

Women Hit Genocide... An appeal to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to adopt a draft convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide, the wiping out of whole peoples, has been made by the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues, representing 36 million Catholic women throughout the world.

Fear of Red Rule Stalks Czech Life

By H. LEONARD VALWAY

Prague, Czechoslovakia—(NC)—"If you're looking for a perfect example of how the communists take all the good out of something," a Czech said to me, "here is one."

My friend referred to the recruiting of "voluntary harvest brigades." Voluntary workers are supposed to be recruited from offices, trades and universities as well as from enterprises and organizations not directly concerned with the fulfillment of the Two-Year Plan. It was reported that under normal weather conditions the number of voluntary workers registered for harvest work would have been enough. It is now necessary to organize emergency harvest brigades.

EVERYWHERE the fields are ripening. The weather is far ahead of the farmers. This year there has been too much rain. It has rained part of just about every day for the past five or six weeks. The incessant rain has finally broken, making an acute need for voluntary harvest brigades. The first results of the harvest give every indication of a good, if not a bumper crop. It will be a far cry from the catastrophic drought of last summer.

Students form a big percentage of the harvest workers. They are not only working in the fields, but in the mines and forests as well. No one, except a member of the Communist party, is obliged to volunteer for work in the fields or elsewhere. But if someone gets an invitation to join a brigade to help with the harvest, he isn't likely to pass it up. Few think of the real need for harvest workers, or that it is something they ought to do without persuasion. Most people look on it as just one more thing to do to keep out of "red" trouble. So they go on voluntary harvest brigades.

WITH THE STUDENTS it is different. The invitation comes tied with a string of rumors. Students are apprehensive about continuing their studies or enrolling at the university. The case of this girl student is ordinary. Libuse told me how she had volunteered for a month's work in

Abp. Cushing Tells Liturgy Group to Respect 'Ordinary Man'

Boston—(NC)—Delegates to the ninth annual National Liturgical Week here were counseled by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston that in preaching the "inner beauties of the liturgical life" they must be careful not to give the impression that they are "inner" because they are reserved to the "initiate" or that "liturgists" are a class apart from the ordinary run of men.

"You may not realize, perhaps, how much like an 'ivory tower' the quiet rooms in which you have studied and meditated the liturgy sometimes appear to the 'man in the street,'" the Archbishop declared.

"I don't need to warn you," he continued, "against any taint of contempt for the truly devout, for those who sincerely pray whatever their unfortunate rubrical manners or 'liturgical taste.' Genuine piety is not so common that we can ever afford to despise it!" In his address of welcome, Archbishop Cushing also asked the liturgists to permeate their efforts with a "true Christian patience," saying: "A city may not be built in a day, but it can be destroyed in a day. A wind of ill-considered enthusiasm can ruin everything."

In the course of this necessary patience we must above all avoid intemperate criticism of existing situations," he explained. "Our churches, our ceremonies, our various other liturgical practices may bear the scars of many battles for the faith. National eccentricities, more easily understood by the historian than by the liturgist, have often come with the immigrants who have made our nation great, and these have affected traditions of worship."

"Architecturally, particularly in our older cities," he said, "the Church has in times gone by depended on builders some of whom had seen few Catholic churches and knew little about strict liturgical requirements. Vestments were more often than not the work of a pious seamstress who faithfully followed the only pattern she had ever seen. People who had never heard a proper choir carried on as best they could. God bless them all! May we bring to our greater advantages half the zeal and devotion which they brought to theirs!"

Italian Catholic Youth Start Information Service

Rome—(NC)—The first English-language issue of a press information service has been published here by the youth section of the Italian Catholic Action. Entitled "Catholic Youth" and consisting of 15 double-spaced mimeographed sheets, the publication is devoted mainly to the Catholic youth manifestation to be held in Rome on September 4-5 and 10-12.

During that time an estimated half million youths of Italian Catholic Action, and Catholic young men and women from many other countries will take part in cultural, religious and athletic events marking the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Italian Catholic youth movement for girls and the 80th anniversary of the movement for boys.

HIS HOLINESS Pope Pius XII will address the Catholic youth of the world during the celebrations. The finals of two national competitions in culture and art will be held; a regatta, accompanied by fireworks, will take place on the Tiber; a Youth Charter will be presented to the authorities, and a night of prayer in

the open air will be observed by an estimated 250,000 girls, each holding a torch.

In the leading article of the new press service Carlo Carretto, president of the Italian Catholic youth association, declares that it will be the "greatest youth meeting in the world" and that it will show that "spiritually, politically and in the affections of youth, Christ has conquered Marx."

"This is exactly the theme of our national meeting," he says—"to demonstrate to the world of youth that the attraction of Christ is stronger than that of Marx or Engels and that the Christian Revolution will still be in existence and moving strong when the French Revolution is no longer spoken of, nor the name of the communist revolution."

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Scot Pupils Increase
London—(NC)—The proportion of Catholic school children in Scotland has risen from 16.6 per cent in 1939 to 17.2 per cent last year, when Catholic children totalled 127,336 out of an overall total of 738,855, it was announced in the House of Commons.

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