

Persecution Outbreak Seen In Rumania

Istanbul (AP)—Increasing signs of religious persecution in Rumania are causing concern to Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox leaders in that country, according to reliable informants who arrived recently in Istanbul. They charged that Communist agents have been responsible for numerous arrests of Catholic and Orthodox priests, and that many clergymen have gone into hiding to avoid being taken into custody.

According to Catholic sources, the Most Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, American bishop who is serving as regent of the Apostolic Nunciature in Bucharest, has made energetic, but unsuccessful efforts to procure the release of a group of Catholics who were imprisoned for alleged subversive activities in the prison at Pitesti, in the Carpathian foothills.

Will Stand Ground
Bishop O'Hara was reported to be "much disturbed" over the present church situation. He is said, however, to have announced his readiness to "stand his ground," in the hope that Vatican and United States authorities may be able to exert influence on behalf of the Rumanian churches.

Orthodox informants declared that Patriarch Nicodemus, head of the Rumanian Orthodox Church, has incurred Communist displeasure because of his refusal to cooperate in plans for expanding the influence of the Russian Orthodox Church in southeastern Europe.

Beel, Red Cross Control
It was disclosed that many of the Orthodox priests arrested or in hiding were known to have given support to Y. M. C. A. organizations, said to have shown a strong growth since Russian occupation authorities evacuated properties and removed obstacles to their work.

The Rumanian informants said that Communist elements are also seeking to gain control of all Red Cross activities in Rumania by placing their own supporters in executive positions and on committees. This policy is believed to be inspired by a general opposition to all organizations which "express kindred feelings with western ideals."

Pope Receives U. S. Scouts Home—(RNS)—Pope Pius XII gave an audience to American Catholic Boy Scouts who are on their way to Moisson, France for the sixth international Scout jamboree. They

A GIFT FOR VATICAN RADIO



When he heard that the Vatican radio station lacked suitable equipment for playing electrical transcriptions, a son-Catholic, but a strong booster for the daily Sacred Heart Program, which originates at St. Louis University radio station, St. Louis, Charles E. Harrison built the above playback to overcome the difficulty and presented it to the Vatican station. Mr. Harrison is shown making the presentation through the Rev. Eugene F. Murphy, S.J., national director, and Rev. Hugh E. Harlike, S.J., program director. (NO Photos)

Housing Shortage Puts Children in Orphanages

Beaver (AP)—Twenty-five per cent of the children in Catholic orphanages in the city of Denver in the past winter were forced to live there because of the housing shortage. It was revealed here by Magr. John R. Mulroy, director of the Denver archdiocesan Catholic Charities and chairman of the Denver Housing Authority.

At the same time the Monsignor criticized "the pure, unadulterated greed" of the real estate exchange which he blamed for the situation. A large group of children living in Denver Catholic orphanages are not members of impoverished family groups, but belong to the middle-income segment of the population, Monsignor Mulroy stated, adding that their plight was not the result of their parents' failure to provide for them but of their parents' inability to find a home.

In denouncing the real estate group, the Monsignor declared that they have been organized into a powerful lobbying machine for the sole purpose of protecting and increasing enormous profits. He added that it has come to be accepted as normal procedure that any legislation

Occupied Areas Watched For Birth Control Drive

Washington—There has been a great increase in birth control propaganda appearing in the public press in recent days, and some observers here are watching to see if it will

Cross Carried On Pilgrimage
London (AP)—An eight-foot wooden cross stood for a week in the lobby of a movie theater just outside London. Moviegoers gathered around it, read the notices below it. Some approved, others were annoyed and some complained to the non-Catholic manager. The cross was taken by a group of Catholic men, some of them veterans of the great Vesuvius cross-bearing pilgrimage across France last year, to St. Joseph's Church, where it was blessed. The men then started on the first stage of a pilgrimage on foot to the ancient shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk, 100 miles to the north.

The men, who are spending their vacations on the pilgrimage, will carry the cross back through towns, villages and winding lanes of Britain's countryside to Bishop's Cleeve, Oxfordshire, where it will be erected permanently outside of the Catholic church.

