

AS PRESIDENT RECEIVES



On the second anniversary of his installation as President of Columbia, Mariano Ospina Perez, and his wife Berta Hernandez de Ospina Perez, receive Holy Communion in the Presidential Chapel, from their chaplain, Very Rev. Magr. Jose Eusebio Ricaurte. (NC Photos.)

Report Catholic Growth in German Protestant Regions

Cologne — (CIP) — The latest statistics about the number of Catholics in various parts of Germany show that the mass migrations and mass expulsions of the last years have caused a tremendous increase in areas which formerly were almost exclusively Protestant.

In the Magdeburg area of the Paderborn Archdiocese, for instance, the number of Catholics increased from 150,000 to 700,000. In Saxony from 209,000 to 725,000. In Thuringia from 132,777 to 428,078. In the Meiningen area from 1200 to 80,000.

In the Diocese of Osnabrueck from 467,908 to 1,041,000. In the Diocese of Fulda from 204,807 to 406,753.

In the Berlin area, the number of Catholics increased from 620,000 to 650,000. In spite of the fact that 120,000 Catholics were among those who left the city because their homes had been destroyed by bombs.

This means that 150,000 Catholics have "immigrated" into the ruins of what used to be the German capital.

In most of the areas mentioned above, the number of priests has also increased because of the arrival of a number of refugee priests but there is, nevertheless, a considerable clergy shortage.

In the Magdeburg area for instance, where the number of Catholics has grown from 150,000 to 700,000, the number of

CSMC To War On Secularism; To Aid Negroes

Notre Dame, Ind. — (Special) — More than 3,000,000 Catholic students were pledged to help safeguard the American way of life by more vigorous application of Christian principles to education, government and other fields, in resolutions adopted Sunday (Aug. 29) at the close of the thirteenth national conference of the Catholic Students Mission Crusade.

Held at the University of Notre Dame, the four-day conference was attended by 3,600 student delegates representing C.S.M.C. units in thousands of American communities. The conference also was the largest missionary meeting ever held in the United States.

THE RESOLUTIONS pledged the students to encourage all Americans who believe in God to combat the evils of secularization. Speakers also warned that secularization is an even greater menace to the peace and welfare of the United States than Communism.

The fight against secularization will be spearheaded by Catholic college students. One resolution pledged this group to "follow a program of study designed to reveal the fundamental errors underlying present social and political disorders, and to encourage the public declaration of right principles and Christian philosophy in opposition to errors now current in the fields of higher education, political action and sociology."

STRATEGY IN THE fight against secularism will be worked out by research teams in 175 seminaries affiliated with the Catholic Mission Crusade in the United States. Another resolution pledged thousands of seminarians to organize research teams for exploring the relations between present-day threats to democracy and false teachings on the relations between man and God.

The conference also urged greater social justice for the 14,000,000 American Negroes, holding in another resolution that "prejudice and unjust practices against Negroes are based fundamentally upon ignorance of the history of this group of Americans and a lack of regard for the Christian ideals which demand recognition of the God-given rights of all human beings."

The resolution put the CSMC on record as recommending not only the continued general study of the history of American Negroes in each area where the CSMC has a unit with the view of helping to remedy unsatisfactory conditions.

General Ma, colorful cavalry commander in China's rugged northwest, voiced admiration for the work of Catholic missionaries. He said that his admiration

Rio Conference Hears:

Catholic Social Program Explained

Rio de Janeiro, Aug. 29 — (NC) — The world is finally recognizing that a spiritual basis is needed for our entire political economy, Bishop Karl J. Alter of Toledo told delegates to the Third Inter-American Conference of Catholic Social Action here.

In his address Bishop Alter, who is episcopal chairman of the Social Action Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, declared:

"TO OFFSET ANY presumption that the program advocated by the great social encyclicals of the popes is pure theory or only distantly related to concrete problems, let me enumerate some of the specific objectives which have been endorsed by the official and duly accredited representatives of the Church.

"Anyone familiar with Catholic teaching knows that the church has approved and strongly defended the formation of labor unions. It stands for collective bargaining in respect to wages, hours and working conditions. It defends the right to strike under certain conditions even though it recognizes that the need for such action is a social evil. It stands for the principle of a living wage. It advocates a system of family allowance and widow's pensions.

"It has given approval and support to a system of social security for the unemployed and the aged. It has urged a system of prepayment of costs for medical and health care. At the same time it safeguards the intimate personal relationship between patient and physician and autonomy of voluntary hospitals.

"IT HAS DENOUNCED private monopolies of financial or industrial power which have exploited workingmen and the public for selfish interest. It has given public recognition to the need of government ownership or control whenever the nature of the public services or the common good re-



BISHOP ALTER

quires a monopoly in order to safeguard the interests of the public.

