

Scientist's Report Is Blow To Birth Control Advocates

Washington (NC) — Those who recently have been preaching neo-Malthusianism in an effort to make birth control seem plausible, if not necessary, have just had the rug pulled from beneath their feet.

The crisis of doom have been about saying that what a social economist named T. H. Malthus had propounded as a theory roughly a century and a half ago was about to be borne out. Malthus contended that population tends to increase more rapidly than the means of subsistence and unless population growth is checked dire consequences will follow.

NEO-MALTHUSIANS have said that the world is becoming seriously overpopulated. They have pointed to the seeming success of India, China and Japan. They have charged that the earth has been plundered of its resources; that the soil is tired and worn out; that productivity cannot be brought to a level sufficient to support all the people on the face of the earth.

Some of them have set the nuclear war scare, but others have pressed on to urge the widespread use of birth control to check the population growth. They have advocated that in some places, notably China and Japan, it be imposed as a national policy.

Now comes a book entitled "CONTROLLING FACTORS IN ECONOMIC PROGRESS," which presents the findings of the classic study conducted by Elrod C. Moulton, president of the celebrated Brookings Institute of this city. The study, a generally scientific one, and of particular value and interest at this time, arrives at these conclusions:

"The United States is capable of supporting a population double that of today, on a basis of living standards at least as high as that now prevailing. While the world situation is 'unsatisfactory' as judged by the standards of 'money wage' and 'material progress,' the present of nations, generally viewed, could support a vast increase in world living standards."

Breaking an air of optimism for the future, the report of Dr. Moulton is in sharp contrast to a number of books that have appeared before it. His study points out that natural resources are entirely adequate for the vast advance indicated as possible over the century that lies ahead.

When account is taken of the possibility of increasing food-producing areas, expanding yields and eliminating waste by improvements in marketing and processing, it is estimated that aggregate food production might readily be tripled within the next 100 years, without any increase in the unit cost or in the number of people engaged in agriculture.

FUEL AND POWER resources are abundant, and mineral resources, together with substitutes

and imports obtained primarily from other countries in this hemisphere, are adequate. Actually, it is indicated, most of the increase in production would be in types of goods and services which would not involve a commensurate increase in the use of basic materials.

The problem of soil erosion, which admittedly has been somewhat forbidding in this country, is now "definitely on the way to solution" and "scientific agriculture can enormously increase yields per acre," it is reported.

DR. MOULTON realistically points out that, while the possibilities for this vast expansion are there, they may not be turned into actualities. He says that they can only become realities on the basis of such requirements as an increase in productivity, a broadening distribution of income and monetary and fiscal stability.

Asserting that the basic requirements for a vast expansion of living standards are the same under all economic systems—communism, socialism, private enterprise, or mixed—the report says that only private enterprise furnishes the imagination, ness, economic and political drive and efficiency essential to system of the modern world."

A PANTRY FOR AN ALTAR



A pantry for an altar, a cigar box as a tabernacle, set up on the parlor of his landlord, is the scene of daily Mass, celebrated by Rev. Robert Beck (above) in the village of Martenhausen, Germany. It accommodates 20 people, all Catholic expellees from former eastern territories of Germany. Father Beck uses a motorcycle to cover his large parish which embraces 13 villages. (NC Photos).

Polish State Taxes All Church Income

NEW YORK SERVICE — New York — Beginning September 1 all forms of income of the Catholic Church and its priests will be taxed in Poland, according to a Warsaw dispatch received by the Inter-Catholic Press Agency, which specializes in Polish news. Even voluntary donations and regular offerings for church services will be taxed, the agency says.

THE NEW treasury directive reveals another effort of the communist-controlled Polish government to make the Catholic Church bow to the state, the agency says.

Messinas, Il Quotidiano, Italian Catholic Action daily, points out that a new Warsaw decree which purports to safeguard "freedom of religion," is really the beginning of the "most hateful of persecutions."

This Warsaw decree provided penalties up to death in bars for priests from "enforcing" the Vatican decree against communism.

The new Polish regulation orders priests to keep an account book in which all income and expenses must be noted, according to the Inter-Catholic Press Agency. The book is ordered to be kept in three parts. In the first part, the priest is required to write in all offerings and donations received by him for performing his pastoral duties, such as marriages and Masses. If the donations are in kind, their quantity and quality must be set down, as well as their cash value according to prevailing market prices in the district at the time.

