

A Look at Labor The 'Living Wage'

By A. C. Tuohy

A few weeks ago we had an interesting discussion on the high cost of living with a young white collar worker. It was interesting, not because it settled anything, but because it laid bare the inners of the "white collar mind."

Like many workers in the white collar field he did not belong to a union. He earned approximately fifty dollars a week. He lived moderately but his salary barely covered essential needs. Economically, he was in a bad way, particularly since his wife was going to have a baby.

"What do you think is wrong," we asked him. "Labor unions are what's wrong," he answered categorically. "Union members are getting too much money. Every time they get an increase, I'm the one who has to pay for that increase."

WE ASKED HIM what he thought a worker was entitled to in the matter of wages. He agreed that a man should have enough to support his children and have more children if he wanted them. He was clear on the principle anyway, and we might add, sound. We further inquired whether he thought \$50 a week was a living wage. He did not think so. Perhaps \$60 a week would do. He thought it was better but still not enough. How about \$70, would that do? Yes, he thought it might do him, providing God rewarded him with only one child.

Did he know many men who earned more than \$70 a week? He knew a few, but they were older men. Most of his friends and neighbors earned less than that. Then, on the basis of the living wage ideal, most of his friends were receiving unjust wages? Yes, he guessed so.

HERE WAS A revelation. This young man started out with the idea that wages were too high. But on analysis he concludes that they are too low. They were too high when he spoke of workers whom he did not know, but too low when we referred to the wages of workers whom he did know.

At this point the discussion turned to prices. Did my friend feel that every wage increase given workers resulted in higher prices? Yes, he most certainly did. But — and here was the important question — did prices have to go up as high as they

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WHAM (1180) EVERY SUNDAY AT 12:10 P. M. REV. RICHARD TORNEY Associate Editor of the Courier Journal COMMENTATOR THE SUNDAY EDITION OF THE COURIER JOURNAL

A Commentary on Current Events from the Catholic Editorial Point of View.

TUNE IN WHAM AT 12:10 P. M. EVERY SUNDAY

American Franciscans Report Desecrations In Jerusalem

By REV. ANTHONY BRUYA

Amman, Transjordan — (NC)—Two American Franciscan priests stationed in Jerusalem have issued a signed statement detailing desecrations in Catholic institutions located within the Israeli-occupied part of Jerusalem, declaring that "there seems to be an overall plan gradually to replace Christian institutions," and asserting that "the Christian not without reasons lives in a state of anxiety, not to say fear."

The two priests, the Rev. Patrick J. Coyle, O.F.M., and the Rev. Theophane Carroll, O.F.M., went to Jerusalem in 1945, after having served during the war as chaplains with the American Army. Both are from Baltimore and were sent to Jerusalem from the Commissariat of the Holy Land at the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, D. C.

THEIR STATEMENT, which was broadcast over the Palestine Radio on October 22, says that "highest Jewish authorities" to whom representations were made "are only too willing to promise that all will be taken care of in due time."

The statement adds: "The desecrations that have happened they want to minimize, especially in the press. The well-founded suspicions of Christians must remain: that these acts reveal only too well the mentality of a section of the Jewish people."

The two priests declare that since the end of the British mandate in Palestine they have spent considerable time visiting Catholic institutions in the Jewish section of Jerusalem, and add that their report has been compiled "lest responsible persons be deceived by propaganda from various sources."

THE TWO PRIESTS make a distinction between Catholic institutions which remained occupied by religious and those where religious are not in residence. Regarding the first group "it must be said that the Jewish Agency made provisions," the statement explains, "appointing Dr. J. Praver as a liaison officer for the churches."

"The undersigned and Dr. Praver visited various convents and inquired about minor needs and left only after they had placed signs at the main entrances to the effect that this property belongs to the Church and that entrance is forbidden." This was done at about 10 institutions, the two priests report.

