

What Ministers Missed:

Tito Curbs Bishops, Nuns Are Attacked

Bari, Italy — (NC) — The Archdiocese of Zagreb continues to be particularly hard hit by communist oppression, according to reports reaching here, but no reference to this situation was made by the group of seven American Protestant ministers who this year visited Yugoslavia and reported there to "liberty of worship" in that country.

CRASH SPARES 29 MISSIONARIES

Shanghai, China — (NC) — The entire plane load of Catholic missionaries, 23 priests and eight Sisters, escaped death when a chartered Belgian airplane enroute from Brussels to Shanghai and Peiping crashed outside Kuning.

The co-pilot, Commander Gude, a Belgian Catholic, was killed and one priest and three nuns suffered fractures. The priests on the plane were all Immaculate Heart of Mary (Schuld) Fathers and the Sisters were Canonesses of St. Sylvester from Belgium.

Most of the Fathers are young priests just recently ordained. Most are destined for work in the China missions while the others have been assigned to the Philippines.

This was the third chartered plane-flight by the Belgian Schout Fathers. The first flight a few months ago, which Commander Gude piloted from Brussels to Peiping, brought 25 missionaries to China without mishap. On its return flight the chartered plane took back to Europe a load of missionaries including three Belgian missionary Bishops.

The chartered planes made stops at Rome, Athens, Damascus, Karachi, Calcutta, Kuning (Canton, Shanghai) and Peiping, flying high above the trails that missionaries in the days of St. Paul and St. Francis Xavier needed months to cover.

Cardinal Lauds New Government School

London — (NC) — His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, has welcomed as "supplying a crying need" the new government-sponsored National Institute of Houseworkers set up in Britain to encourage and raise the standard of domestic work both as regards salaries and working conditions.

"There is no work of greater national importance than the building up of family and home life," the Cardinal wrote for the opening of the institute's headquarters here. "Everyone realizes the great need there is to help the housewife, and especially the mother of the home."

Since the arrest, trial and imprisonment of Archbishop Alojzius Stepinac more than a year ago, the two Auxiliary Bishops of Zagreb—Bishop Francis Salis-Servis and Bishop Joseph Lach—have been held under virtual arrest. Oza, the communist secret police, has forbidden them to leave the city without applying for police permission 30 days in advance of any projected trip.

Previous to this ruling, police permission was necessary, but only three days' notice had been demanded. This new communist restriction has made it practically impossible for the Bishops to carry out their duties in the archdiocese.

ABOUT 60 PARISHES in the archdiocese are at present without priests. Their pastors have either been imprisoned by the communists or forced to flee.

In the area of Karlovac, about 35 miles southwest of Zagreb, the communists have killed eight priests and forced 17 to abandon their parishes in the course of the past six years, the reports received here declare.

As a result, there is but one priest left today to serve the 20,000 Catholics in the Karlovac area and the faithful are menaced by the communists for frequenting the churches.

Just prior to the visit of the American Protestant ministers to Yugoslavia, a community of Sisters was attacked twice, according to news reaching here, but no mention is made of these attacks in the reports of the ministers.

The attacks, part of a series of such incidents sweeping through Yugoslavia, occurred on the nights of July 6 and July 17 and were directed against the Sisters of St. Vincent in their convent at Velike Bukovac near Zagreb.

On July 6 the assailants forced their way into the convent. The Sisters were assaulted and severely beaten. The mattresses then ransacked the convent, stealing watches, clocks and pens belonging to the Sisters. During the second attack rocks were hurled through the windows of the Sisters' house.

1947 WAS A YEAR OF CRISIS AND STRIFE



Crisis and strife marked the year 1947. His Holiness Pope Pius XII, in the eighth year of his pontificate, pictured (1) among the people of Rome, continued aid to the disabled persons and other victims of the war. Great public manifestations of faith were given by Catholic gatherings in many parts of the world; in Canada (2) where in June the great Marian Congress assembled at Ottawa with ten Cardinals and 300,000 lay people praying for a lasting peace; and in Boston, in October, (3) where 125,000 men of the National Holy Name Society convened; (4) clothing, food and medical supplies continued to be shipped to Europe by Americans to be distributed to the needy across through the War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference; (5) the Holy Land, where the Prince of Peace lived, was rest by strife, pillage and bombings which commemorated the decision of the United Nations to partition Palestine; (6) members of the National Legion of Decency made effective protest in the slaying of school children in public buses was upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court in a case which was appealed from New Jersey. The photo used to illustrate this article beyond the cover of the annual school report issued by the National Bureau by the Rev. St. Charles J. Maloney, Superintendent of Schools.

