

State Grant Aids Canada's Families

(This is the first of a series of articles dealing with the Family Allowances Act passed by the Dominion of Canada in 1944, showing its operation and benefits.)

By J. F. WILLIAMS

Ottawa — In Canada during the month of May this year the Dominion of Canada paid to 1,679,480 families the sum of \$22,351,670 to help mothers in the rearing of 3,779,288 children up to 16 years of age. This was an average of \$5.91 per child and an average of \$13.30 per family during May.

When the fiscal year ended on March 31 of this year the total amount paid in family allowances for the year was \$264,073,281.



THE FAMILY allowances Act became effective in August 1944, with first payments being made in July, 1945. The Act has thus been in operation for three Mackenzie King years, and the results have shown the wisdom of those who promoted it.

Under its terms, the amount of the allowances for each child is graded upward for the first to fourth child and downward for the fifth and additional children, as follows:

Up to 6 years \$3 a month, 6 to 9 years \$6 a month, 9 to 12 years \$7 a month, and 13 to 16 years \$8 a month.

For the fifth child under 16 years of age the allowance is reduced \$1 a month; for the sixth and seventh under 16 the allowance is reduced \$2 a month; for the eighth and additional children under 16 the allowance is reduced \$3 a month.

THUS A FAMILY with eight children would benefit to the extent of \$43 a month or a total of \$516 a year. This would certainly help to aid in ensuring a minimum of well-being to the children of the nation and to help gain for them a closer approach to equality of opportunity in the battle of life. To repeat the words of Prime Minister Mackenzie King at the 1944 session of the House of Commons when plans for the Family Allowances Act were introduced:

One of the postwar aims proclaimed throughout the democratic world was freedom from want. Family allowances were introduced in Canada as an integral part of this country's social security program.

plan. While Canada believes hers the most comprehensive measure in the world, she was not the first to put family allowances into force. When the Canadian Act became law there already were allowances in some form existing in 34 countries including Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Brazil, Uruguay, Eire and the Soviet Union.

Under the Canadian plan payments are made to the mothers, because it was felt that they would best know the needs of their children and would be in a position to spend the money wisely. Surveys are being made constantly on operations of the Act and they show that the mothers are spending the family allowances as follows:

(a) For better clothing for their children.

(b) For more nutritious food for their children.

(c) For provision of such items as dental care and educational and recreational advancement of the children.

IN ADDITION it is indicated that in some families the allowances find their way, in part at least, into deferred benefits for children through such media as savings accounts or life insurance.

The annual report of the Federal Allowance Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, reviewing the benefits, adds:

"It is probably true to a considerable degree that while family allowances were designed to improve living standards, a considerable part of their effect has been to help maintain existing living standards."

"In other words, the plight of Canadian homes in the face of greatly increased living costs would have been much more serious had family allowances not been paid."

"An even greater test of family allowances may come if, for any reason, present high levels of employment slacken and incomes decrease. In such a period, particularly if the cost of living falls to decrease as rapidly as family incomes may do, then the value of family allowances will become even more apparent."

ON GUARD! Why American Communists Miss Elizabeth Bentley? Who Will Cast First Stone?

By REV. PATRICK J. FLYNN

How do you explain the fact that some Americans become involved in Moscow-directed intrigue against their own country? Why do apparently intelligent Americans, self-proclaimed liberals, carry out blindly the subversive orders issued by "Men of the Mist" whose secret leaders of the Communist underground?

These are the mystery questions suggested by the sensational exposures now being unfolded before Senate and House investigating committees.

Most sensational witness in the current probe is, of course, Miss Elizabeth T. Bentley. On her own admission she is an ex-Communist and the wartime leader of a Soviet spy ring operating in Washington.

Her testimony discloses Communist agents and "comrades-to-the-comrades" holding strategic posts in our nation's capital. So far her startling disclosures have not been discredited. In fact her information has been corroborated by other Congressional witnesses such as ex-Communist, Louis Budenz and Whitaker Chambers.

BUT WHAT ABOUT Miss Bentley? What induced her to engage in subversive activities against her own country? She is an American and according to our standards an exceptional high school graduate.

