

U. S. Chaplains In Tokyo Area Score Birth Control Statement

By Rev. W. A. Macomber, Tokyo — (NC) — Answering the birth control statement recently made by Dr. Warren Simpson Thompson, then consultant to the Natural Resources Division of SCAP (Supreme Command Allied Forces in the Pacific), the Catholic chaplains of the Tokyo-Yokohama area have issued a declaration in which they strongly oppose Dr. Thompson's views.

The chaplains' declaration takes Dr. Thompson to task for asserting "at the idea that the Catholic Church or any other considerable body of opinion in the United States or elsewhere would oppose birth control measures in Japan" and label such an assertion concerning the Church as "calumnious."

The statement was published on the front page of the Nippon Times, leading English-language daily of Japan, which had also published the statement made by Dr. Thompson. In their reply the chaplains declared:

"While we have no intention of interfering with the political or economic policies of the Allied Government, or other similar measures based in duty, both as Americans and as Catholics, we do protest most emphatically against Dr. Thompson's reported misrepresentation of public opinion in the United States and his reported misrepresentation of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

"To begin with, according to these reports, Dr. Thompson clearly intimates the kind of birth control he has in mind as 'artificial birth control.' This distinction he gives by his continual reference to the alleged advance in science that has made possible contraceptives and other mechanical and medical devices. 'It is NOT only false but calumnious to assert that the Catholic Church in the United States would not oppose artificial birth control for Japan, or to assert that the Catholic Church is opposed to artificial birth control only when it is practiced for immoral purposes.' 'The teaching of the Catholic



Cited as a perfect example of the family unit so essential for modern society, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Green and their seven children of Washington, D. C., pose for the cameraman. They are featured in an article in the June issue of the "Messenger of the Sacred Heart" by Rev. Arthur R. McGrady, S.J., national director of the League of the Sacred Heart. (NC Photos).

Church on artificial birth control is clearly laid down in the encyclical teaching of the Holy See and in the popular preaching of her pulpits the world over. 'Any use of the marriage act which robs the act of its natural power to generate life is an abuse of nature; and those who so use the act are guilty of a serious sin against the law of God.' Such is the doctrine laid down by Pius XI in his encyclical on Christian Marriage. 'Sermons preached from the pulpit of the Catholic Church in Japan, in the United States, and in the rest of the world

leave the faithful in no doubt as to the teachings of their Church about artificial birth control — it is an abuse of nature; a violation of the law of God; a desecration of marriage which, in many cases, brings the punishment of suffering and misery already in this life; a desecration of marriage which robs a woman of her sublime dignity of wife and mother and clothes her with the shoddy trappings of a prostitute. This is the Catholic position on artificial birth control.'

An Ideal Catholic Family

Woman Who Defended Faith Named Saint

Vatican City — (NC) — A sixteenth century woman, who as a little girl resisted the efforts of both a Protestant mother and aunt to turn her from the Faith, was rewarded here Sunday (May 15) for her constancy by receiving the highest honor of the Church official pronouncement of sanctity.

SHE IS ST. Joan de Lestonnac, French-born foundress of the Order of the Daughters of Our Lady, at whose canonization His Holiness Pope Pius XII officiated at impressive rites today in St. Peter's Basilica.

Born in Bordeaux, southern France, in 1556, St. Joan was the daughter of a Catholic father and a Calvinist mother. Unsuccessful in her efforts to win the child over to Calvinism, the mother finally sent her 10-year-old daughter to live with a staunchly Calvinist aunt, Madame de Beaugueard.

THE LATTER praised the Reformation and criticized St. Joan's persistence in the Catholic faith. She argued against the Catholic concept of the Eucharist and the Mass and sought to embarrass Joan on every occasion over her faith. However, the girl held on to the Faith despite the serious doubts that then assailed her.

About this time her uncle, the famous French writer, Michel de Montaigne, noticed the distress the girl was suffering for the Faith, intervened and had her sent back to her family.

AT 17 ST. Joan married Gaston de Monterrand, son of the governor of Bordeaux. She became a widow at the age of 41, then having eight children, and decided to devote the rest of her life to their education and to charitable works.

