and expressed assurance of continued help.

South American countries, notably Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, and Venezuela have offered permanent residence to thousands of refugees, Mr. Norris reported. Brazil, which to date, he said, has the most carefully worked out plans for the immigration of refugees has at present three commissions in Europe to examine details for the admittance of 100,000. Venezuela also has a commission in Europe studying the problem.

Mr. Norris said the Vatican, after studying the immigration problem for several months, recently prepared a memorandum to all Papal Nuncios in South America, stipulating them with [illegible] for immigration and asking their help in the sound resettlement of the foreigners.

Unique Catholic Map Issued

[illegible] —(RNS)— A pictorial [illegible] of Catholic history in America, first of its kind ever published, containing more than [illegible] illustrations of Catholic [illegible] in the United States, has been issued here.

It is the work of Lawrence [illegible] Spanish Harlem editor, who [illegible] Bronx. The map has [illegible] pictures of Archbishop [illegible] J. Cushing of the Boston [illegible] Pius XII, the story begins [illegible] illustration of the [illegible] and continues with [illegible] history, [illegible] Chapter [illegible]

Negro Vote Testimony

Testifying before the Senate Campaign Investigating Committee, at Jackson, Miss., the Rev. George Strype, S. S. J., of St. Philomena's (Colored) Catholic parish, Pass Christian, Miss., told the committee that a number of his parishioners, mostly veterans, had been refused the right to vote on July 2, and that his personal protest at the polling place was in no avail. Father Strype is pictured on the stand during the hearing December 5, flanked on the left by committee members, Senators Maurice H. Hickenlooper, of Iowa (left), and Burnet R. Maybank, of South Carolina. AP Wirephoto. (NC Photos)

Negroes Denied Ballot Priest Tells Bilbo Probe

Jackson, Miss. — (NC) — The Rev. George T. J. Strype, S.S.J., pastor of St. Philomena's Catholic Church, Pass Christian, Miss., told the Senate Investigating Committee on Senator Theodore Bilbo's candidacy for reelection to the United States Senate and his opposition to Negro voting that a group of his church members were not allowed to vote in a run-off of the Pass Christian city election after they had voted in the June 4 primary as Democrats.

Father Strype said that after the first election Bilbo made a speech on the voting of Negroes, which the priest characterized as "the most damnable demonstration of demagoguery in the history of our Southland."

Senator Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, chairman of the Senatorial committee of five, asked the Josephite priest, a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., if it was not true that whether Bilbo or anyone else was seeking office the Negroes would have met the same opposition.

Father Strype replied: "I do not think so."

In answer to a question by Bilbo, Father Strype said he took an interest in the Negro voting situation because it is "a doctrine of the Catholic Church to teach our people to do their duties as citizens."

Pilgrims Travel To Guadalupe

Denver, Colo. — (RNS) — A 20th century crusade of 75 Denver Catholics, bent on combatting atheism with prayer, left here for the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

The unique pilgrimage, fostered by the Very Rev. John Ormsby, provincial director of the Theatine Fathers of America, ends at the famous shrine, today, feast day of "The Little Dark Virgin."

There in the shrine where the Blessed Virgin appeared to the Indian convert, Juan Diego, in 1531, the pilgrims will seek intercession through prayer for aid in the fight against philosophies which seek to stamp out God.

The pilgrimage will gather additional crusaders as it winds through Southern Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. It is expected to number several hundred before the shrine is reached.

Four Monks Leave For Tibet Mountains

Fribourg, Switzerland — (NC Photos) — Four Cistercian monks have left Martigny in the Valais Canton for the Tibetian region of China where they will join their brethren in religion who for several years have been devoting themselves to travelers lost in the snow-capped mountains.

The monks, who hope to reach by Christmas their mission station near Weisi, China, in the Diocese of Tatsienlu, are taking a plane from London to Kunming, China, from where they will travel about 250 miles by motor to Talin and then another 220 miles by caravan to their convent in Weisi.

Wave of Burglaries In Hungary Churches

Budapest — (Radio, NC) — An organized wave of burglaries has struck the Catholic Churches of the Diocese of Pecs, according to reports received here. The tabernacles of the churches are broken open, monstrances are being carried off and other religious articles damaged.

It is presumed that a single group is responsible for these outrages which are, however, evidently not committed with the prime intention of stealing because such religious objects as chalices have been left behind. Parishioners of the defamed churches are holding special services of propitiation for these sacrileges.

Bishop Shaughnessy Honored

Boston — (NC) — An honorary doctorate of laws was conferred by Boston College upon Bishop Gerald Shaughnessy, S. M., of Seattle, an alumnus of the class of 1909, at a special convocation of the faculty and student body.

