

Immoral Surgery Decried by Pope

Rome — (RNS) — A warning against "immoral" practices in surgery was sounded by Pope Pius XII at an audience to delegates from 32 nations assembled in Rome for the sixth international congress of the International College of Surgeons. The delegates were headed by Professor Francis Grana, of Lima, Peru, newly elected president of the College.

Addressing the surgeons' assembly, the Pope stressed the ethical aspects of their profession, particularly sterilization, birth control and artificiality. He told the surgeons that "the laws of morals must never be lost sight of and before their majesty, human and material considerations have no importance."

At the same time, the Pope said, when a surgeon has to decide on a child's life, he must not be influenced by the mother or the father. However, he declared, surgeons have a duty not to heed "the unfortunates' appeals of husbandly love" when they are faced by a choice between the mother and the child. It is not allowed to sacrifice one to the other, even to save another, the Pope stressed.

REDS STONE 20 TO DEATH

Peiping — (NC) — More than 20 persons in the largely Christian village of Sangyu, in the Archdiocese of Peiping, have been stoned to death since Chinese communists occupied the town two years ago, according to reports received here.

Ten other persons are in prison for not conforming to communist demands, and at least 30 more, completely despoiled of home, furniture and other goods, have been obliged to beg for food to keep alive.

Sangyu is a village of 70 families, most of whom were converted to Catholicism 300 years ago. The locality has given more than ten priests and seven nuns to the service of the Church.

When the village was raided by Japanese troops ten years ago, its church and half of its homes were consumed by flames. In the church was a celebrated painting by Brother Castiglione, famous Jesuit lay-brother who was court painter to Chinese emperors in the 17th century.

LITURGICAL ARTS MEDAL



Dr. Hecker (left), 80-year-old director of Schola Cantorum of the Liturgical Arts Society, poses with Rev. John LaFarge, S.J. (center), editor-in-chief of the Catholic weekly "America," and Maurice Lavanox (right), secretary of the society, after receiving society medals in recognition of his devoted work of many years as director of the choir, more familiarly known as the Gallinas Club. Members of the group are Catholic professional men who have devoted themselves for the past 14 years to the study and practice of Gregorian chant. (NC Photos.)

French Restrict Nuns' Activities

Paris — (NC) — Will nationalization of public services close all allied institutions of teaching and charity operated by Sisters? That is the question now disturbing Catholics.

It has taken on added seriousness since the National Assembly voted that, as part of the nationalization of coal mines, religious schools are also to be nationalized.

A similar issue now is the charitable works operated for the railroads by the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. At the Austerlitz railway station here, which serves the southwest region of France, the Sisters have operated a series of social centers for more than 100 years.

However, since nationalization of the railroads, direction of all social institutions associated with them has been placed under a Superior Commission on Social Activities composed of representatives appointed by the workers' associations—the largest of these being the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) controlled by the communists.

IN RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CGT representatives demanded removal of the Sisters from these institutions, charging that their presence is offensive to non-Christian workers. Other delegates pointed out that the Sisters had given more than a century of unselfish service. The vote however went against the Sisters.

Notified of the decision, the Superior General has ordered the nuns to leave not only the Paris railroad institutions but also those at all other stations on the line.

Workers at the Austerlitz station signed a petition to have the Sisters retained, but this petition got into the hands of CGT representatives and has disappeared. Railroad workers belonging to the Confederation of Christian Workers have published an advertisement expressing their appreciation of the Sisters' work and declaring their indignation at the injustice being committed.

The communist-dominated committee now finds itself faced with the problem of finding suitable employees to take the place of the Sisters, who worked for one-tenth the salary paid an ordinary worker, without vacations and on call day and night.

On Guard

(Continued from Page 1)

guns that might endanger our landing troops.

And spearheading the attack on the beaches was America's Fighting First Division — those veterans who had led the way in Africa, Sicily and Italy.

This was the day that a First Division Yank with pardonable pride wrote that deathless line "The First Infantry Division, assisted by the Allied Expeditionary Force has landed in Normandy."

But there were tense moments before the Fighting First made the beaches. Crossing the English Channel from England was a rugged experience. The Channel was rough and churning. Huddled together in the close quarters of the landing craft, the Yanks who made history sipped coffee and munches Kratons. Some filled the long hours of the crossing with prayers. For many it was their last prayers. Others were too sick to pray.

Lay Retreatants Lauded By Pope

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII recalled the story of the Israelites who built with one hand while the other held a sword, in urging members of a laymen's retreat group always to be aware in their work of reconstruction that there are enemies seeking to destroy the value of their actions.

The Pontiff told the men that they constitute a mighty legion in the service of God, who know how to defend the true material, spiritual and social interests of the people. He lauded them for the example which they give as men of faith, convinced of their dignity as men, fathers of families, citizens, workers and Christians.

President Backs Taft Bill
Washington — (NC) — President Truman, in a conference with Democratic Congressional leaders asked them to press for the passage of the Taft \$300,000,000 Federal Aid to Education Bill before the adjournment of the 80th Congress.

Notre Dame Has Women Grads

Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — The University of Notre Dame, an all-male institution since its founding 186 years ago, awarded "diplomas" this year to 50 young women.

The "diplomas" patterned after the academic certificates regularly awarded seniors graduating from Notre Dame, were given to the wives of 50 World War II veterans completing their studies at Notre Dame and were in recognition of a period of sacrifice and devotion by these women which helped make possible their husbands' education.

Card. Spellman At Manila Rites

Manila — (Radio, NC) — In an area where so many Americans have given up their lives for their country, His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, officiated at impressive Memorial Day ceremonies sponsored by the American Legion. The scene was U. S. Army Cemetery No. 2, near here.

The Cardinal also paid tribute to two dead Filipino leaders, laying wreaths at the tombs of Presidents Manuel L. Quezon and Manuel A. Roxas.

The American prelate and his party were welcomed on their arrival here from Hongkong by Archbishop Michael O'Doherty of Manila and nine other Filipino Bishops.

Cardinal Spellman paid an extended call to the 1,400 disabled veterans of the United States Armed Forces at the Luna Veterans' Hospital here, and stopped at Tala Leprosarium, where he decorated Jokey Guerrero, a heroine of the Philippine resistance movement, who is now a patient there. He pinned the Medal of Freedom on Miss Guerrero.

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