

Proposed Postal Rate Boost Imperils Religious Publications

Washington—(NC)—The proposed drastic increase in second-class postal rates would put a large number of Catholic publications out of business, the Rev. Paul Bussard of St. Paul, Minn., editor of The Catholic Digest and President of the Catholic Press Association of the United States, told the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

There is a real danger that communist publications would take the place of those religious newspapers and magazines that would cease to exist, the C.P.A. president warned.

Father Bussard told the Senators Catholic publications now spend about one million dollars annually on second-class postage; that the increases in rates proposed in pending legislation "would at least triple postal costs" and in many cases quadruple them.

"NEW YORK CATHOLIC" publications, especially the little ones, "will be put out of business," he said and suggested that the Post Office Department might end up with less actual revenue from Catholic newspapers and magazines than it receives now.

The proposed increases in postal rates are designed to help meet an expected deficit of some \$500,000,000 in the Post Office Department.

Declaring that "the effect on culture is vastly more important" than the purely financial considerations of the situation, Father Bussard said:

"You may be sure that the void created by the certain bankruptcy of perhaps 200 Catholic publications will be filled by communist papers and magazines. . . . Communists are willing to spend any necessary amount of money to create confusion, doubt and suspicion and thus prepare the way for their downfall. They have done it in other countries and they have long been at work in ours.

"In no Catholic publications has there ever been an attack on the American democratic way of life. We stand among the champions of the Constitution, among those who instill in our readers a love of our country, its government and its duly-elected representatives. If you silence this voice, no one will be happier than the communists. They, you may be sure, will carry on louder and more aggressively than before.

"IT IS THEREFORE, essential for the good of the country that the religious press be allowed to function freely. That is possible only if second-class

Swiss Nuncio Denies Churchill Memoir Claim

By MAX JORDAN

Basel—Refuting a reference of Winston Churchill in his memoirs, Archbishop Filippo Bernardini, Apostolic Nuncio to Switzerland, in a letter to the Zurich newspaper that is running the book in serial form, states that "the Bernese Nunciature never received a peace proposal on the part of Hitler, through the Papal Secretariat of State, and never transmitted such a proposal to the Secretariat of State or other diplomatic offices." Mr. Churchill says in his book that such a message had been sent to his government by the Vatican "via Bernese."

Archbishop Bernardini adds in his letter that he is "sorry to have to make this correction after so many other corrections had to be made with regard to the reliability of the memoirs of the eminent statesman."



New 'Christ, Light Of The World' Statue Towers Twenty-Two Feet High, Will Be Dedicated In Nation's Capital



Administrative Board of Archbishops and Bishops of the National Catholic Welfare Conference is Eugene Kormendil's 22-foot statue of Christ, the Light of the World.



Statue of 'Light of World' Set For NCWC Building

Washington—(NC)—Towering 22 feet high, a bronze statue of Christ the Light of the World will be blessed at special ceremonies in front of the National Catholic Welfare Conference headquarters building here in the nation's capital city on April 26. It has been announced by Msgr. Howard J. Carroll, NCWC General Secretary.

THE STATUE will be mounted on a pedestal in front of the building and will complete the facade of the modernistic structure which was erected in 1942 and which has drawn a wealth of commendation by architectural and construction organizations in all parts of the nation.

The presentation of the statue in the name of the countless donors throughout the nation who made the work possible will be made by Bishop John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, who served as chairman of the special committee of Bishops to carry the work forward.

The erection of the statue and its artistic background in front of the NCWC headquarters building was made possible through Our Sunday Visitor, weekly Catholic newspaper which Bishop Noll founded and edits. The paper collected \$115,000 for the erection of the background and pedestal for the statue and agreed to bear the cost of the statue estimated at \$20,000.

Church's Opposition To Race Bans Cited

Cleveland—(NC)—The Catholic Church in this country in recent years has been taking the lead in the fight to break down racial barriers, and recognition of this work is to be found in the growing number of Negro converts to the Church, the Cleveland Herald-Examiner has declared in an editorial.

"In the very latest days in the midst of the whole American struggle to accord recognition to all men on an equal and brotherly basis," the paper commented, "the role of the Roman Catholic Church has been open, commendable and pretty nearly universal from the Louisiana parishes to the college and hospital in Burlington, Vt.

"In simpler words, while some faiths have been preaching the Word of God, the Roman Catholic Church has been putting the Word to work. People are seeing a lot of things nowadays that they had been missing before, and this is one of them."

