

Russian Moves To Steer U. S. Course

By J. J. GILBERT

Washington—(NC)—Whether the Republican or Democratic party "takes over" next January, the new government's course of action is expected to be influenced more by developments on the national and international stages than by the tailor-made promises either party adopted in convention this summer.

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This is not to imply that either the Republicans or the Democrats regard their platform promises as idle gestures, but rather to indicate, as former President Herbert Hoover told the Republican Convention, that "the world is deeper than some may think."

THERE IS abundant evidence that Russia has all along followed with close attention the developments in the United States in this election year. It is natural, too, that all the rest of the world—which looks to the United States for deliverance from want and oppression—in following developments here more closely than ever.

How Russia will react to one outcome or another in the American elections is only conjecture now. At the same time, one cannot be sure that Russia will wait until our elections are over to make its move. What Russia does will determine what the United States will do. What might look like a clear course of action for either political party today, may be wholly impractical by next January.

It is no less difficult to forecast accurately the developments on the national scene six months from now. Trained observers in the National Capital believe that the preparedness program launched upon by our Government is not temporary. They feel that it is of such large proportions that it cannot be confined to two years or three.

Therefore, such observers think that an extension of the draft law will be asked some time before it has run its two years of life allowed it by the 80th Congress.

BUT THE DRAFT is only a part of the defense program, and it is intimately linked up with other phases of it. Expenditures for the Air Force, the Army and the Navy are growing and are expected to be much greater in a year or two. They are already in excess of \$14,000,000,000, but will go much higher than that.

Such an increase, coupled with foreign aid, is a necessary part of our defense program, too. It seems not only to preclude any further reduction in taxes, but actually to demand some increase in the not too distant future.

At the same time, if able-bodied young men are inducted into the armed forces in any considerable number it will reduce the supply of available manpower; and that at a time when there will be an increased demand for goods, because the Government will step up buying for all the armed services. This is calculated to make for shortages in consumer goods and to stimulate higher prices.

This brings up the question of rationing—controls—once again. There were members of the 80th Congress who insisted that the legislative branch of the Government would not restore controls in any situation short of war. It remains to be seen whether Congress will continue adamant in this position.

THE PRESIDENCY will be an extremely difficult job for the next four years, not that it hasn't been man-killing for many years past. But in the immediate future it will have its vicious circle in the problems to be met at home. And, in turn, treacherous, turbulent happenings abroad will have their influence upon affairs at home and vice versa.

Unrest in the world at large, aggression on the part of Russia, keep up the demand for a large preparedness program at home. At the same time, Russia has staked much of its bewildering program upon a firm belief that the United States will collapse economically, and thus will be unable to help or defend the rest of the world, or even itself.

As long as spiraling prices and economic unrest in this country hold out the faintest hope for such a debacle, Russia is inspired to sustain its almost incomprehensible course of action.

Largest Germany Group Expected At Lourdes
Cologne—NC—Sixteen hundred German Catholics will participate in the first international Pax Christi Congress scheduled to be held at Lourdes, France, the last week of July.

The German pilgrims will be led by His Eminence Josef Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of this See, and Bishop Josef van der Velden of Aachen, moderator of the German branch of the Pax Christi movement.

A COLLECTOR'S TREASURE



One of four known sets in America, the Catholic Directories of the United States, from 1858 to 1860, has been presented to the Apostolic Delegation in Washington by Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary, Emmitsburg, Md. Pictured at the presentation ceremonies are, left to right: Monsignor John L. Sheridan, president of the College; Archbishop Anselmo G. Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States; and Rev. Hugh J. Phillips, librarian at Emmitsburg. (NC Photos).

Church Takes 90% Loss in Red Zone Currency Change

Frankfurt—(NC)—While the Bavarian and Baden governments have made appropriations of new currency available to charitable and public welfare organizations to tide them over the emergency caused by the currency reform in Germany, the Soviet military administration has decreed that these units are not to be given any consideration.

Denies DP Bill Is Anti-Catholic

(Continued from Page 1) THE MONSIGNOR said the meeting developed the necessity of again canvassing the nation to determine how many homes and jobs will be available for Catholics brought to this country. "We'll start receiving the first group of 3,000 in August," Monsignor Swanstrom said. "The State Department figures we'll get 5,000 in September, 7,000 in October and 10,000 monthly thereafter."

He estimates that the council already has found places for 50,000 DPs, but emphasized that another survey is needed as the last one was taken before Congressional passage of the DP bill. Bishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., of Buffalo, addressed the group at a luncheon and declared: "Our Lord, Himself, is a prototype of the displaced person, when He came seeking a birthplace in Bethlehem and there was no room for Him."

"This Bethlehem has lasted a long time," Bishop O'Hara said, "but with God's grace and the good will which you delegates are finding everywhere it will be solved."

India Education Law Penalizes Christians

Madras, India (NC) Catholics and other Christian groups of Madras province are continuing their efforts for the revision of a recent enactment by the Madras Government which provides free educational opportunities for low caste Harijans if they are Hindus, but denies these opportunities if they have become Christians.

NO MISSIONARIES ALLOWED



En route home to his post in Afghanistan, the Rev. Eugenio Caspani, Italian Barnabite priest, visits in Washington, D. C. Father Caspani has served as chaplain at the Italian legation in the Afghan capital for the past 15 years. The government of the country is a Moslem monarchy which forbids any religious propaganda other than Mohammedanism. No missionaries are allowed to enter. Father Caspani, who is pictured with his secretary, Ernesto Cognigni, ministers to the foreign diplomats, teachers and technicians in the country. (NC Photos).

2,500,000 Workers In Christian Unions

Amsterdam—(NC)—The International Federation of Christian Trade Unions has reached a membership of nearly 2,500,000 workers in eight countries, according to figures published recently in the Dutch Catholic weekly, Katholiek Archief.

This total would be doubled, it is indicated, except that in eight other nations the Christian trade unions are not now operative.

All national trade unions which subscribe to Christian principles and to the statutes and program of the International Federation are eligible for membership. The current president, Gaston Tessier of France, and the general secretary, P. J. S. Serrarens of the Netherlands, are Catholics.

Breakdown of the current membership is as follows: French Confederation of Christian Workers 800,000; Italian Association of Christian Workers 600,000; United Christian Workers Union of Belgium 429,000; Dutch Catholic Workers Alliance 251,400; National Christian Labor Union of the Netherlands 131,300; Confederation of Catholic Workers of Canada 70,000; Union of Basque Workers (France) 70,000; National Christian Workers Union of Switzerland 40,000; Swiss Evangelical Workers Union 12,000; Christian Workers Union (Luxembourg) 3,000.

Christian Trade Unions in Germany had a pre-war membership of 1,250,000; those in Austria 100,000. None has yet been re-elected. Free Christian syndicates in other nations, which have

Basilians Given Site for St. Thomas U. in Texas

Houston, Tex.—A 50-acre tract of land, valued at \$200,000 has been donated to the University of St. Thomas. Basilian college here.

It may become the permanent site for the institution, now quartered in a temporary location, according to the Very Rev. V. J. Gulnan, C. S. B., president. Donors were Mr. and Mrs. George Strake.

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