THE SECOND part of the account book is required to note all funds transferred to the priest by religious associations, church organizations, dioceses and the like. The priest must tell the reason for such transfers. He must also note all endowments and bequests, and give the full name and address of donors.

The third part of the book must show funds or valuables left in deposit with the priest. This part also must note offerings collected for the Church and its institutions, offerings collected on behalf of charitable and social institutions and sums received from the sale of religious books and periodicals.

Bishop Opens Dispensary — Trichur, India (NC) — Bishop George Alaphait of Trichur has opened and financed a fifth mission dispensary in his diocese, where people of all castes are given medical aid. The new one has been established at Cherere. Three doctors have volunteered to work in the dispensary.

Altar Unscathed In 'Quake'



In the Cathedral at Ambato, Ecuador, the statue of the Sacred Heart, reposing on the altar, remains unscathed, during the disastrous earthquake which destroyed the church, killing some 200 persons, including six priests and 60 children. In all, eleven churches were destroyed in the new Diocese of Ambato. AP Wirephoto. (NC Photos).

Earthquake Levels Churches; Pope, Cardinal Send Relief

QUITO, Ecuador (NC) — After being buried for four days under the ruins of the Cathedral at Ambato, the Rev. Juan Bautista Palacios was rescued and found still alive.

Father Palacios was instructing some 60 school children in catechism when the earthquake crumbled the cathedral and buried all alive. Besides Father Palacios only a mother and her two children were extricated alive. A supporting arch fell across the priest's body, shielding him from the big stones of the crumbled building.

HELP HAS arrived here from many quarters to aid the thousands injured in the unprecedented disaster and the more than 100,000 rendered homeless and lacking food. His Holiness Pope Pius XII has cabled \$5,000. It became known here. Gifts in the identical amounts were also received from His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, and War Reliefs Services National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Earlier reports stated that 11 churches of the Ambato diocese had been destroyed and six of its 23 priests were killed. Other reports now identify some of these churches. Demolished churches in Ambato were identified as those of Santo Domingo, San Francisco, La Merced and

North Carolina Senator Backs Aid to All School Children

WASHINGTON (NC) — Bus rides, health services, non-religious textbooks are all aids to the child and thus may be furnished, by government to children in all schools, in the view of Senator Frank P. Graham of North Carolina.

Senator Graham was questioned on a radio program here. While he held to the Thomas Bill position that the States should decide whether their Federal grants should go to children in parochial as well as public schools, which has been opposed by Catholic leaders, he gave dramatic support to Catholic views on other points.

"Here are children—they're all American children," the North Carolina legislator stated. "The people of America want all the children to be healthy, regardless of whether they're in private or public school. So the State, if it chooses, can provide out of public money, including the Federal money, for health services to children as children and bus services to children as children."

One of his interrogators objected that bus service was really a service to the school. But Senator Graham supported the idea that using a school bus is almost the same as using a publicly-built sidewalk.

"The child can go to school, using the public facility of the sidewalk," he answered. "The sidewalk is paid for by the taxes of all the people. There is no policeman there to say, as you use the sidewalk: 'What school are you going to?' That's a child, using a public facility to get to school."

The Senator was asked this question: "Where, then, is the separation of Church and State if it's permissible for the State to pay for textbooks, buses, milk, health services? Where do you draw the line?"

He replied that no public money should be used for the building or maintenance of a private or church school, and was immediately asked: "Are textbooks part of the maintenance?" His answer was, "Not the school. That's service to the child."

Eavesdropper Accepts Faith

KYOTO, Japan (NC) — "I wouldn't recommend eavesdropping as a habit," says the Rev. Leo J. Steinbach of Charlton, Iowa, Maryknoll missionary stationed here, "but I know one man who profited by the practice."

Father Steinbach explained that he had vainly tried to persuade a dying hospital patient to be baptized. The man refused to even consider the suggestion and died.

However, on his next trip to the hospital, Father Steinbach was stopped by a patient who asked to be baptized. The patient sheepishly told the Maryknoll priest that he had listened to Father Steinbach's conversation with the dying man, and the arguments used had made a deep impression. Father Steinbach forgave him for eavesdropping and, after a course of instructions, baptized him.

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