

U. S. Apathy Helps Moscow, Warns Budenz

Washington, N. Y. (Special) — Russia is achieving its aim of world conquest chiefly through the acquiescence of the United States, Louis Budenz, former Communist and now associate professor of economics at Fordham University, told a St. Louis audience.

"The United States is not helping," Budenz said. "By its silence, it has stood paralyzed and impotent while Russia has been tilting the world in its favor."

When the United States and other nations understand the most basic concerns only then will there be a possibility of avoiding World War III, Budenz said.

He refused to discuss the case of the 33 persons on trial in New York for alleged subversive activities. The former managing editor of the "Daily Worker" was first witness in the current trial of eleven American Communist leaders charged with plotting to overthrow the government with violence.

Othering many cases of exposed Communists in key positions in the government, Budenz said that the apparent American apathy indicated a peculiar concept of moral values still exists here.

"It is time America realizes it is a moral battle and no longer a mere struggle for power," he said. "The Communists in Moscow are making our society responsible in moral actions. Exercise your citizenship not only on Election Day but every day. Let your lawmakers know how you feel — now it's only a trickle in comparison to propaganda emanating from Communists."

Constantly reiterated throughout his speech was the Stalinist tenet that "Communism is the highest form of democracy." But said Budenz "in the words of Pope Pius XII it is diabolical propaganda—vile presented under guise of good."

No Prayer At Pact Signing Causes Dismay

Washington — (NC) — The fact that the ceremony for the signing of the North Atlantic pact opened without prayer has "deeply distressed" a member of the House of Representatives.

Representative Dwight L. Rogers of Florida, a Methodist, said the absence of prayer was a "sinful proceeding" and "a mark of the declining sentence in the address of the foreign minister of the Netherlands."

"Not a speaker seemed to realize that obligations of this type, if they are to be of deep and lasting significance, need the divine blessings and sanctions of religion," he declared.

Dirk U. Sikker, Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, actually made two references to God in his address, which concluded with a humble prayer for God's merciful blessing. I declare the Netherlands Government's readiness to sign this treaty for peace."

At least one other foreign minister, Count Carlo Sforza of Italy, also referred to God in his address at the signing ceremony, examination of texts of the speeches indicates. He said "We must pray to God that this pact will prove to be like the English Magna Carta: on one side inalienable, on the other side a continuous creation."

Dedication Set For New Tokyo Church

Tokyo — (NC) — The Roman Catholic Church of St. Ignatius will be dedicated here on Easter Sunday, April 17. Built by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), it is the largest church building erected in Tokyo since the war.

St. Ignatius boasts a 100-foot tower and will have a normal seating capacity of about 500. It is built in contemporary style, has a terrazzo floor, and stained glass windows enriched with medallion figures of the saints. The interior is plastered in pure white, the exterior finished with cement stone veneer.

Three marble altars and a marble Communion rail have already been installed and a Baldwin electronic organ will be set up in the choir loft.

Prisoners Confirmed Columbia, O. — (NC) — Bishop Michael J. Ready of Columbus, confirmed a class of 50 inmates of the London State Prison from the first ceremony of this kind ever held at the institution.

Soviet Brand On China Reds

Hong Kong — (NC) — No foundation for the thesis that Communism in China is different from the Russian brand can be found in any of the many communist publications issued in Hong Kong, which has become the source and operating center of communist propaganda for South China and Southeastern Asia.

Of the two communist dailies here, "Wen Hui" is openly communist and advocates unadulterated Marxism. The other, "Hwa Hoiang Pao," the organ of the "Democratic Party," is more moderate but only slightly behind the first in its promulgation of Red doctrine.

THE UNITED STATES is constantly attacked in the communist papers and articles following the typical Moscow line describe the "poverty and misery, the cruelty and slavery, the exploiters of the workers" which "characterize the American way of life." This is all set in contrast to the workers' paradise of the U.S.S.R., which is described in glowing terms.

Of the many communist and semi-communist bookstores and some publishing houses, the "United Publishing Company" in a recent catalog lists 286 new titles, 137 of which are translations from the Russian. No other foreign language is represented. In all these the party line is followed.

A TYPICAL BOOK is "A Criticism of Modern Art," which takes a few examples of modernistic impressionism and argues from them to the state of utter degeneracy of contemporary "capitalist" and "bourgeois" art. Russia is glorified by contrast.

Another recently published book is an account of the marvelous progress made by countries of Eastern Europe since they were liberated by the Red armies. The tiresome jargon of Pravda and Tass and the Moscow radio is reproduced faithfully. In everything Russia is the model which China must follow.

THE PROCESS of socialization, however, is to be gradual. The immediate aim is the establishment of the New Democracy, that is, the gaining of control of all China. Sun Yat Sen's work and the Revolution are not attacked, they are merely ignored as irrelevant. The ultimate aim is the Marxist state, complete and uncompromising, in all of its ramifications. That is quite certain. Difficulties have been recognized and frankly stated by party members. They consist expect-

NEWS DIRECTOR 25 YEARS



Marking the completion of 25 years on the staff of N.C.W.C. News Service, Frank A. Hall, director, is felicitated by Monsignor Howard J. Carroll, general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference at an informal gathering of N.C.W.C. staff members in Washington. (NC Photos)

Parish Priest Is Chief Of Evansville Fire Department

Evansville, Ind. — (NC) — Comparing favorably with the fire fighting equipment of any great metropolis is Anderson Township's big, new, \$100,000 fire truck, pride of its inhabitants and of its Fire Chief, the Rev. Eugene Weidman, pastor of St. John's and St. Joseph's in Perry County.