New Orleans—(NC)—The Catholic Church has been "outstanding" in its attempts to bring about "a just and honest social status" for the Negro, Dr. Felton Clark, president of Southern University, Baton Rouge, told assembled seminarians at Notre Dame seminary here following an address on Negroes and higher education.

Dr. Clark, who is not a Catholic, praised the teachings of the Church on racial justice and cited Josephite Fathers and other priests who had done much to bring about better racial understanding.

He said he was amazed to learn from one priest that the reason he "had so many sacrifices" for the cause of racial justice was simply that he had devoted his life to making such sacrifices.

St. Paul of the Cross—(NC)—The Rev. Alexander Butkowsky, pastor of the Church of St. John the Baptist, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., donated his 82nd pint of blood to the American Red Cross here.

Cologne Kids Talk Brogue

Cologne (NC)—Forty German children, who had spent three years in Ireland as the guests of the Irish Red Cross, were found to have almost forgotten their mother tongue, when they came home. Some of the girls and boys addressed their bewildered mothers and fathers with an Irish brogue which the latter were unable to make out. A total of 325 German children have been invited by the Irish Red Cross so far. Others are to be invited later.

Society For Conversion Of Jews Opens House In U. S.

Cincinnati—(NC)—The Missionary Priests of Notre Dame de Sion, a society dedicated to the conversion of the Jews, has established here its first foundation in North America, and placed it in charge of the Rev. Marcel Leroux, a leader in the society's work in France.

"Our purpose," according to Father Leroux, "is to aid the Jews to find their true spiritual home, the Church founded by Christ, Israel's Messiah."

CLOSE TO 70 priests staff the society's foundations in France, Belgium, England, Jerusalem and Brazil. Candidates to increase this number will be interviewed by Father Leroux.

A native of Paris, he served as chaplain in the French Army at the outset of World War I, and was responsible for more than 400 conversions.

Father Talbot Invested Baltimore—(NC) Spanish Ambassador at large Jose Felix de Lequerica invested the Very Rev. Francis X. Talbot, president of Loyola College in Baltimore, as a Commander in the Order of Isabella the Catholic at ceremonies here. Father Talbot is a former editor-in-chief of America, national Catholic weekly.

Boy's Town in P.R. Under Construction

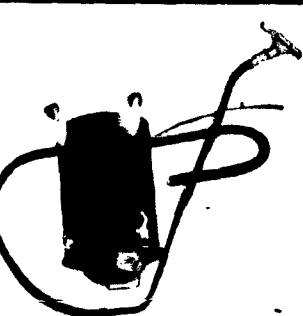
San Juan, P. R. (RNS)—A Puerto Rican Boys Town modeled after the institution founded by Father Flanagan in Omaha, Neb., has been under construction here since 1947. It is being built on a 100-acre building at a cost of nearly \$1,000,000 and is expected to be dedicated late in 1950.

The dedication rite is expected to be performed by the Most Rev. Ricardo Pifarré, Archbishop of Santo Domingo.

N. M. Baptists Hail Catholic Nun Ban

Carlsbad, N. M. (RNS)—A resolution commending District Judge F. T. Hendon of Pecos, N. M., for his recent decision barring Roman Catholic nuns and nuns from teaching in the state's public schools, was adopted by more than 500 delegates to the New Mexico Sunday School Convention here.

The Baptists hailed the verdict as confirming their position on separation of Church and State.



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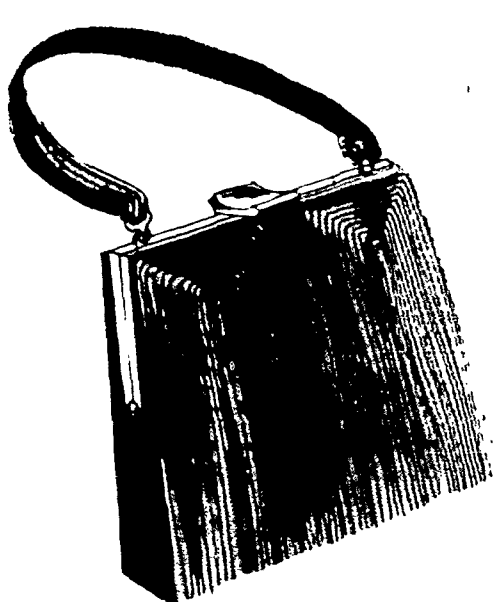
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