Paris Padres Join Factories To Aid Workers

Washington—(NC)—The wide-ly-publicized Mission de Paris, the assignment of priests to lay jobs with the factory life of the city, assumed less importance as only one small, though striking and important part of the effort of French Catholic Action to bring Christian principles back into the everyday life of the French people.

This was the answer of a Paris seminarian visiting here to questions about the phenomenon of the worker-priests. The seminarian, Xavier de Chalendar, has been in North America to attend a congress in Montreal, and to visit Notre Dame University and several large cities in the United States. He is personally acquainted with several of these Mission de Paris priests, and with their work.

Lost of Faith

The mission had its inception, according to Mr. de Chalendar, with the publication in the Spring of 1943 of an disturbing report by Abbe Godin, on the leakage from that church among the working classes of Paris. Thousands of these people had lost all contact with parish life and the Sacraments. Though this was known to church officials, Father Godin's report served to emphasize it and bring forward the need of corrective measures.

At the same time the French church was faced with the problem of ministering to the thousands of Frenchmen who were taken as prisoners of war and Frenchmen under the Nazi forced labor laws in Germany. The Germans refused all requests to allow chaplains to accompany these deportees. Many priests went along, nevertheless. But these were not common laborers and administered the Sacraments clandestinely to their fellow workers.

Returned going back to France of their spiritual refreshment, besides they shared fully in the trials of their fellows and were accepted as confidants by them. Some got Father Godin's contention that the way to bring the factory workers back to the church was not being the church back into their factory.

In 1943 a group of French Catholic priests went to work in workers' tenements for the duration, in January, 1944, the Mission de Paris was founded by Cardinal Suhard. Now six priests [illegible] 11 lay apostolic [illegible] of the German forced labor camps.

Some of these worker-priests are regularly at their payroll of industrial concerns, doing a full day's work like other employees. Others [illegible] like the chaplains of army units. But they all live in [illegible] and apartment houses in the workers' districts, and not in rectories or church institutions. They are all dedicated to the idea of forming "cells" of Christianity among people who have forgotten what the church teaches, and [illegible] remembered" Mgr. [illegible] in Paris, "that [illegible] part, you cannot [illegible] a little part. In the church [illegible] religion means [illegible] and the [illegible] that is man [illegible] today. It [illegible] things [illegible] Catholic [illegible]

Honor Local Queens

[illegible] Church [illegible] joined here [illegible] following [illegible] Lake Queens and [illegible] who died [illegible] daughter of the [illegible] was a military [illegible] Glen [illegible]

[illegible] observed [illegible] Most Rev. Michael J. [illegible] Archbishop of Manila, [illegible] the Most Rev. [illegible] Apostolic Delegate [illegible] the United States [illegible] Catholic Hierarchy [illegible]

Superior

Mother M. Bernardine, O.P., has just been chosen Mother General of the Dominican Sisters whose motherhouse is at Columbus, O. The congregation has more than 600 members serving in colleges, a normal school, high schools and academies, trade schools and a convalescent home in a dozen archdioceses and dioceses, and in the China Mission. Mother Bernardine's predecessor, Mother M. Stephanie, directed the community for 24 years. (Courier Register Photos). (NC Photos)

Marks 50 Years In Episcopacy; Had TB in Youth

Paris—(NC)—The Uganda mission in Africa observed on the Feast of the Assumption the jubilee of the former Vicar Apostolic, the Most Rev. Henry Streicher, 81 years old, who was ordained 50 years ago and consecrated Bishop 30 years ago. Coming from Alsace, he made his studies in Jerusalem and was ordained a member of the White Fathers. He ordained the first five native priests in the Uganda vicariate, which now has 90 native priests and 440 native sisters. There are 600,000 Christians.

Bishop Streicher resigned his vicariate in 1939 because of ill health and was named a titular Archbishop. He remained at a home mission post in Algeria, save for a visit to Rome in 1946 to assist at the consecration of several native priests as Bishops. When he entered the seminary as a young man, a physician told of Bishop Streicher: "You will never be able to make a priest of him; he spits blood."

Boston Prelate Hits Red Threat

Boston—(NC)—The "great danger of international communism or Red fascism, is the manner in which it promotes and exploits every possible internal disloyalty within a nation or a community," Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston asserted in an address at the 32nd annual dinner of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers.

The Archbishop said that defective loyalty is the greatest weapon of the communist and must be combated by alert public officials. He declared that communism "grabs the worker, the intellectual, the alien, the unthinking or the mere fool into disloyalty to the national traditions, to the nation's future, to the higher interests of the human community and to the spiritual values which are of God."

There are two directions in which abuse of civic loyalty can lead to disaster—fascism, a "blind stupid, regimented, false sense of secular loyalty" and communism, at the core of which is "the same unintelligent, exploited, perverted sense of secular loyalty," Archbishop Cushing said.