Regarding Catholic institutions where religious are not in residence, "the story is quite different," the statement continues. "AT THE HOSPICE of Notre Dame (just outside the walled inner city of Jerusalem, at New Gate) which was occupied by the Hagannah, we visited the chapel, only to discover it in a terrible state. Destruction resulting from battle is easily understandable, but destruction of religious articles in the chapel, especially of large brass crucifixes used during Mass is harder to explain."

"The crucifixes had been systematically worked on, because the corpora (body of Christ) had been pried off each cross



Typical of the destruction wrought by current warfare in the Holy Land is this view of the great Notre Dame de France pilgrim hospice.

and were nowhere to be found. In view of this, it would seem that the recent statement by the Israeli government about instructions to its soldiers to respect Christian objects of worship takes on a new light."

Regarding the Benedictine Church of the Dormition (on Mount Zion) the two priests declare that there, too, they found broken crucifixes and statues. "One large statue of Christ had lost both outstretched arms," the statement continues, "on a later visit we found that the head had been severed."

IN THE FRANCISCAN Convent Church, where the priests found a number of broken crucifixes, "one of the soldiers explained how a bullet had torn the corpus right off the wooden cross."

The statement then deals with desecrations and looting in the chapel of the St. Francis Club, a mission of Our Saviour's parish church, located in a suburb of Jerusalem. "On one occasion," the two American priests declare, "we arrived just in time to meet Jews carrying out part of the equipment of the club, even though the place plainly belonged to the Church."

"I doubtlessly, these thieves left free to take things, since they and their associates had robbed and looted all other places in the neighborhood, down to the last stick of furniture. In some places even removing water pipes and fixtures. In the chapel of the club the four statues were lying on the floor with arms cut off. The other things were thrown in complete disorder."

THE PRIESTS say that "in

Ex-Ford School Is Michigan's New 'Boysville'

Macou, Mich. — (NC)— Boysville of Michigan, a Catholic high school for homeless boys, was dedicated here by His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit. The school, which occupies the site of a former trade school established by Henry Ford, is operated by the five Michigan dioceses and the Knights of Columbus of the State.



Two thousand persons gathered in Boysville's colonnade-style buildings as the Cardinal Henry Ford II spoke the words of dedication in the chapel and presided at the erection of a crucifix in the main woodworking shop.

In his dedicatory sermon, the Rev. Jerome V. MacEachin of East Lansing, State K. of C. chaplain, declared Boysville was Michigan Catholics' challenge to society to examine its educational conscience and put its curriculum in order."

"Because of the dignity of man and the priceless value of the human soul, Boysville has become a reality," Father MacEachin continued. "It has been a cherished conviction of Catholic educators throughout the centuries that the soul of education is the education of the soul."

Cardinal Mooney's expression of thanks to Boysville's founders and benefactors included specifically Henry Ford II and the Ford Motor Co. for having made the site and buildings available at a fraction of their value; to contributors to the Archdiocesan Development Fund and others outside the diocese; to the state Knights of Columbus for underwriting operating deficits; to Boysville auxiliary for a \$10,000 gift; and to the Brothers of the Holy Cross without whose consecrated lives we could not set up this institution."

Various Catholic schools in the Jewish sections of Jerusalem, four have been closed so far, one way or other, with Jews," the statement continues.

"Schmidt Girls' College — a Catholic high school for girls) houses the Jewish Food Control Office; Rastaban school (a grade school conducted by the Rastaban Fathers for Jewish boys) is filled with Jewish refugees. St. Anthony's girls' school (conducted by Franciscan Sisters) has been completely and forcibly taken by Jewish military forces; and St. Joseph's school is boarding school for girls) has become a Jewish hospital. All the time of writing this report (September 30) Jewish authorities are ready to move into Terra Sancta College to make it a part of the Hebrew University."