She is a graduate of East High School in Rochester and attended such well-known institutions of higher education as Vassar College and Columbia University.

Representative of the House of Representatives, Louis Budenz, who is now a Communist, has been asked to appear before the committee on Saturday.

He asked to give a narrative account of his education in such schools as Vassar and Columbia and his Communist activities.

TODAY OUR weathermen politicians and newspaper men may point the finger of scorn at Miss Bentley, ex-leader of a Communist spy ring.

But Miss Bentley can also raise her finger and ask the question: "He who is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone!"

It will pay you to see Bill Thorne for an accurate watch or a beautiful diamond. Elgin, Waltham, Longines and Bulova. William S. Thorne, Jeweler, 318 East Main St., opp. East Ave.—Adv.

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35,000 At St. Anne's; Cures Cited

Ste. Anne De Beaupre, Que.—(NC)—Thirty-five thousand pilgrims, including many from the United States, assisted in the ceremonies at the internationally known shrine here on the Feast of Ste. Anne, which was the climax to a novena followed by thousands.

The pilgrims came by train, bus, motor car, boat, some by plane and many on foot. A number of reported cures were recorded at the pilgrimage and will be investigated carefully by the Redemptorists, who are in charge of the shrine. Before any official statement is made.

ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS J. L. Beckman, retired, of Dubuque, as assisting at the feast day observed a group of 150 U. S. pilgrims who included some 40 cures of sick persons.

On the eve of the Feast 60 Masses were offered at the shrine and 10,000 persons received Holy Communion. In the evening 70,000 persons took part in the torchlight procession. On the Feast, Holy Communion was distributed to more than 12,000 persons. Priests remained at the altar railing from 5 a. m. until noon. During the morning 125 Masses were offered in the shrine church.

Archbishop Beckman officiated at the Pontifical Mass the eve of the Feast, and Archbishop Maurice Roy of Quebec, was celebrant of the Pontifical Mass on the Feast.

AMONG THE PILGRIMS present were: J. Ahearn of Springfield, Mass., who each year forsakes active civic interests, takes up a collection and with the proceeds brings to the shrine a number of goods and a crippled otherwise unable to finance the trip.

A 14-year-old boy from Sussex, N. B. who worked long and hard to raise the \$14 needed for his pilgrimage.

An 8-year-old boy paralyzed since he was 14 months old. His mother held him in her arms while she prayed at the foot of the statue of St. Anne. Suddenly the boy asked to be put down and took his first steps in more than six years.

A young girl from Chatham, N. B. who lost her speech a year ago. During the blessing of the sick ceremony, she turned to her brother and began to talk.

And a man from Springfield, Mass., who for many years has been unable to walk only with the support of a brace. He left the brace at the shrine before returning home.

U.S. Reds 'Work for Soviets'—Budenz

Washington, Aug. 2—(NC)—Louis F. Budenz, who renounced a leading position in the Communist Party of the United States to return to the Catholic Church in 1945, told a Senate group here that there is no doubt that the party is "a fifth column of Soviet Russia."

At the same time Representative J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, asked for a special grand jury in Washington to investigate "espionage in government." He said the testimony received by his committee over the past year indicates a "tremendous need for investigation, exposure and conviction in many cases."

SENATORS AND Congressmen have been hearing headline-making disclosures by self-confessed former communist Elizabeth T. Bentley that high government officials furnished valuable political and military information to several Soviet spy rings in this country.

Louis F. Budenz as he appeared in Rochester, October 1946, under the sponsorship of the Courier-Journal to give one of his first public lectures following his break with the Communist Party. In Washington this week he told a House committee that the American Communist Party is "a fifth column of Soviet Russia."

Mr. Budenz, in an appearance before a Senate subcommittee headed by Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan which is inquiring into subversive influences in government, described the American communists as divided into three groups.

1) The underground, or roots of the tree, which he said maintains direct contact with Moscow. As an example of a person in this category he named Gerhart Eisler.

2) The trunk, which he said, includes the known party officials, such as William Z. Foster, president of the party in the U. S.