The prelate said there was no need for him to discuss the lines along which communism must be fought because "thank God, there are increasing indications that our government and its responsible leaders are now alert to its dangers."

CWV Head Meets Pope

Rome—(Radio, NC)—His Holiness Pope Pius XII has received in audience Max Sorensen of Philadelphia, national commander of the Catholic War Veterans.

German Catholics Reknit Ties With Western Lands

Cologne—(NC)—Several moves aimed at reknitting and strengthening the ties between German Catholics and Catholics of western countries, which were broken by the war, have become known here.

The French Bishop Pierre Theas, Ordinary of Lourdes and Tarbes, has acknowledged an invitation of the Catholic Men's Association of Aachen, Germany, to attend the "Days of Prayer" to be held in that city next month. The bishop, who recently told the Holy Father of the crusade of prayer instituted by that organization, was encouraged by the Pontiff to accept the invitation. Should this visit materialize, it would be the first one by a French bishop to Germany since the war, except for Bishop Picard de la Vacquerie who is stationed in the French zone of Occupation as Catholic religious affairs inspector.

In a similar move, French Catholics have invited 43 German Catholics to take part in the Pax Christi meeting which is to be held in Lourdes in connection with a French national pilgrimage. The Pax Christi movement is a French prayer crusade specifically devoted to Germany and sponsored by Bishop Theas.

Plans England Visit

It has also become known that His Eminence Konrad Cardinal von Preysing, Bishop of Berlin, plans to visit England in the near future, following an invitation from His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster.

Both met a few weeks ago, when Cardinal Griffin passed through Berlin on his return from a trip to Poland. Cardinal von Preysing would be the second German cardinal to visit Britain since the end of the war.

Last year, His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, spent several weeks in England and visited prisoner-of-war camps.

Invited to Cologne

Cardinal Frings, who recently attended the Marian Congress in Ottawa, has revealed that he used the occasion of meeting many members of the American and Canadian Hierarchy to extend personal invitations to a number of them to come to Cologne next August and attend the 700th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of Cologne Cathedral.

In a letter to his flock, the cardinal expressed the hope that, by August 1948, the reconstruction of the war-damaged cathedral will have progressed sufficiently to use again the larger part of it for religious services.

In his letter, Cardinal Frings declared himself deeply impressed by the manifestations of piety and devotion he witnessed in Canada. Describing the midnight Mass in Ottawa, he said: "It was as if the whole world wanted to assemble for the Day of Judgment."

The cardinal praised the brotherly reception he received as a German bishop and said he found no hatred of the German people among Canadians.

Vatican Press Backs Marshall

Rome—(NC)—Secretary of State George C. Marshall's speech before the Inter-American Defense Conference at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, stressing regard for the dignity and rights of the individual as essential for world peace, has touched upon the most pressing problem in the world today and the one which can become the greatest threat to peace, Osservatore Romano, Vatican City daily, comments.

Declaring that the Secretary's words most eloquently support mankind's common vision of living together in peace, the paper says that Mr. Marshall's address was one of the most thorough interpretations of the people's wishes ever to come from a statesman. Osservatore quotes the secretary's words: "We of the American republics won our freedom in the name of democracy . . . I am confident that we all agree that the state exists for man, not man for the state—and that we abhor any limitations upon the freedom of expression of men throughout he world."

The doctrine of state absolutism has been denounced a number of times by Popes Leo XIII, Pius XI and Pius XII, the Vatican paper continues, adding that if plebiscites had been conducted the last two world wars surely would have been avoided and that a similar plebiscite would render a third impossible.

The principles set down by Secretary Marshall in his address are the keys not only to the shrine of democracy but also to the temple of enduring peace, the paper states. It concludes with the declaration made by Pope Pius XII in his 1945 Christmas allocution that totalitarianism is not only incompatible with democracy but presents a continual threat of war.

French Leaders Laud N.C.W.C. Relief Aid

Paris—Tribute was paid to the National Catholic Welfare Conference for its relief and charitable services by Canon Jean Rodhain, secretary general of Catholic Relief, in the large amphitheatre of the Sorbonne before an audience that had gathered for the Social Week. He outlined the consistent and efficient work accomplished in France and throughout the world in behalf of the needy by the War Relief Services—N. C. W. C.

The meeting, which was attended by over 2,000 prominent French Catholics, including prelates, government officials and foreign delegations attending the Social Week, was held particularly for the purpose of giving a general account of the intellectual and charitable activities of social Catholicism.

PEIPING CATHOLIC CAMPUS

Thoughts are turning to school days in China, too. The Catholic University of Peking, in Peiping, conducted by the Fathers of the Divine Word, has already received 4,000 applications for admittance to the new term. This is the main entrance to the Catholic University, whose more than 3,000 graduates have made an impress on all walks of life in China. (NC Photos)

Repeal of UN Veto Power Urged by D. of I. Group

Buffalo (NC) Repeal of the veto power of the U. N. Security Council and a "firm stand" by the U. S. "in the making of peace treaties so that complete freedom of religion . . . be among the human rights guaranteed for all peoples" were urged in resolutions adopted by the national board of directors of the national circle of the Daughters of Isabella who met here Aug. 12 to 16.