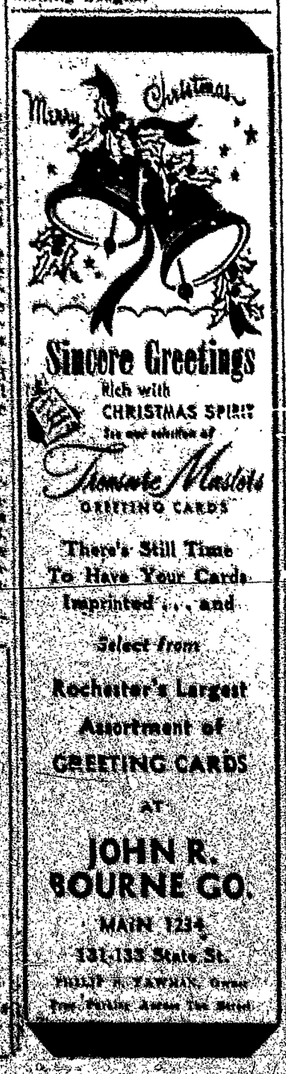
Pope Receives Cardinal Hlond

Rome—(RNS)—August Cardinal Hlond, Archbishop of Warsaw and Primate of Poland, was received in audience by Pope Pius XII following his arrival here to report on the situation of the Catholic Church in Poland.

The Cardinal was accompanied by a group of Polish priests.

Cardinal Visits Refugees

Budapest — (Radio, NC)—His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, paid a visit to the villages along the banks of the Danube where Hungarian women and children have fled, from the Czechoslovak territory reclaimed by Czechoslovakia, crossing the river in small boats and even washing troughs.



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Divorces Threaten U. S.—Abp. Cushing

By MOST REVEREND RICHARD J. CUSHING
(In the Boston Sunday Advertiser)

The Catholic Church, together with tens of thousands of thoughtful people who believe in the sanctity of the pledged word and who seek a decent society, has always considered legal provision for easy divorce the most insidious enemy of national well being. It is insidious because it gives divorce a place in the very law which is supposed to be written for the preservations of that same order and security at which divorce strikes.

Cites Views of Pope Pius XI

The experience of the ages is behind these words of Pope Pius XI: "When no divorce is recognized marriages are contracted with a sense of safety and security. When the divorce principle is accepted, the marriage contract is insecure; there are grounds for anxieties and unforeseen and unexpected surprises.

"Where no divorce is recognized there is a strengthening of good will and cooperation in the daily life of husband and wife. Both are much weakened where the divorce principle is accepted.

"Where no divorce is recognized, husband and wife are protected and aided against temptations to disloyalty or infidelity. Harmful inducements to unfaithfulness are consequent upon the acceptance of the divorce principle.

"Where the divorce principle is not accepted the begetting and upbringing of children is effectively promoted, many avenues of discord among family members and relatives are closed, and jealousies are easily suppressed. When the possibility of dissolving the marriage contract is admitted, great obstacles to the begetting and rearing of children are encountered, occasions for quarrels multiply, and many seeds of jealousy are sown.

Guard Dignity of Womanhood

"The dignity and position of women is assured in civil and domestic life where there is no divorce. Her dignity is endangered and her position is shamefully lowered where divorce is found. In the latter case women tend to become slaves to the lusts of men."

The Church has reasons of her own for opposing divorce so militantly. She opposes it because divorce desecrates a sacrament, repudiates a sacred cow. But the State should be equally opposed to divorce for reasons of its own. All civil law, local as well as national, is written in the hope of forming that "more perfect union" which from the beginning has been the social aspiration of American democracy. Disintegration forces, destructive alike of the fact and the ideal of social union, should be a matter of the gravest concern to our law-makers and our judges.

Of all disintegrating forces, divorce is the most destructive. So long as it is possible for men and women to escape the obligations assumed in marriage by tearing asunder the marriage bond with the full protection of the law and with the possibility of contracting at will further and equally irresponsible unions, the family will never be the school of self discipline and social virtues that it must as the basis of civilized society. The social community is the family enlarged; society will have only that integrity, respect for the pledged word and stability which the typical home within it possesses.

Trend Hurts Marital Fidelity

Present divorce tendencies are proof positive that the fidelity and the discipline which are essential for "more perfect union" in our community are not being developed in the places where they must be developed if we are to survive as a people.

These facts are the more disturbing when we remember the contagious character of divorce. Once the principle of divorce is accepted there is no logical limit that can be placed to the spread of the evil.

More than a half-century ago, a great religious leader based his plea against further legalization of divorce on the evil which would flow from this peculiar contagious aspect of the divorce plague. He said: "Great is the force of example, greater still that of lust; and with such incitements it can not but happen that divorce and its consequent setting loose of the passions will spread daily and attack the souls of many like a contagious disease or a river bursting its banks and flooding the land."

This sobering prophecy is fulfilled in the case of our own country: In 1887 there were in the United States 27,919 divorces; in 1900, 55,751; in 1915, 104,298; in 1929, 201,468; in 1935 (after a drop to 160,338 in 1932 — the depth of the great economic depression) 218,000; in 1937, an estimated 250,000; in 1943, an estimated 300,000.

What causes this disastrous condition? What can be done restricted will prompt patriotic and conscientious law makers about it? Many people are suggesting the establishment of Marriage Relations Courts.