3) The branches. In this classification are "people who profess to be non-communists but are communists."

Asked how the communists financed their operations in this country, the former Daily Worker managing editor, now a professor at Fordham University, declared that funds accounted for some of the funds and gifts from wealthy persons for others. He said there was a "very big take from Hollywood," so big that the party's California district and the national office quarreled about the disposition of it.

Mr. Budenz referred to the late Jacob Golos as leader of a highly secret Communist Party disciplinary and control commission in this country. He said this group had complete information on party members, whom they talked to or associated with, whom they borrowed money from, and what their relations were with their families. They used the information, he explained, to "blackmail" members who gave signs of wanting to quit.

MISS BENTLEY, in her sensational testimony, referred to Golos as her immediate superior in school.

Radio Group Asks Ruling On Atheists

New York—(RNS)—The Religious Radio Association has asked the Federal Communications Commission to clarify its stand on atheist broadcasts.

In a letter sent from here by Edward J. Heffron, its president, the Association claimed that under an opinion rendered by the FCC in 1946 (the Robert Harold Scott case), broadcasters would not be justified in assuming that whenever they made time available for religious programs, they would be obliged to make comparable time available for answers by atheists.

"ANY BROADCASTER who so construed the decision of FCC, and who acted accordingly," the letter added, "would undoubtedly arouse widespread opposition among his believing listeners."

This opposition, the Association pointed out, would probably move many broadcasters to cut down on all kinds of religious broadcasts, or to eliminate them altogether.

In a note of transmittal, Heffron said the text of his letter was approved, without dissent, by the membership of the Association. He also quoted a statement by James Lawrence Fly, who, speaking on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union, said:

"A religious service strikes an atheist as 'controversial,' though most of us would think otherwise."

Heffron reminded the Commission that a Gallup Poll taken in April of 1948 showed that 94% of the American people believe in God.

VATICAN URGES ACTIVE FAITH

Vatican City—(NC)—Calls for a more intense study of the principles of the Faith and a more active example of Catholic life are voiced in a letter written by Magr. Giovanni B. Montini, Subst. Secretary of State, on behalf of His Holiness Pope Pius XII to Bishop Giovanni Urbani, assistant general of Italian Catholic Action. The occasion was the convention of the national and diocesan heads of Catholic Action being held at Siena.

Monsignor Montini encouraged the convention to recognize the necessity of giving broader diffusion to Catholic doctrine among the people—now terribly endangered by all kinds of pernicious errors—thereby illustrating with new apologetics the thought and work of the Pontiff for the defense of peace and the good of the people, for better social justice, for great and beneficial charitable assistance.

The letter notes that the "simplicity, purity, austerity and generosity of their own lives ought to appear as the greatest argument of Christian apologetics and have greater efficacy in proclaiming and promoting those principles of justice and social charity from which a better ordering of modern life must be expected."

In his letter Monsignor Montini officially complimented Italian Catholic Action for its fidelity to tradition and the orthodoxy of its principles, its ability to study the situations of the modern world, and its "zeal and eagerness continually to renew its methods of operation, to discover more timely and efficacious means of action."

More than 20 classes have been conducted during the school year, he said, and thousands of Protestant and Evangelical public school pupils in the fourth and fifth grades received religious training.

"We have never confronted a greater anomaly than that which was created by the recent decision of the Supreme Court forbidding the use of school time for religious instruction, and the clear demands for such instruction emanating from every corner of the country," the weekly observes.

Cardinal Spellman Asks Labor Peace

New York—(RNS)—Peace and happiness can be attained in America only through full co-operation between labor and capital, with full employment and fair wages. His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, told the 53rd annual convention of the New York State Federation of Labor here.

He appealed to those who believe that the benefits of security fall like manna from heaven, that they "cannot be disturbed, stunned or confused by Communist-inspired agitators who with sticklebacks, seek to murder democracy, stifle free enterprise and destroy world peace."

ASSERTING THAT property should be the servant, not the master of the nation, and that every man should have "a fair chance" to receive for himself and his family substantially what he has earned, Cardinal Spellman declared that a nation providing such opportunities has the right "to receive from each of its citizens the highest service of which he is capable."

