

Catholics Promote New Income System For Workers On Farms

Des Moines, Ia. — (RNS) — A method of assuring farm families an "adequate real income" without compelling city-dwellers to pay excessively high prices for food is being developed today, the executive committee of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference said at its spring meeting here.

The committee urged that the price support system be examined and overhauled with a view to "providing a more assured annual income to the family-type farmer" and called for minimum wage rates for agricultural workers. It also asked that farm workers not be excluded from the benefits of the old age and survivors insurance aspects of the social security program.

DISPLACED PERSONS interested in farming should be introduced to American farm life in such a way "as will make for sound family living" the group said. This means, it added, that housing working conditions and pay should not be substandard. In discussing price support the Catholic body said the system had brought stability but that it had weaknesses insofar as it emphasizes market prices rather than income.

FAMILY FARMERS, it was said, have at times been placed in a less favorable position than large scale producers, as a result of the emphasis on prices. To avoid over production or under production of particular commodities, the group stated "it is necessary that some adjustment be made periodically in the economic assistance extended to producers of various crops."

"THE FLEXIBLE price support plan, as incorporated into the Agricultural Act of 1948, was a step in this direction. The next step should be to find a satisfactory method of assuring adequate real income for farm families, without compelling urban consumers to pay excessively high prices for foods which can and should be produced in abundance.

"Farmers, too," the committee added, "must be discouraged from over-producing commodities just because prices are supported at a high level."

Methodism Waning in British Coal Mines

London — (RNS) — Britain's Methodist Church has lost ground among coal-mining communities which were formerly Methodist strongholds, according to the results of a questionnaire sent out by the denomination's home missions department to 213 circuits.

Replies showed that whereas increased interest in Methodism was shown in 42 coal-mining areas there was a decline of interest in 65 and a marked decline in 8 others. All those questioned agreed that the proportion of members touched by the Methodist Church is "very low."

The minister in one of 43 U. S. parishes who last March declared they would refuse to pay all or part of their income taxes this year as a protest against the nation's military expenses. The Rev. Mr. Dodd said that part of his \$150 a month income which he believes would be used for "war purposes."

This is believed to be the first action taken by the government against any of the 19 parishes who withheld tax payments.

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Students of the Catholic Civic Clubs of America at the Fourth National Conference on Citizenship in New York, sponsored by the National Educational Association and the U. S. Department of Justice. One of the youngsters, William Chung, is shown reading a letter he sent to President Truman in favor of the civil rights program. Listening, left to right: Judith Garson, Eugene Gill, David Foley and Mary Louie. (NC Photos)

Catholic Civic Clubs

Keating Cites Courier-Journal On Postal Cost

The Catholic Courier-Journal entered the Congressional Record as Congressman Kenneth H. Keating's key exhibit in a demonstration of the crippling financial burden which the proposed increased postal rates bill would impose on non-profit publications.

TESTIFYING BEFORE the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, Representative Keating cited the Courier-Journal case as a "typical example of the problem faced by religious periodicals" under the increased rates proposal.

"According to information which has been furnished to me," Keating told the committee, "the enactment of this legislation would result in forcing to the wall many of the religious periodicals, non-profit publications and the small weekly newspapers."

Stressing the financial threat to small papers, he quoted statistics obtained from the Very Rev. Msgr. John S. Randall, the Courier-Journal's managing editor.

The congressman pointed out that "increase in their costs necessitated by this drastic upward revision in postage rates would create such a burden that they would not be able to continue in business without greatly increasing their subscription rates."

This was illustrated, he said in the Rochester Diocesan weekly's case by these figures: Since the increase would raise mailing costs from \$3,432 a year to \$12,415, the cost per subscriber would go up from 12 1/2 cents to 45 cents. With the extra charges assessed for papers carrying 48 to 55 percent advertising, the subscription price would have to advance 40 to 50 cents.

"In turn (this) would reduce the number of their subscribers so greatly that they would be forced out of business. In other words, they would be impaled on the horns of a serious dilemma."

Cardinal Joins Navy As Nebraska Admiral Lincoln, Neb. — (NC) — His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, is an Admiral now. During his recent visit to the mid-west, the Cardinal stopped off here in Lincoln, visited the State Capitol and called on Governor Val Peterson of Nebraska. The Governor commissioned the Cardinal as an Admiral in the Nebraska "Navy."

Medical Experiments Prove Real Cause of Christ's Death

By MAX JORDAN Cologne, (NC) — Experiments recently carried out at St. Francis Hospital here, under the direction of Dr. Hermann Moedder, who is in charge of the X-ray department, have led to the conclusion that Christ died on the Cross from an "orthostatic collapse" resulting from a cessation of heart and cerebral functions which, in turn, were caused by insufficient blood circulation.