(Turn to page 7)

Lower Infant Mortality

Sister Michael, one of the five Medical Mission sisters of the Catholic Maternity Institute in Santa Fe, gives this newborn infant a sanitary welcome into the world. The sisters are on call at any hour of the day or night and penetrate fields where otherwise mothers would not likely have hospitalization. It is a comparatively new work for these Catholic nuns, who have been trained to serve as nurse mid-wives. They are helping to reduce New Mexico's appalling infant mortality rate. (NC Photos)

Interned 3 Years by Japs, Nun Will Return to Orient

Dubuque — (NC) — Despite ten years in the Orient filled with harrowing experiences, including three years in a Japanese concentration camp, Sister Gerald, who is spending a leave here at Mt. St. Francis convent, the motherhouse of her community, will return to her missionary labors when her "vacation" is ended.

At the outbreak of the war, Sister Gerald and two other nuns were supervising a dispensary in Chiulichuang. On Christmas Day, 1941, they were taken by the Japanese to Bin Hsien, but after recording of their names at headquarters there they were allowed to return "home."

Except for periodic searches of their compound they were not molested again until the following March, when they were taken to Putai for another uneventful visit with the Japanese authorities. Then they were left alone until September of 1942, when Jap soldiers took them to Wee Hsien, a former Presbyterian mission miserably crowded with 3,000 inmates and receiving more every day. After five months there the nuns were taken to Peking, where Sister Gerald spent the next two and a half years in another internment camp. Released in September, 1945, Sister Gerald then went to Chowtsun, where the Franciscan Sisters maintain a large school.

Communists Arrive

In June, 1946, communist soldiers reached Chowtsun, forcing their way into the Franciscan school and ordering every one there into the basement.

"We heard rumors regularly that the communists were on the march and getting closer to us, but no one really believed they'd come," said Sister Gerald. "When they knocked on our door, no one opened, so they tried all the doors. That night they set up their machine guns on our flat rooftops and began firing on the city. We waited below. Every so often a stray bullet would hit the wall, but no one was injured. During the communist occupation 70 of 80 windows were blown out of the school," said Sister Gerald.

The communists pillaged Chowstun for three weeks until the Nationalist army liberated it. During the fighting, Nationalist planes bombed and strafed communist positions.

"In one air raid as I ran along a corridor toward the basement a bullet from a strafing plane whipped right over my head and bored into the opposite wall. One of the sisters told me she had seen the ball of fire directly above my head and thought it was the end of me, but I guess my Guardian Angel was on double duty that day," said Sister Gerald.

Hindus and Moslems Get Bishop's Appeal

Tuticorin, India — (NC Fides) — A strong appeal to Hindus and Moslems to forget their differences and unite for the task of forming a national constitution and of building up the Indian nation was made by Bishop Thomas T. Roche S.J. on the occasion of his 23d anniversary as a Bishop.

The prelate stated that the Christians in India have a splendid opportunity to act as mediemen in the dispute, because they were on friendly terms with both parties.

Prelate Scores 30-Day Limit on Taylor Mission

New York — (RNS) — Asserting that a Presidential envoy to the Vatican is of incalculable importance to the United States, the Most Rev. James H. Ryan, Archbishop of Omaha, said in a letter to The New York Times that the question of U. S. representation at the Holy See "has become so clouded by prejudice and odium theologicum that it is almost beyond hope to expect a rational solution."

He said the 30-day time limit placed on Myron C. Taylor's present mission to the Vatican made it appear "that the White House wishes to throw a sop to the opposition which so stridently has contested the presence of Mr. Taylor in Rome."

"If Mr. Taylor can complete his work in 30 days, well and good," the archbishop stated, "but it strikes one as approaching the ludicrous to limit his mission to that short period, whether that be found sufficiently long or not."

Archbishop Ryan said he had discussed the subject of representation "with many leading Protestants, lay and clerical," no one of whom "does not deprecate the propaganda carried on by some of their co-religionists against the presence of a Presidential representative at the Holy See."

Taylor Vatican Visit Target of Communist

New York — (NC) — Glos Ludu, the official organ of the communist party in Poland, has seized upon the return to the Holy See of Myron Taylor, the personal representative of President Truman at the Vatican, as an occasion to attack the Holy Father as a "collaborator with American trusts," according to the Inter-Catholic Press Agency here.

After painting Mr. Taylor as a wealthy capitalist, the Communist organ stated that the Holy Father's association with such a man was an indication of his desire to "oppress people's democracies," the agency reports.

Pope Honors Nuns

Philadelphia — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII granted a special Apostolic Benediction to the Sisters of St. Basil the Great and their benefactors and friends as they celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Basilian nuns arrival in the United States.

Leavenworth Installation

Kansas City, Kan — (NC) — The Most Rev. George J. Donnelly, newly appointed Bishop of the Leavenworth Diocese, will be formally installed as seventh Ordinary of the 70 year old Kansas See on Thursday, Jan. 9.

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