Among those who participated in the sessions were the Rev. Henry J. Coleman of Bridgeport, Conn., national chaplain, and Mrs. Carolyn B. Manning of New Bedford, Mass., national regent.

Other resolutions scored "the disintegration and the collapse of the home caused by divorce" and urged that "effective steps be taken to curb the evil of divorce;" and expressed "strong opposition" against the increase of positionbirth control propaganda.

It was declared also that since "the citizens of the United States of all denominations contribute to the support of federal and state governments, it is only just that the children of parochial and other non-public schools should share in the service provided by federal and state governments to the children of public schools."

Opposition was expressed to the equal rights amendment and it was recommended that the U. S. "take the lead in settling the matter of displaced persons by admitting to our country a generous proportion of these displaced persons.

D. of I. members were urged to "promote the devotion of the enthronement of the Sacred Heart in the home, also night adoration in the home in reparation for sins in the home."

In her report the national regent stated that the organization now has the largest membership in its history, adding that over 10,000 new members were admitted in the last six months.

She announced that the Daughters of Isabella would be represented at both the youth and women's sections of the meeting of the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues in Rome on Sept 7 to 16. The delegates will be Mrs. Manning, Miss Teresa Toben of Kansas City, Mo., a past national officer and Miss Marilyn Swift of Boston.

Jurist at Nuremberg

New Orleans (NC) Justice Paul Macarius Hebert, a former dean of the Law School of Loyola University of the South, will sit in Nuremberg trial of officials of the I. G. Farben Company, accused of improper use of the power and facilities of this industrial-chemical company to foment World War II.

Parents Credit Son's Cure To Blessed Virgin

London—(NC)—The sudden recovery of a two-year-old dying boy after his Catholic parents had prayed to Our Lady of Lourdes is being viewed as a miracle by Staffordshire Catholics although church authorities are maintaining full reserve. The case has caused a local sensation.

Six weeks ago the boy, John Lumb, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Lumb of Hawnsley, Staffordshire, was stated by two doctors to be dying after they had operated on him for a malignant growth.

His resigned mother went to order a mourning dress. On the way she called at the Lourdes Convent of the Sisters of the Christian Retreat at nearby Hednesford to ask the nuns to pray for her boy's recovery.

Three days later young John returned home as a hopeless case, began to show signs of improvement—and by the end of the week he was almost normal. This week he was playing ball with his father, who said he was now the healthiest boy in the street.

Both parents are firmly convinced that their son has been cured by Our Lady of Lourdes. A national newspaper asked for prayers for him and some 100 letters of sympathy, verses and some gifts of money were received.

Local Catholic authorities are said to be investigating the case. John was confirmed while he lay "dying" in the hospital.

Fatima Statue Created By 15,000 Belgians

Brussels, Belgium (RNS)—About 15,000 persons attended an open air midnight Mass celebrated in the Belgian mining town of Charleroi to mark the arrival there of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Thirty priests were required to distribute Holy Communion to residents of the town and the thousands of pilgrims who accompanied the Statue during its journey through Belgium.

Reds Approve Catholic Press In Soviet Zone

By MAX JORDAN

Berlin (NC) The Soviet military administration in Germany has approved, in principle, the publication of Catholic diocesan journals in the major centers of the Russian Zone of Occupation and also the establishment of a Catholic publishing firm, this correspondent learns from a reliable source.

Negotiations on both matters have been pending for several months. During that period, an estimated seven million German Catholics living in Soviet-controlled areas were without any newspapers of their own and were also deprived of all religious literature, since its importation from the western zones of the Reich was not permitted. This ban included, it was learned, even the publication of a historical series dealing with the lives of Protestant leaders, such as Calvin, Zwingli and Hutten, which was begun under the Nazi regime by a Leipzig publishing house.

Hope for Others

It is hoped that at least one Catholic diocesan weekly can soon be established in the Russian zone, with others following as soon as newsprint is available.

Another indication of Soviet Russia's desire not to antagonize overtly the Catholic Church in Germany comes with the news that Soviet approval appears imminent for the establishment of a priests' seminary in the Russian zone. Although vocations for the priesthood remain scarce they have by no means ceased. Both the Bishop of Berlin and the Bishop of Meissen, Saxony, whose Sees are in Soviet controlled territory are known to be anxious that training for the priesthood be resumed as soon as possible.

In this connection, a report is also of interest according to which Soviet officials responsible for the recent detention of Bishop Johannes Dietz of Fulda and his secretary have been arrested by the order of higher Soviet authorities.

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