"Any man or group of men who does not give full service for full pay contributes to the spiral of inflation, increases prices for his neighbor and himself, jeopardizes economic stability and invites corrupt Communist discipline," he said.

The Cardinal said that the "powerful, legal, economic weapon," should be used less frequently "as capital and labor continue to work out their problems and differences in mutual respect and enlightened understanding, following the principle of collective bargaining which jointly they have adopted for the well-being of all parties."

DECLARING that "America's greatest hope for future peaceful labor relations lies in fair collective bargaining, he warned that men "must not allow themselves against selfish, dominating minority groups operating outside government groups that refuse to solve their problems through this just device and use strikes as smoke screens to 'wage' political war against America."

In an apparent reference to the "Fair Deal," Cardinal Spellman said: "Democratic governments are established not for the aggrandizement of particular individuals or special groups but for the general good of all citizens. I contend that it is the duty of every loyal American to obey the nation's Constitution and its laws until through just democratic processes they are amended or repealed."

In concluding his speech, the Cardinal said that if labor and capital are "members of one social body, with singleness of purpose and diversity of functions, united in the strong bond of service for the good of mankind, spirited by reverence and love of God, working together to do God's will on earth, as it is done in heaven."

"For labor and capital," he added, "are destined under God's plan to achieve and maintain standards of living harmonious with God's will, and only thus shall posterity glean its legacy of God's glory."

REV. LEO V. SMITH, also a classroom and pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Rochester, delivered the sermon at the Mass.

(Text of Father Smith's eulogy is on page 11.)

Friends and parishioners who crowded the church heard Father Smith hail the departed pastor as "a faithful priest of Jesus Christ."

"Father Dissett," he said "never failed in upholding the twofold commandment, love of God and love of neighbor."

Describing Father Dissett's career as a priest, Father Smith exhorted those present to resolve "to keep the law of charity and to uphold the hands of Christ's ministers, who carry the cross everywhere and are ready to give their lives for the gospel of charity."

FATHER DISSETT was born June 11, 1884 in Albion, N. Y. He attended St. Bridget's School, Rochester, and prepared for the priesthood in St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

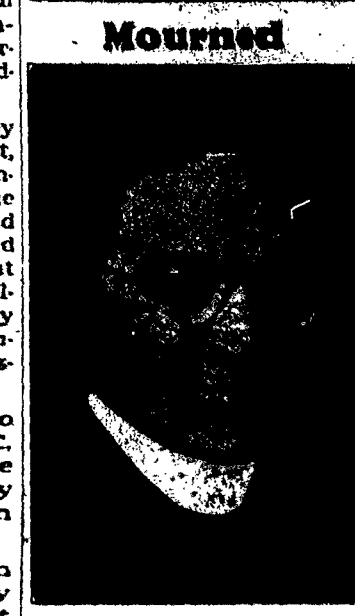
He was ordained June 10, 1911 and was assigned as assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Auburn. Subsequently he served in parishes at Mt. Morris, Groveland, Clyde, Warsaw and Geneva.

In 1927 he became pastor of St. Michael's Church, Lyons, and served there until his coronation to Hornell in 1938.

He is survived by four sisters: Mrs. Earl Knopf of Lockport; Sister Bernadette of Lourdes Hospital, Binghamton; Mrs. James H. Senley of Rochester; and also a niece, Miss Bernadette Senley of Rochester.

Father Dissett was one of two priests in his family. His brother, the late Rev. Joseph Dissett, was also a priest of the diocese. Priests of the diocese chaired the Office of the Dead for Father Dissett on Tuesday afternoons in the parish church.

Express your sympathy with Flowers. Call Main 1566, Blanchard Florist of 58 Lake Avenue, where you really get best value. Daily deliveries to all sections. Including hospitals.—(Adv.)



FR. DISSETT

FR. DISSETT RITES HELD AT HORSELL

Hornell—Solemn Mass of Requiem was offered here yesterday (Aug. 4) morning for the Rev. Andrew T. Dissett, pastor of St. Anne's parish, who died suddenly last Saturday (July 31, 1948) at nearby Loon Lake following a heart attack.