When her children, two of whom became religious, were all grown up, St. Joan entered a convent at Toulouse, but had to leave soon afterwards because of ill health.

IN 1607 SHE established one of the first religious communities for the education of young girls, the Order of the Daughters of Our Lady. When she died in 1640 at the age of 84, the order had 30 houses in France.

Miss Bentley To Teach In Girls' College



Washington — (NC) — Elizabeth T. Bentley, self-confessed courier for a communist spy ring and a key witness in 1948 Congressional espionage investigations, declared to a Senate Judiciary subcommittee here that she will soon take a teaching position at Mundelein College, Catholic school for women in Chicago. She joined the Church last November.

Miss Bentley, in the course of her current testimony, emphasized that the Communist Party in the United States depends heavily upon non-naturalized aliens because the Russians do not fully trust American communists.

"If you can cut that life line between here and Moscow, you will have thrown the Communist Party off base," she declared. "I mean that if you deport aliens who engage in subversive activities, you are taking the brains away from the Communist Party."

Congressman Asks: Injunction On Aid To Catholic Pupils

Washington — (NC) — A Federal aid to education bill which not only locks out parochial school pupils but sets up its own alarm system to keep them out has been introduced into the House by Representative Graham Barden of North Carolina.

The House Education Subcommittee, of which Mr. Braden is chairman, is now considering it along with the Thomas Bill, already passed by the Senate. Mr. Braden said here that the House hearings on the Federal school aid question would revolve principally around his measure and the Thomas Bill, though there are several other education bills before the committee which might stir discussion.

THE NORTH Carolina congressman told the N. C. W. C. News Service that he had framed his bill with two aims in mind: to avoid controversy as far as possible, and to hold Federal interference with State education policies to a minimum.

He has, however, titled his measure the "Public School Assistance Act of 1949," and has provided that the proposed annual grant of \$314,500,000 shall be spent only for "current expenditures for public elementary and secondary schools." He has ruled out the possibility that parochial pupils might get some transportation and health services by explicitly excluding these services from the term "current expenditures."

Under the heading "Judicial Review," the Barden Bill sets forth that if any taxpayer thinks that his State has violated the provision that the Federal grant must go only for current public school expenditures he may apply in the Federal courts for an injunction to stop the violation.

Catholic school authorities are already on record in opposition to the Thomas Bill, which contains no specific prohibition of aid to nonpublic pupils, but leaves the matter of inclusion or exclusion of parochial or private school pupils to the individual States. This provision, they feel, effectively bars such aid.

Entering a few minutes after the fire engines, emergency trucks and ambulances were dispatched to the scene, Fr. Shields said: "It was a hot box and it seemed that trucks and automobiles were caught in one gigantic pocket."

Another bill opposed by Catholics calls for setting up an economic index for school taxation purposes. This proposal would make local communities responsible for raising by taxation about 25 per cent of the cost of the minimum foundation program.

Priest Helps In Tunnel Rescues

New York — (NC) — One of the first persons to enter the gas-filled and debris littered Holland Tunnel shattered after explosion of a trailer truck loaded with chemicals, was the Very Rev. John J. Shields, C.S.S.R., rector of St. Alphonsus Church, who made his way into the tunnel by a Port Authority jeep to minister to the injured.

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New Boys Town Addition Blessed

Boys Town, Neb. — (NC) —

The newly completed, \$10,000,000 high school section of Boys Town, the dream of the late Msgr. Edward J. Flanagan, founder of this "City of Little Men," was dedicated by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, at impressive ceremonies here witnessed by 15,000.

Begun by Father Flanagan three years ago the project of 34 new buildings was completed under the direction of Msgr. Nicholas H. Wegner, new Boys Town director. Included in the project are the new high school, auditorium-music hall, administration-welfare building, high school dining hall and recreation center, field house, 25 cottages, each housing 20 boys of high school age, a reception center and new power plant and laundry.

The new facilities will make it possible for Boys Town to care for 1,000 homeless and underprivileged boys between the ages of ten and 18. Top enrollment prior to the building expansion program was 425.

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