Pope Lauds Charity Of Chinese Convert

Shanghai — (NC)— Through the Chinese Legation at the Vatican, Sung Hanchang of this city has just received a letter from the Papal Secretariate of State expressing the Holy Father's deep admiration for the excellent work being accomplished at Yang Ming hospital for the relief of the sick and suffering of Yu-yao, a town about 30 miles from Ningpo in Chekiang.

Mr. Sung, who is president of the Bank of China, is chairman of the hospital board of directors. Now aged 77, he entered the Catholic Church about 30 years ago, a convert of the late Joseph Le Pehong, famous Catholic layman of Shanghai.

1,200 Delegates Expected at Sodality's Marian Congress

(Continued From Page 1) evenings of the Congress guarantee a gay social life for the delegates and all Rochester sodalists. A "Martian Mixer" scheduled for 8:30 p. m. on Wednesday evening at the Powers Hotel Ballroom will feature dancing to Svi Novosil's Orchestra, a professional floor show and an informal get-acquainted program directed by Mark O'Brien of Rochester Radio Station WARC staff.

Arranged as a "thrust party center" where out of the zone, all meet their respective hosts and hostesses, the opening night mixer will also welcome all registered sodalists of the city.

ON THURSDAY night at 8 p. m. a capacity audience of sodalists will see a three-hour "Queensteens Review" at the Columbus Civic Center auditorium. Talent from seven diocesan high schools and parish groups will compete for honors in musical and dramatic sketches in a variety program which has been in rehearsal for some weeks. Announcer Mark O'Brien will be the Master of Ceremonies and the Aquinas Institute Band directed by Mr. Raymond Hasenauer will provide the overture and musical interludes for the stage show.

Nearly 400 sodality delegates from outside the city of Rochester will spend the two days and nights of the Congress as house-guests of Rochester sodalists. Representative from high schools and parish units in Auburn, Elmira, Geneva and other communities are registered as well as delegates from nursing schools in Hornell, Elmira, and Rochester and Newman Club members from Cornell University, Elmira College and the University of Rochester.

REGISTRATION is being directed by the committee of Miss Joan Spindler, prefect of Nazareth College Sodality. The Hospitality Committee headed by Eileen Conbeady of Nazareth Academy is arranging housing for out-of-town guests.

Miss Bernice Ternar, prefect of the Diocesan Parish Sodality Union is vice-chairman of the

Red Threat Adds Weight to Apostleship of Sea Work

Boston — (NC)— The "critical" importance at this time of Catholic Action activities among seamen "because of the infiltration of atheistic communism to which our seamen are so patently exposed" was stressed in resolutions adopted at the annual convention of the National Conference of the Apostleship of the Sea.

The organization met here simultaneously with the meeting of the U. S. Catholic Charities and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The Rev. Henry McGill, port chaplain of the Catholic Maritime Club, Mobile, Ala., was elected president of the conference. Frank Kelly, welfare director of the Catholic Maritime Center in New York, was chosen vice-president, the Rev. Thomas A. McDonough, C.S.S.R., port chaplain of the Catholic Maritime Club, New Orleans, was unanimously re-elected national secretary.

Because of the importance of their activities, the delegates stated in their resolutions that they "need the full understanding of the Catholic clergy and laity and a sympathetic assistance in these endeavors."

They also called for a "crusade of prayers for merchant seamen among the children of our schools and among our religious orders of women," a full-time chaplain for every port in the country, and the creation in every port of a Catholic maritime club, "which was deemed a necessary means of bringing the Church to the sea."

An answer to the shortage of port chaplains, the delegates asked prayers "for vocations to the priesthood from the seamen themselves and from others — priests who will devote themselves to the supernatural welfare of the merchant marine."

German Information Frankfurt — (NC)— An Episcopal Information Office which is to serve all Catholic dioceses of Germany as well as the general public will soon be established in Cologne in accordance with a decision reached at the Fulda meeting of the German Hierarchy. Bishop Wilhelm Berning of Osnabruck is in charge of press and radio matters for the Fulda Conference.

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