

4 Million Catholics Under Arms for U.S.

Refugee Gets Cardinal Shoes

Budapest—(NC)—A poor Catholic journalist who received a pair of used black shoes here from War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference—is prouder of them than of any pair of shoes he ever purchased. They were formerly worn by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York.

When the journalist tried on the shoes he found a little card inside one of them with the inscription: Cardinal Spellman. "These are the shoes of the flying Cardinal Spellman," he tells everyone proudly.

Buffalo Sees Fatima Statue

Buffalo—(NC)—The replica of the famous statue of Our Lady of Fatima, was viewed by more than 200,000 persons during its three-day enthrone in St. Joseph's Cathedral here.

Large crowds attended the daily devotions in the Cathedral in connection with the visit of the famed statue. A replica of the one used at the world famous shrine in Fatima, Portugal, priests were in the confessional at all times and there was a steady stream of Holy Communions of Reparation throughout Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Bishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C. of Buffalo, described the remarkable outpouring of the faithful as "a beautiful demonstration of affection for the Mother of God, which necessarily includes respect for the Ten Commandments."

Bishop O'Hara with Bishop Joseph A. Burke, Auxiliary of Buffalo, and a party of diocesan priests, met the statue at Niagara Falls, after its arrival from Canada. The Buffalo diocese was the first in the United States to officially welcome the statue.

Aid Plan Use Of Charter Urged

Worcester—(RNS)—Resolutions urging that the Truman Doctrine and the European recovery plan be carried out in a manner consistent with the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms were adopted here by the twelfth annual convention of the New England Catholic Student Peace Federation.

Another resolution urged all member colleges of the Federation to join the U. S. National Student Association, which is an affiliate of the United States Commission of UNESCO.

Professor Ross J. S. Hoffman of Fordham University, New York, told 450 delegates from 20 colleges that the American form of democracy "is not a cure-all for the problems of Europe."

"We cannot promote the restoration of Europe," he said, "unless we discover the abiding principles which were found in Europe prior to the present crisis."

Washington—(NC)—Approximately 4,000,000 of the some 17,000,000 men and women who formed the armed forces of the United States of America in World War II were Catholics. This ratio, which is considerably higher than the number of Catholics in the total U. S. population, has been substantiated in statistics compiled here by the National Catholic Community Service.

The NCCS total is based upon only 65 per cent returns from the country's archdioceses and dioceses, but represents the most complete figures available at this time. It would indicate that Catholics, who are about one-sixth of the total U. S. population, supplied better than one-fifth of our soldiers, sailors, marines and coastguardsmen.

Other facts which stand out in the survey, which covers the period from September, 1940, to March, 1947:

Forty percent, which represent 40.7 per cent of the Catholic population in the United States, reported 27,322 persons killed or missing in action, a mortality rate of 28 per thousand Catholic men and women in the armed forces.

A study of the number of Catholic members of the WAVES and SPARS, showed the ratio of Catholic women to Catholic men in the Armed Forces is slightly higher in the 44 dioceses reporting this breakdown than the ratio of women to men in the total armed forces. Twenty-five out of every 1,000 Catholic service personnel were women, compared to the general ratio of 29 service women to 1,000 service personnel.

Anti-Red 'Comic Book' Issued

New York—(NC)—A "great majority of Americans have not taken the time, nor possibly had available the sources to thoroughly investigate Communism," the Rev. Louis A. Gale, president of the Catechetical Guild, told a press conference here in explaining why his organization had published the grim, 48-page "comic book," "Is This Tomorrow?"

"Many people, due to educational limitations," Father Gale continued, "are not fully aware of the international spread of the Communist conspiracy, and are not acquainted with its unambiguously anti-God ideology. Therefore we have sponsored publication of this dramatic exposé, 'Is This Tomorrow,' in comic-cartoon form to awaken the masses and make them ponder on the great seriousness of the Communist menace."

The publication has been "smeared" by The Daily Worker, Communist newspaper, which warned "the comrades" that 5,000,000 copies of it soon will flood the country.

Father Gale said The Daily Worker "has accused us of being anti-labor, anti-Semitic, Fascist and Wall Street financed" and while the "charges are absolutely untrue" nevertheless "we must admit, however, that The Daily Worker is correct in reporting that we are anti-Communist."

Raised to Gallery of Saints



The huge statue of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, first United States citizen-saint, is hoisted to its place in a niche of St. Peter's Basilica, Cardinal Teodorick, Archbishop of the See, presided at the unveiling ceremony. Sculptor Tadolino's 15-foot, 18-ton marble statue is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Warner of Chicago, where Mother Cabrini died in 1917. The saint was canonized in July, 1946. (NO Photos)

Japanese Visit Martyrdom, Reported Apparition Sites

Tokyo—(NC)—Details concerning the first public ceremony and pilgrimage in honor of Japan's latest martyrs and the reported apparition of the Blessed Virgin to one of them have just been received here. The ceremony was held at Tsuwano, west of Hiroshima, where some thirty Christians perished in Japan's last persecution (1868-73).