The scientist recalls in this connection that a Paris physician by the name of Dr. Barbet had proven in 1933 that the nails of the Cross did not pierce the palms of Our Lord's hands, but rather his wrists.

The Cologne experiments were conducted with the basin of medical students who volunteered to have themselves suspended as though on a cross. Their heart condition, blood pressure and pulse were carefully measured.

Raleigh Diocese Raleigh, N. C. — (NC) — A Corpus Christi procession and a diocesan wide public celebration on the grounds of Catholic Orphanage, Nazareth at the city limits of Raleigh on June 12th, will mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of this Diocese.

Priests Protest Gideon Bibles in Public Schools

Sandwich, Mass. — (NC) — Distribution of the Protestant King James version of the Bible to children in the public schools of Sandwich and nearby Bourne by the Gideons has been protested from the pulpit by two Catholic priests.

Following this action, the chancery office of the Fall River diocese declared that no further steps were contemplated and that Catholics were confident that the incidents would not be repeated. It was pointed out that the two Cape Cod communities have been free of religious contention and bigotry.

The Rev. George E. Sullivan, of Corpus Christi Church here, stated in his protest that "no one, school board or teacher, has a right to give authority to break the law. The issuing of Gideon Bibles in our schools as our children were filing out of a special assembly conducted in the interests of the Gideons is against the law."

The other priest who registered objection against the Bible distribution was the Rev. Leonard J. Daley of St. Margaret's By-the-Sea Church, Buzzards Bay.

Slovak Reds Hit Monasteries; Jail Religious

London — (NC) — Closing of more Catholic institutions and the arrests of many priests and nuns show that communists have undertaken a fight without quarter against the Catholic Church in Slovakia, according to a Vatican Radio broadcast heard here.

Red authorities recently closed three Basilian and one Franciscan monasteries, the broadcast said, adding that 17 Basilian priests, 30 Basilian nuns and 50 Franciscans have been arrested and imprisoned. The Provincial of the Basilians has reached Rome, but there is no news from the arrested persons, it is added.

"The position in Slovakia becomes worse all the time," the broadcast goes on. "Food supplies are critical and everything is rationed. Clothes are also in ration."

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NAZARETH MAY DAY CLIMAX



Climaxing the impressive tribute to the Blessed Mother at Nazareth Academy was the crowning of the statue of the Blessed Virgin, Miss Mary Angelini, with a crown and flowers by vote of her class places a garland of flowers to conclude the annual May Day rites.

Catholics In Paterson Push Crusade of 'Block Rosary'

Paterson, N. J. — (RNS) — The Block Rosary Movement is catching on among Catholics in this city, with men and women, boys and girls, meeting nightly at upwards of 20 private homes to recite the rosary for world peace.

Mrs. Joseph Presley of Towata Borough introduced the Block Rosary to Paterson, and now more than 70 persons gather at her home each night of the week to pray before the flickering candles of her family altar.

Irish Army Has Holy Eucharist Royal Salute Dublin — (RNS) — Ireland is now the only republic in the world whose army uses a Royal Salute reserved to honor the Blessed Sacrament alone.

The new Royal Salute was rendered for the first time at a commemoration Mass here for those who died in the Blom Fein insurrection of 1916. The Mass was attended by President Sean T. O'Kelly and Mrs. O'Kelly.

Composers of the Salute were Lieut. Col. C. Sagerzwerg, former director, and Lieut. J. M. Doyle, present director of the Army School of Music.

Sainthood Eyed For Girl Martyr In Holy Year

By REV. JOE J. SULLIVAN, Vatican City — (NC) — Pope has been expressed among Vatican officials that the cause of Blessed Marie Goretti, Italian-born modern martyr of chastity, will be completed in time to canonize her during the Holy Year. It was learned here.

IF HER canonization next year, here will be one of the shortest processes on record in modern times. Blessed Marie died in 1902 in defense of her chastity. Her mother, a brother, two sisters, one of them a nun, and the man who attacked her are still alive.

Two miracles proposed for her canonization have just been considered by the Sacred Congregation of Rites at a preparatory session. However, considerable work remains to be done before official acknowledgment of her sanctity can be given.

BLESSED MARIA was attacked at the age of 11, fatally injured because of her resistance, and died in a hospital. Her assailant, Alessandro Goretti, who was later given a 30-year prison sentence, obtained her forgiveness from her hospital bed before she died.

After serving 27 years of his sentence he was pardoned, and on his release from prison entered a Capuchin monastery at Assisi. During her process for beatification he was one of the principal witnesses. He reported that he had several visions of the girl while he was in prison. Blessed Marie was beatified in April, 1947, and at that time her mother, then 80 and severely paralyzed, was brought to St. Peter's in a wheelchair and occupied a place of honor near the altar.

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