Father Dissett, who was 64, served as pastor of St. Anne's since 1933 and worked in the diocese as priest for 37 years.

CELEBRANT of the funeral Mass offered in the parish church was the Rev. George V. Pedroni, pastor of Holy Apostles Church, Rochester. The Rev. John B. Crowley, pastor of St. Aloysius Church, Auburn, acted as sacristan and the Rev. Thomas W. Lochron, pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake, Ontario, acted as subdeacon. All three priests are classmates of Father Dissett's.

Also present were a large number of priest friends headed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Flannery, P. A., vicar-general of the diocese.

Burial took place at the priest's plot in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Rochester. Monsignor Hart conducted the final prayers of the diocese.

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POLES WARNED ON SCHOOLS

Warsaw—(RNS)—Catholic parents in the Upele region here were warned in a pastoral letter by Dr. Boleslaw Kominek, Apostolic Administrator of the recovered territories of Western Poland, not to send their children to Socialist schools, "where there is no religious instruction."

The schools in question were established before the war by the Polish Socialist Party and have recently gone in arrears, despite increasing protests by Catholic leaders.

Issuance of Dr. Kominek's pastoral was followed by a bitter denunciation by Robinek, official Socialist Party newspaper.

Confusion Follows in Wake of McCollum Verdict

Brooklyn—(NC)—A petition to halt religious instruction in New York schools of the under the released-time law has been filed in court here by 150 parents. It is the first of its kind in New York City of where the U. S. Supreme Court's McCollum case ruling applies to the local program under which 11,000 children were enrolled this year.

A similar action has been instituted in upstate New York by Joseph Lewis, head of the Free Thinkers of America.

The McCollum decision, voided the released-time part of the Champaign public schools, in which religious instruction was given on school property in New York. The religion classes are held away from the schools, which however, dismiss the pupils one hour early, once a week and keep attendance records. Those who do not attend the various religion classes are required to stay in school.

The local complainants are Lesim Zorach and Mrs. Estel Gluck. According to their petition, Mr. Zorach's seven-year-old son attends a Protestant Episcopal Sunday school and Mrs. Gluck's two children attend a Jewish religious school. None of the children have availed themselves of the released-time training.

New Orleans Abandons Released-Time Program

New Orleans—(NC)—The Supreme Court's decision in the McCollum case has led the New Orleans Council of Churches to abandon its weekly religious education program in the public school system. The classes have been held since 1943 on released-time in church buildings near the schools. Under the Champaign plan, which was outlawed specifically by the high court,

Triumph for Minority Says 'Sunday Visitor'

Huntington, Ind.—(NC)—

Demand for more weekday religious instruction has grown in this country in the last ten years, but forces which called for the introduction of religion into our educational system were not overcome while the foes of religious education were intensely active.

This is the contention of Our Sunday Visitor, Catholic weekly published here, in a current series of articles reviewing the American religious education situation in the wake of the Supreme Court's McCollum decision.

"We have never confronted a greater anomaly than that which was created by the recent decision of the Supreme Court forbidding the use of school time for religious instruction, and the clear demands for such instruction emanating from every corner of the country," the weekly observes.

Prelate Makes Amnesty Plea

London—(NC)—His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, has called upon the British Government to consider again the question of granting a general amnesty to deserters from the British forces.

Speaking at the golden jubilee meeting of the Catholic Prisoners' Aid Society in London, His Eminence said: "In view of the increase in crimes committed by the Government might consider again the question of granting a general amnesty for deserters—at least those who deserted during the war—and who are without ration books and without a chance of getting a job."

Although crime and sin are not synonymous, the Cardinal went on, it is because of the element of sin that the reformation of the criminal is primarily a spiritual work. "The work of the Church has always been an important part in the reformation of the criminal."

"We do not consider ourselves a Church of the West. We consider ourselves a Church which embraces every type of man, and the greatest criminals are the greatest saints. Often the final needs material as well as spiritual."