

Bishop Oxnam Answered On Birth Control Issue

Chicago — (NC) — Dr. Herbert A. Raftery of Loyola University here has taken issue with the statements of Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam in a local Planned Parenthood address that the refusal to use contraceptives to limit the size of families is sinful and that Catholic "teachings on continence as the virtuous method of spacing children is based upon ignorance of the place of conjugal love in the maintenance of the home."

Doctor Raftery said that it was his obligation, as a man of science, to "speak up," since the Methodist leader had sought to base his conclusions in the field of religion and morals upon the teachings of natural science.

The Loyola professor stated that an unmarried family would amount to 20 children "counting in these times," the Bishop said. The professor termed this "fantasy" and said that in the 17th century America, long before the advent of organized birth control propaganda, the average family had less than seven children; in the 18th century a bit over six children; in the early 19th four to five children; in the late 19th well below four children. He said that an expert in the field of fertility, but how sterile, is humanly, sterility, not contraception, is the biggest problem of the gynecologist.

Louder Reports Third Cure

Paris — (NC) — A reported third miraculous cure within a month is being reported by the office of Medical Control in Lourdes. The case is that of an eight-year-old boy suffering from atrophy of the muscles and the brain. For years the child had only been able to crawl around like an animal and could not take any solid food. After his first cure in the Lourdes bath, the boy was able to walk upright and could sit down. He was walking and talking, according to reports.

Magistrate Pierre Beltracchi — (NC) — When Magistrate University's student body was numbering about 3,000, the dean, Francis A. Ryan, S.J., dean of men, has announced that it will be impossible to conduct general all-university spiritual retreats for students. Instead, Father Ryan said, there will be "disparate weekend retreats."

FATIMA STATUE IN CANADA



Archbishop Alexander Vachon of Ottawa crowns the statue of the Virgin Mary in devotion ceremonies witnessed by a crowd of 10,000 at the University of Ottawa stadium. The special statue of Our Lady of Fatima is a duplicate of one now being carried throughout Europe. It was blessed by the Bishop of Fatima and flown to New York for the purpose of the tour. Photo copyright by T. V. Little, Ottawa. (NC Photos)

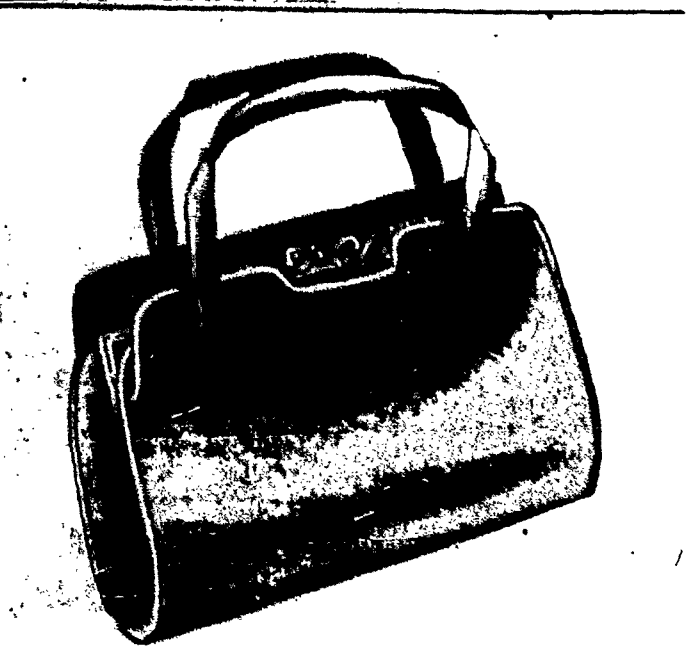
Fatima Statue Leaves France

Paris — (NC) — The statue of the Virgin of Fatima now being carried on pilgrimage through the pailons of Europe is en route from here to Belgium pending arrangements for continuation of the pilgrimage through Germany and Poland to the borders of the Soviet Union.

The itinerary of the journey eastward has not yet been fixed, and it is pointed out that serious diplomatic and political obstacles must be overcome before the pilgrimage may continue to its ultimate destination in the east.

The initiative for this pilgrimage of the statue of the Virgin of Fatima, a replica of the original statue at the shrine in Portugal, is reported to have come from a parish priest in Berlin, Father Frohman, who, through the intermediation of M. Jacques Maritain, French ambassador to the Holy See, suggested that the pilgrimage be organized in the hope that the prayers of the soul of Europe might assist in safeguarding peace and in bringing reconciliation to all peoples.

The statue left the shrine at Fatima on May 13 and has traversed Portugal, Spain, France and Holland among thousands of kneeling people.



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Poles Fear An 'Open War' On Church

Warsaw — (RNS) — Regarded by Church leaders here as possibly foreshadowing the beginning of an "open war" against the Roman Catholic Church by the Russian-dominated regime, a bitterly worded attack on Pope Pius XII and the Polish hierarchy was published here by Trybuna Robotnicza, organ of the Polish Communist Party.

