

### Bishop Ford Sees NCWC For Chinese

Washington, (NC) — An organization modeled after the National Catholic Welfare Conference in the United States, which has been announced for the Church in China, will begin its function in South China when Bishop Francis Xavier Ford, a Maryland Missioner, returns to his Vicariate Apostolic of Haining in Kwangtung Province early in June.

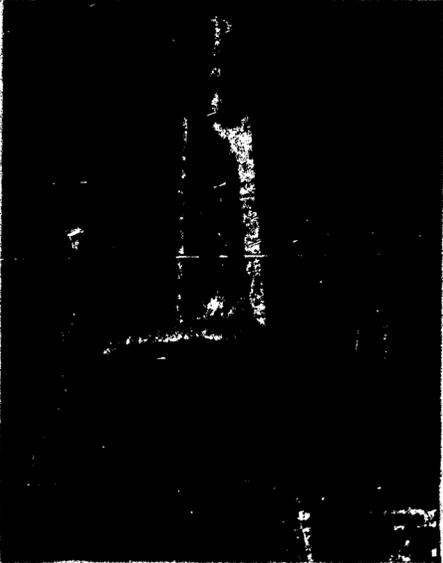
The organization, known as the Chinese Catholic Welfare Conference, drew its inspiration from the N.C.W.C. here, but because of the distance and difficulties of communication in China, it is being organized on a regional basis. It is a national plan, Bishop Ford revealed in an interview during a visit to this city.

The Chinese Catholic Welfare Conference for South China is the first of three regional groups. It is expected that two other regional groups will model themselves after the South China committee.

There are in the Chinese Catholic Welfare Conference for South China 22 Bishops of Portuguese, Irish, Spanish, French, Italian and American nationality. They met last May and elected Bishop Ford chairman, just prior to his departure for the United States to attend the Maryknoll General Chapter. It was agreed at that time that the first annual meeting would be held here after his return to China this June.

A veteran of 28 years of missionary service in China, Bishop Ford believes the outlook of the Church in that country is hopeful, due mostly to the sympathy and influence of Chiang Kai-shek. In every speech he made during the war, Bishop Ford pointed out the strength of Western civilization and the need for religious principles and he urged his people to study Christian methods. One result of this advice, the Bishop added, was that Chinese students and leaders came in a constant stream to the episcopal residence to borrow books.

### ALTAR FOR MARIAN CONGRESS



Nearly 100,000 Catholics gathered from many countries will offer prayers for a lasting peace, before the central altar of the Congress, to be erected in Lansdowne Park, Ottawa, for the Marian Congress to be held there June 12 to 25. Plans will be started immediately and will be completed before the beginning of the Congress in the fall. The altar will be 150 feet long and 15 feet high (model pictured), according to plans announced by Archbishop Alexander Vachon of Ottawa, host to the Congress. (NC Photos)

### Quints To Be Soloists At Marian Congress in June

Ottawa — In June at the grand Marian Congress here, the Dionne quintuplets now 12 years old, will appear as soloists in hymns to the Virgin Mary for peace in the world.

This ceremony will take place at the repository during the closing hours of the Congress. Before 100,000 people from all over North America. It will precede by half an hour the solemnity of consecration of the human race to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at which event a special message from His Holiness Pope Pius XII will be conveyed by radio to the gathering and the world at large.

Assignment to the five famous sisters of a specific role in such a great Catholic gathering as the Marian Congress is in a sense a recognition of the uplifting faith of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Dionne.

The supreme objective of the Congress is to unite the prayers of many peoples for a lasting peace. Canadian and American mothers who join in that prayer will recall the personal anxiety they experienced as the Quints struggled through baby India.

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### British Give Shrine Statue to Pius XII

Valencia City — (Radio NC) — A group of 150 British chaplains, officers and enlisted men were received in private audience by His Holiness Pope Pius XII and presented the Pontiff with a statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. The statue honors the English shrine of Our Lady, a model of the Holy House of Nazareth.

In thanking the group for the gift the Holy Father said that every time he would see the statue he would pray to Mary for the group, all those they represent, their "gracious sovereignty," and the entire English nation. Our Lady of Walsingham belongs to England, the Pontiff said, adding that no one dare doubt that Mary looks down with maternal love on the island.

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### Austrian Catholic Press Emerging from War Ruins

By DR. FREDERICK FUNDKE  
Vienna — (NC) — What causes have brought about the vanishing of the Catholic Press in Austria? This question is likely to be put by a visitor to Austria, who has not forgotten proud exhibits of Austria's Catholic journalism at the International Catholic Press Exhibition, held in 1936 in the Vatican.

It is easy to recall the brilliant, almost enviable development and diversity of the Catholic Press in Austria at that time. Though a small country, it boasted nine daily papers with a circulation of more than 250,000; some 60 weeklies; several important reviews; ideally compiled family magazines; five monthlies for the Missions; and special papers comprising all spheres of religious life. Of this abundance but little exists today. All Catholic dailies have vanished. It is as if the former Catholic Press had been buried by an avalanche.

When national socialism seized Austria, in the very first days of its rule, it started an annihilating campaign against the Catholic Press. The editors of all the daily papers were among the first to be arrested; some of them were not to know complete freedom for several whole years.

Simultaneously with the dissolution of the Catholic Press associations, which had existed in all the Austrian dioceses, 14 Catholic printing plants were confiscated. At the Catholic Press Center of Vienna, where the main organ of Austrian Catholics, The Reichpost, was published, the new masters reigned in barbarous style.

The valuable library, containing numerous antique historical volumes, the archives with hundreds of thousands of clippings, valuable collections concerning Austrian journalistic history were all destroyed; the chief-editor's lodgings, looted; the printing presses, dragged to Poland.

After the collapse of Hitler's regime, the Government of the liberated Austrian State set up public administrators for what was left of the property of the Catholic Press Associations. They were to act at the same time as trustees for the former owners. For instance, I was named public administrator of the firm which used to publish the Reichpost, of which I used to be editor.

The present legal relations are most intricate. According to the Potsdam Agreement some of the publicly administered printing presses which have not yet been returned to their rightful owners, are still considered as German Property, as they had been confiscated by the Germans. However, the British and U. S. authorities have left no doubt as to not wanting to deprive the rightful owners of the property which they seek.

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**Pope Warns Students On Spiritual Danger**  
Rome — (RNS) — Pope Pius XII told a group of 2,000 French students here it is their duty as Catholics to help preserve the world from racial and spiritual danger.

The Pontiff gave an audience to the students after they arrived here for a joint Congress sponsored by Pax Romana, world federation of Catholic university students, and the International Movement of Catholic Students, which is being held in Italy.

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