Hitler Secret Revealed:

Reich National Church Set to Outlaw Baptism, Bible, Cross and Communion

Frankfurt — (NC) — All divine services were to be abolished on Sundays. All church property was to be confiscated by the state. The Bible and all Christian literature were to be banned and replaced by Hitler's "Mein Kampf," which was to serve as material for "sermons" to be delivered from pulpits and at altars of a new "National Reich Church."

Bayern, Holy Communion and Christian marriages were to be ruled out, and an oath of loyalty to Germany was to replace Baptism. A National Youth Day was to be held annually on Good Friday. Marriages were to be performed by the couples joining their right hands over a copy of "Mein Kampf." The Cross was to be torn from the roofs of all churches and replaced by the swastika, "for the Saviour has come to us all through Adolf Hitler."

These are the highlights of a document just discovered here which summarizes Nazi plans for "church reform" that were to be executed after Hitler had won the war. The 18-point program was brought up to date in 1942.

The proposed "National Church" was to assume all power in the field of "worship." It was to be guided entirely by Nazi ideas of race. No other churches were to be tolerated and everything was to be done to "make an end of the Christian ideas which are contrary to German needs and traditions."

Of course, priests or ministers were no longer going to be permitted to function. They were to be replaced by "Reich speakers." The services of the new "National Church" were to be held not on Sundays

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Religious Study Curb Voted

Seattle — (NC) — The Alsea community here, made up of representatives of the four major religious groups, in new called upon to pass on the merits of a vote just taken in the Alsea municipality whereby a new school law is to become effective against the explicit will expressed by 80 per cent of the parents of this former German colony.

The vote was 66 to 34 in favor of the law, with the socialists joining the communists against the Christian Democratic Union.

The law passed expressed the desire of the majority of the parents that religious instruction be incorporated in public school curricula. In Article 13 complete instruction is to be given to children of the German colony. At the same time private and parochial schools are banned.

The Alsea community board of education has reportedly taken a vigorous stand against the measure which has caused in the very principle of freedom of worship.

Mandarin Reds Missed 5 Missionaries

Shanghai, China — (NC) — The Communist government in China has missed five missionaries, according to reports received here. The missionaries were on a plane which crashed near Kuning. The plane was carrying 23 priests and eight Sisters. The missionaries were all Immaculate Heart of Mary (Schuld) Fathers and the Sisters were Canonesses of St. Sylvester from Belgium.

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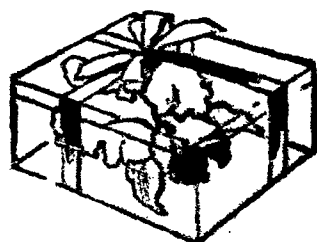
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Polish Marriage Law Unpopular

New York — (NC) — Annoyed at the widespread disregard of the Polish marriage law, aiming at the secularization of marriage, the Polish Parliament is now considering a bill which would impose fines for disobeying the law, the Inter-Catholic Press Agency reports. The law met stiff opposition from Catholic circles when it was passed two years ago by the communist-dominated legislature.

The new bill demands fines ranging from 5,000 to 200,000 zlotys (\$12.50 to \$500) both for the priest who performs the marriage and for the married couple who have not previously gone through a civil marriage ceremony. A priest could also be subject to a fine of 1,000 to 20,000 zlotys (\$2.50 to \$125) for officiating at the burial of a person whose death has not been registered, according to the bill. Another provision would fine a priest for baptizing persons whose birth has not been registered with civil authorities.

In the seven provinces of central Poland, 60 per cent of the marriages are not registered and half the births and deaths remain unregistered with civil authorities, a communist-controlled paper complained, according to the agency. In urging stiff penalties for these violations, a Polish newspaper declared that church marriages "infringe on the rights of the woman," are "anti-state" and "favor people of bad will," the press agency adds.

New Oppone Release Time Wesson — (NCSS) — Released time from public schools for religious instruction was opposed by 400 delegates in the annual convention of the New England division of the American Jewish Congress here as an encroachment on "the traditional separation of Church and State."

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