State Dept. Watched
What is more, Dr. Stone said he was going to ask Washington to take action in this situation. It will be watched here, to see what representations Dr. Stone makes, and what reaction it stirs on the part of the United States Government.

It has been previously reported, however, that Charles E. Saltzman, newly-named assistant secretary of state for occupied areas, is a member of the board of directors of the Planned Parenthood Federation, and that Undersecretary of State William L. Clayton is a member of the national advisory board of the same group.

Dr. Stone's suggestion does not sound as drastic as the proposal of his co-worker, Mrs. Sanger, that there be a 10-year moratorium on births in the "hungry" countries, but it is possible that, with official encouragement, it could produce in Germany conditions as grave as were threatened by the now-discredited Morgenthau Plan.

Dr. Stone said that, because German doctors do not have the material and information which American birth controllers could give them, women were "indulging in the very dangerous practice of self-abortion."

France Is Cited
At least some authorities on family life take sharp issue with Dr. Stone on this point. They contend that abortion is fostered by the practice of birth control, and is higher among those who

HOT DOG—IT'S FIGHTING TIME



Hot dog stand in front of a bank in New York City. The stand is being used as a shelter for displaced persons.

Yugoslav Mob Beats, Kicks Trieste Bishop

Trieste (AP)—An unprovoked mob of Communist thugs on August 10 in Trieste, Italy, beat and kicked Bishop Anthony Smead of Trieste, who had been in the city for a few days. The bishop was taken to a hospital and his injuries were reported to be serious. The mob consisted of about 50 men, some of whom were armed with clubs and stones. The bishop was seen being dragged through the streets and thrown into a car. The incident occurred in the area of the city known as the "Zone," which is a disputed territory between Italy and Yugoslavia.

Missioner Who Escaped Japs Returns From Solomons

Washington (AP)—The Rev. Albert Label, Marxist missionary of Brunswick, Me., is now visiting in the United States for the first time since he left this country more than sixteen years ago to labor in the North Solomons. Father Label spent practically the entire period among the natives of the South Pacific islands with the exception of a year's second novitiate in Sydney, Australia, and a few months during the war when all U. S. missionaries were ordered off the Japanese-held islands by Allied authorities. Upon completion of a year's rest in this country he hopes to return to the South Pacific.

More than 50 per cent of the people living in the vicariate are Catholics, the priest related, pointing out that the gospel was first preached to the natives only 50 years ago by Marxist missionaries. Of the 60,000 inhabitants on the islands about 33,000 are members of the church, he said. There are now 25 priests, four brothers and 20 nuns laboring in the vicariate. Five brothers and four priests lost their lives during the war.

Father Label narrowly escaped becoming a prisoner of war, he related. When the Japanese first landed on Bougainville Island they seized the Marxist missionary and took him aboard their destroyer for deportation to Japan. However, Father Label located an acting captain of the ship and argued the shipper into letting him return to the natives just as the destroyer was about to pull out of the harbor. Later the missionary was charged by Bishop Thomas Walsh, S.J., Vicar Apostolic of the North Solomons, with bringing all the names in various parts of the islands to a safe spot for evacuation by U. S. submarines. During the first few months of the Japanese occupation, Father Label related, he turned through the bush country, offering Mass and ministering to the Catholics as he met them. He carefully avoided Japanese patrols because they had given word that every white man would be beheaded on sight. One of the Marxist missionaries did suffer that fate, he said. In April, 1943, the Allies command sent Father Label to the Australian islands and missionaries on the islands to stand by for evacuation. They were taken off by submarine, he stated. The missionary returned to Bougainville in November of the same year as an auxiliary chaplain of the U. S. Armed Forces.