Father Weidman not only organized the Anderson Township Fire Department, but succeeded in persuading the 110 members of the company to band together and obtain for its fellow citizens the best fire protection possible. They agreed to a membership fee of \$25 the first year, \$15 the second year and \$5 annually thereafter. This will pay for the new equipment in a few years, while members will benefit by lower insurance premiums.

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Franciscans Expand In New Hampshire

Manchester, N. H. — (RNS) — Erection of a monastery and a shrine to St. Joseph is being planned here by the Franciscan Fathers. The project is expected to cost \$1,300,000.

According to the Rev. D. Maass, OFM, administrator of the St. Anthony Retreat House at Pittsfield, the building project will later be expanded to include the construction of several buildings to accommodate Franciscan novices.

He said a retreat house would be built on the property and staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, who would expend about \$500,000. The shrine will include several chapels, groves, and the stations of the Cross.

Slova Convention Set Schenectady, N. Y. — (NC) — The Slovak Catholic Federation of America, an organization reaching into all Catholic parishes and societies in the United States, will hold its 23rd national convention and congress in Bethlehem, Pa.

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Good Friday Bank Openings Draw Protest

Pittsburgh — (RNS) — An announcement that seven Pittsburgh banks would be open this year on Good Friday drew protests from the Diocesan Holy Name Society here and the Citizens Good Friday Observance Committee of Philadelphia.

The Holy Name Society's protest was sent to Frank R. Denton, president of the Pittsburgh Clearing House Association, who made the announcement that member banks would not close in observance of Good Friday.

TELEGRAMS FROM the Philadelphia Committee — a joint Protestant-Catholic group — went to Mr. Denton and to all the presidents of the Association's member banks. The telegrams said:

"America has much more to gain by the deposits of prayers during these three days (the Good Friday weekend) than by bank deposits."

Similar telegrams were sent to Governor James H. Duff, U. S. Senators Francis J. Meyers and Edward Martin, and State Senator John H. Lord.

The seven banks were open on Good Friday for the first time last year.

A CLEARING House spokesman said bank employees are given an opportunity to go to church if they so desire.

"We talked this thing over thoroughly before we decided to stay open," he said. "Several big corporations asked us to stay open. The 15th is a payroll day and always is a big one for the banks."

"If we closed Good Friday, we wouldn't open again until the following Monday. We can't lock up customers' money that long."

Bishop Helps Arabs Jerusalem — (RNS) — Relief supplies donated by Catholics of the Liege diocese in Belgium were distributed to Arab refugees in Nazareth by Bishop Louis L. Kerkhofs, who is in Palestine to investigate their needs.

New Auxiliary



Very Rev. Msgr. Charles Herman Helmsing, Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, who has been named by Pope Pius XII to be titular Bishop of Axomia and Auxiliary to Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter of St. Louis. The new Bishop will be consecrated on April 19.

Abp. Rummel Has Eye Operation

New Orleans — (NC) — Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans, who underwent an operation for glaucoma in Chicago, was reported resting well in a telephone message received by Msgr. Charles J. Plauché, Chancellor. Dr. Derrick Vall performed the operation at the Passavant Memorial Hospital.

Archbishop Rummel's sight has been falling in one eye for several years, but he has carried on a heavy schedule of ordinations, confirmations, the blessings of churches and other duties. The day before he departed for Chicago, he confirmed a class at St. Paul's Church, newest Negro parish in New Orleans. He went to Chicago unaccompanied. The Archbishop is scheduled to lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes and Rome this summer.

Parents Fight Red Grip On Mexico Schools

Mexico City — (NC) — While Mexican communists are clamoring for the "democratization" of high schools and higher education, the National Union of Parents is preparing a campaign here to dislodge communists who have infiltrated into important posts in the Public Education Secretariat.

THE REDS — who have united into a "Communist Socialist Liaison Committee" the Movement for Vindication of the Communist Party and the United Socialist Action group — have announced in their new political program an offensive "against imperialism, fascist-clerical reaction and interference of the Church in public life."

The communist announcement charges that the instruments of clerical influence in politics are the National Action party and the Union Nacional Sinarquista, although on a number of occasions both the ecclesiastical authorities and the leaders of these political groups have declared their absolute independence of one another.

THAT THE communists will defend their positions in the education secretariat appears certain from their announced effort to "democratize" education. The Liaison Committee, they say, will fight for observance of article three in matters of education and for a closer friendship between Mexico and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Some time ago the Parents Union sent to the President of the Republic a memorandum signed by 140,000 parents, which stated that the "Mexican nation will be unable to achieve its purpose in accord with western civilization and culture as long as it retains the third article of the constitution by which the State strives, with a narrow, monopolistic attitude, to foster anti-religious schools."

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