The antipapal statement was said to be the most violent yet made by Polish Communists. The newspaper accused the Pope of associating with "American warmongers" and of taking part in an offensive of reaction against democratic forces in Europe. It declared that after the Allied victory in Europe, the Vatican "lost all respect for Hitler's Germany" and is now "placing its hopes on Wall Street."

RECALLING POPE Pius' address to Italian Catholic Actionists last September exhorting them to fight against evil influences in the world, the Communist organ asserted that the Pope's aim is to "mobilize dark forces against the rights and freedoms of nations."

The attack on Pope Pius coincided with a protest published in Warsaw newspapers against a recent pastoral letter in which the Catholic bishops of Poland severely criticized conditions in the country.

Trybuna Robotnicza also joined the outcry against the Catholic hierarchy, declaring that in issuing their pastoral letter, the bishops "acted against the interest of Poland."

THE COMMUNIST organ's attack on Pope Pius and the protest against the bishops' pastoral have caused much resentment in Catholic circles, and it is now freely predicted that increasing tension will develop in church-state relations. Until now, conflict between the Catholic Church and the Warsaw government, however determined and bitter, has been conducted in a quiet manner.

According to political observers, the public airing of Communist grievances against the Church marks a departure from previous government policy, and indicates that radical elements who for some time have been urging stronger measures to break Catholic Church opposition are beginning to win the upper hand against cabinet members reluctant to start an anti-Church campaign.

Card. Salotti Dies; 'Devil's Advocate'

Rome — (NC) — His Eminence Carlo Cardinal Salotti, who in his 39 years with the Sacred Congregation of Rites served both as the promoter of the cause of saints and as 'devil's advocate,' has died here at the age of 77. His death reduces to 62 the number of Cardinals now in the Sacred College.

Cardinal Salotti, who was proclaimed a Prince of the Church in 1933, has been prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites since 1933. He was also the author of 24 apologetic and scriptural works.

In his office of promoter of the faith or 'devil's advocate' it was the Cardinal's duty to do everything possible to place difficulties in the way of a candidate for beatification and canonization to make sure that no one unworthy was raised to the honors of the altar. As an advocate of the causes of saints he promoted the canonization of more than 100 servants of God, including St. Joan of Arc who was burned at the stake for witchcraft.

Cardinal Salotti was born at Grotte di Castro, July 25, 1870, and decided to become a priest while undergoing conscript military service in Rome. After completing studies at the Seminary at Orvieto he was ordained in 1894 and then went to Rome to complete higher ecclesiastical studies, taking degrees in theology and civil and canon law at the Athenaeum of the Pontifical Roman Seminary and a degree in literature at the Royal University.

In 1930 he was named secretary of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith and at the same time was raised to the Archiepiscopal dignity, being consecrated Titular Archbishop of Hippopolitopolis. He was created a Cardinal "in petto" in 1933, and proclaimed in 1935. At the same time he was appointed Bishop of Palestrina, one of the seven suburban sees of Rome.

British Cabinet Gets Second Catholic

London — (NC) — A second Catholic, 39-year-old John Wheatley, became a British Government minister when he was promoted from the post of Solicitor General for Scotland to that of Lord Advocate. He joins Lord Pakenham, minister in charge of German and Austrian affairs, the other Catholic as a senior minister under Premier Attlee.

Wheatley, a Scotsman, comes of working class parents. Lord Pakenham, 42-year-old Irish aristocrat and old Etonian, is a son of the Earl of Longford. Eire he was received into the Church in 1941.

Belgians See Charge Drive On Schools

Brussels — (RNS) — Catholic educators in Belgium have become increasingly concerned over "constructive tactics" by Minister of Education Herman Vos, a Socialist, which, they charge, are threatening the future prestige and influence of the nation's Catholic schools and colleges.

Interest is centered at the moment in a new government-sponsored bill which, it is feared, may abrogate privileges enjoyed by Catholic schools ever since the constitution of 1830 gave the same standing to independent institutions as to state schools and colleges. The bill is pending before the state Senate.

AMONG SPECIFIC grievances of Catholic educators are: Since 1930, religious teachers in preparatory schools have been increasingly replaced by laymen, and meanwhile the state is cutting down on its budget for the payment of teachers belonging to the clergy.

Catholic leaders charge that the Minister of Education is following a policy aimed at destroying the supremacy of church schools, which they claim, have been a model for public instruction in the state. One evidence of this program is seen in the fact that the state is seeking to establish a chain of closely-controlled and similarly-run institutions.

Techny Departure Ceremony Planned

Techny, Ill. — (NC) — A departure ceremony in honor of 45 missionaries of the Society of the Divine Word will be held at St. Mary's Mission House here Nov. 2 with Bishop William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary of Chicago and president of the Catholic Church Extension Society of America, presiding.

Seventeen will go to New Guinea, nine to Africa, eight to China, five to the Philippines, five to India, and one to Japan. Bishop Thomas J. McDonnell, national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, will deliver the sermon.

In the name of the Priests and Sisters working for the spread of the Faith, we wish to thank sincerely our generous benefactors who contributed to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith on Mission Sunday.

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