All the Catholic families in Hamada made a three-hour train trip to attend the rites. Mass was said in the parish church and later in the day the pilgrims went in solemn procession to the burial ground of the martyrs half-way up a small valley where, in a shady grove all recited the Rosary and heard a sermon by Father Nebel, S.J., pastor of Tsuwano.

The martyrdom occurred a little farther up the valley in what is now a rice paddy but was at that time an abandoned Buddhist temple. It was here that Yasutaro, one of the martyrs, was locked in a small three-foot cage

after prolonged starvation. A fellow-sufferer, Jinsaburo, managed to evade the guards and creep up to him to give him such consolation as he could and to receive a last message for the dying man's mother.

"You have come to comfort me?" Yasutaro asked. "That is very kind of you, but really, I need no comfort, since Our Lady herself came in person to comfort me. Message to my mother: I have none, except that I gladly die with Christ crucified."

Pope Warns Against Errors In Broadcast

Vatican City—(RNS)—The Holy Father Pope Pius XII has commended the worldwide Catholic lay apostolate, "which is so dear to Our Heart," to beware of certain trends and erroneous notions that are not in keeping with Christian tradition and the mission of the Church. The Pope gave his counsel in an address which was broadcast to the International Marian Congress in Barcelona.

Pointing to the necessity of avoiding two errors which could be committed even by persons of good will, the Holy Father warned first of what he termed "external and internal 'exclusionism'" or an imbalance between spirituality and works in the practical order.

External exclusionism, he explained, is manifested in insufficient emphasis on spirituality, thus resulting in works that are "superficial and naturalistic" rather than supernatural in motivation. Internal exclusionism, the Pope said, consists of an excessive and timid limitation of activities solely to works of devotion of them all under one single form.

"SECONDLY," THE Pontiff continued, "it is necessary to prevent the error that some zealous persons may commit," namely that of wishing to reduce apostolic activities to complete uniformity by regimentation of them all under one single form.

Such a tendency, he said, arises from "a shortsightedness that is alien to every tradition of the Church which is true to the teachings of St. Paul. Now, there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit" (1 Cor. 12:4f).

In his address, which was given in Spanish, the Holy Father referred to the purpose of the Congress that of petitioning the Pontiff for a dogmatic declaration of the Assumption of Our Lady in body and in soul. The Pope said he was "moved by the knowledge" that members of Marian congregations throughout the world had gathered in Barcelona "and are praying God, the Supreme Giver, to add another garland to the privileges of the Lady."

Syrian Law Change Proposed (RNS) Proposed plans for reform of the Syrian constitution call for abolition of the clause which specifies that only a Moslem may hold the office of President.

American Catholic Revival Forecast

New York—(RNS)—Predicting a "great Catholic revival in America," Archbishop Michael J. Curran of New York declared here that such a revival is standing on the threshold.

Speaking before 500 persons at the fifth annual Jesuit retreat benefit dinner, the archbishop said the religious resurgence would come in spite of "a widely prevalent and systematic opposition to all things religious and despite the resurgence of an unimpeachable wave of anti-Catholicism."

"Much of the vibrant life of Catholicism in this country at the present time," he said, "is the result of the professional anti-Catholicism which is the product of their own strange way of the truth of the Christian faith."

Archbishop Curran issued a call for the establishment of a "spiritual Marshall Plan" to combat the "nationalistic" but evil to be shared with all people. The revival of God, he added, "must be made available everywhere if they are to survive anywhere."

Asserting that the potential appeal of Catholicism in a generation that desires "real peace" and world unity has not been equalled since the Middle Ages, the archbishop declared:

"This warning on the part of many peoples for the unity, sanctity and universality which were and are the marks of their Catholic roots by people who once thought that they had outgrown Catholicism, is one of the most gratifying and encouraging signs of the times."

Growth Doubles Parishes in Reno

Reno—(NC)—An impressive growth of the Church in the State of Nevada is reflected in a ceremony which has just taken place here and in an announcement that has accompanied it.

Bishop Thomas K. Cormier of Reno has just dedicated the rectory of the Little Flower parish, of which Mrs. Thomas P. Cormier is pastor. The new building is the city's third parish. At the same time it was stated that plans for a fourth parish, dedicated to St. Albert the Great, are already afoot.

Political aims of the Democratic Party, which is expected to win the coming election, are being attacked by the Catholic press and the Church's official organ, the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in a special issue of its magazine, "Is This Tomorrow?"

Student Slays For New School

Buffalo, N. Y.—(RNS)—While other people have been looking for a new school to attend, a young man here has slayed a new one. William Francis, a student at the Buffalo State College, was shot and killed by a fellow student on the campus.

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Five New Papal Knights Named

New York—(NC)—Five new Knights of the Papal Order of the Holy Sepulchre have been named by His Holiness Pope Pius XII, according to news from the Vatican. The appointments were made by the Pontiff in a special audience in St. Peter's Basilica.

Among the new knights are: Joseph J. Wright, Auxiliary of Boston, was awarded a Knight's Cross of the Order. Archbishop Richard Cushing, primate of the United States, was named a Knight of the Order.

The five new knights are: Hugh O'Connell, of New York City; Joseph J. Wright, Auxiliary of Boston; and three other Knights of the Order. The appointments were made by the Pontiff in a special audience in St. Peter's Basilica.

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