"Not only have official representatives of the church advocated and supported such liberal programs, but they have gone farther and have urged a radical change in our economic system. They have proposed to substitute a form of partnership in management, profits and ownership in place of the existing wage system.

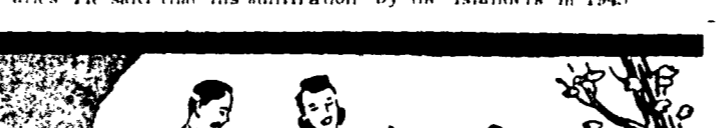
"They propose to substitute co-operation for class conflict by means of the industry councils and direct representation of labor on boards of trustees. They want to subvert the whole system by reducing competition to a minor role and elevating the principle of the common good to a place of primary importance."

General Fetes Bishop In Old Pagan Center

Ningsia, China — (NC) — Thirty years ago, traveling missionaries had to bypass the Mohammedan stronghold of Ningsia and not a Christian lived within its walls.

Recently in Ningsia, where a bishop now has his cathedral parish, the Mohammedan governor of the province, General Ma Hlung kuei, gave a banquet honoring Bishop Carlo van Melckebeke, I.H.M., of Ningsia and the prelate's visitor the Very Rev. Joseph Nandepuete, superior general of the Immaculate Heart of Mary missionaries.

General Ma, colorful cavalry commander in China's rugged northwest, voiced admiration for the work of Catholic missionaries. He said that his admiration



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Report Reveals Nation's Debt To Sisterhoods

New York — (Special) — America's tremendous debt to its Catholic Sisters is underscored through some staggering statistics in a tribute to nuns by Vincent P. McCorry, S.J., appearing in the October issue of "The Messenger of The Sacred Heart."

"There is a way in which we can make our minds grasp the immense and staggering labors of the Sisters of America," Father McCorry writes. "Suppose for just a moment that when you rise tomorrow morning the work of the nuns throughout this nation will suddenly have been suspended, what will happen? This will happen.

"FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND young women will be turned out of one hundred and twenty three colleges. Half a million boys and girls will go sadly and perilously to public high schools. Nine hundred thousand public school pupils will look in vain for religious instruction. Over two million parochial and grade school youngsters will be teacherless. Forty-five thousand orphans will be orphaned more bitterly than before. Sixteen thousand wayward or underprivileged children will return to the streets to plague society and ruin themselves.

"Twenty-two thousand aged men and women will be homeless and helpless," Father McCorry continues in his "Messenger" article. "Thirty-four thousand student nurses will have to become nurses without the training which only the Divine Physician can give. Within the next year, almost four million patients will crowd secular hospitals instead of finding place in eight hundred Catholic hospitals."

Reds Ban Discussion Of Undernourishment

Berlin — (CIP) — Articles, lectures or discussions dealing with the problem of undernourishment or any medical subject connected with it have been prohibited by the Government of Saxony. To vindicate the right to life and liberty of all those suffering under the Communist tyranny is

King Island, Alaska — (NC) — The Eskimos of this 100 per cent Catholic settlement in the Bering Sea 90 miles west of Nome were visited recently by the Rev. Bernard Hubbard, S. J., the "Glacier Priest," who conveyed the thanks of the Holy Father for a statue of Christ the King given to him by the Islanders in 1945.

DP PROFESSORS COMING



The first three of twenty-four professors from Displaced Persons Camps in Germany selected to teach in American Universities and Colleges have just arrived in the United States under the special program for academic DP's being operated by War Relief Services, National Catholic Welfare Conference. Left to right: Dr. Viktoras Jasaitis, Rev. Dr. Antonas Sitaravicius and Dr. Antonas Gylis. Photo by Galvin (NC Photo.)

Catholic Women Hear Plea For Archbishop Stepinac

Milwaukee, Wis. — (RNS) — The National Catholic Women's Union, meeting here in conjunction with the Catholic Central Union of America, was urged to ask the United Nations for an investigation of the case of Archbishop Stepano of Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

This course was suggested by the Rev. Steven Lackovic of Gary, Ind., former secretary to the Yugoslav prelate who is now serving a jail sentence for alleged political crimes.

FATHER LACKOVIC said the archbishop had been imprisoned for his opposition to the Communist attempt to "destroy religion and take freedom from the people."

"To vindicate the rights to life and liberty in the case of Archbishop Stepinac is the honorable task of the American people," Father Lackovic declared. "To vindicate the right to life and liberty of all those suffering under the Communist tyranny is

"Sometimes," Cardinal Stritch said, "I come across those who talk nicely about the Church. But they don't do the hard things for the Church, my friends, the thing that set Europe on fire in earlier history was the spectacle of real Christian living and real Christian thinking."

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