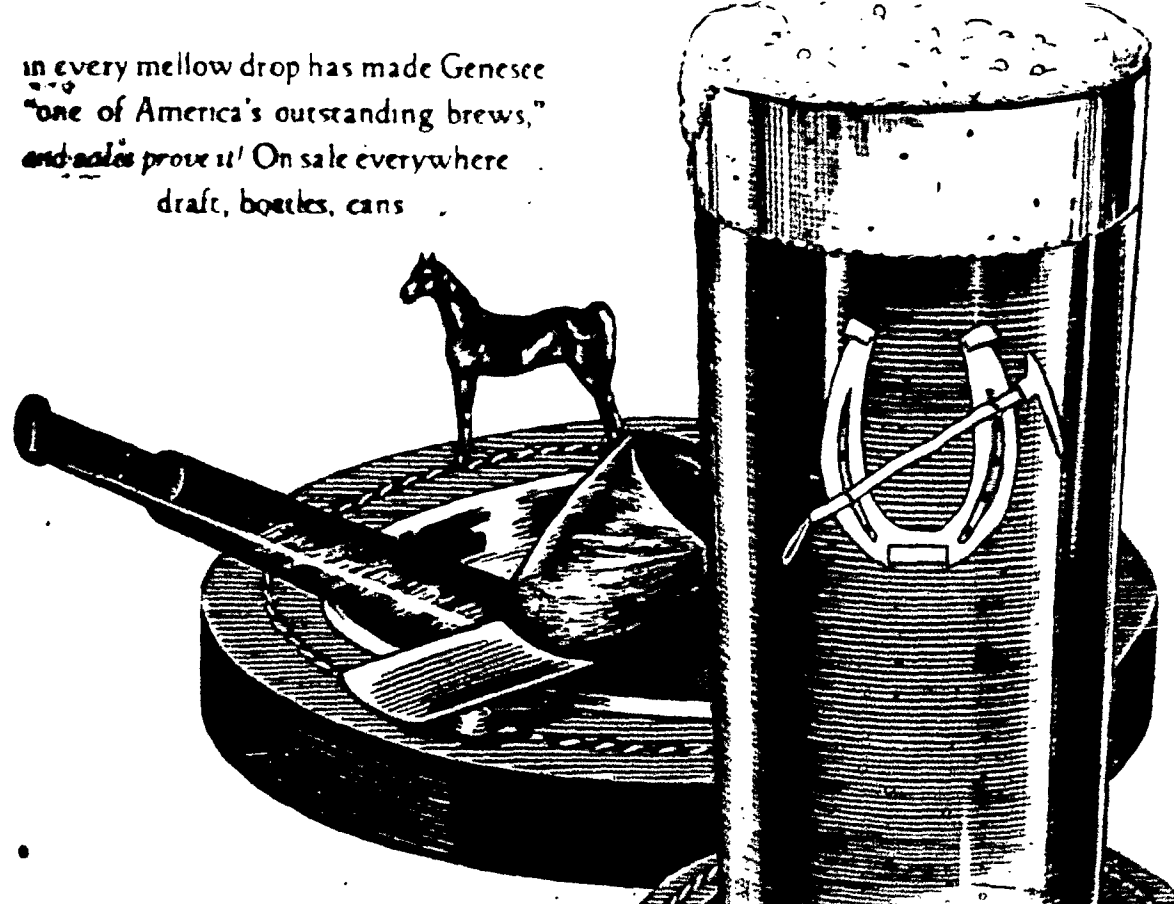
Jersey Drafts New Bus Law

New Brunswick, N. J. (RNS)—Reversing itself for the second time, the Constitutional Convention's committee on taxation and finance approved by a 6-to-4 vote a constitutional proposal permitting the legislature to provide for the free transportation of all school students up to 18 years of age.

If the convention accepts the committee's recommendation, the bus bill proposal will be tied in with the whole constitution. In that event the section, permissive in form, will read: "The legislature may, within reasonable limitations as to distance to be prescribed, provide for the transportation of children within the age of 5 to 18 inclusive in and from any school."

The present school bus law carries the phrase "any school not operated for profit." It is being broadened to cover all schools so as to overcome a point that was made in the U. S. Supreme Court decision upholding the law as constitutional.

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