

Toward Industrial Peace World Manifesto

By Rev. Richard M. McKee, S.J.

In 1948 Karl Marx together with Friedrich Engels published a great book called the "Communist Manifesto." It is truly great because it has forecasted the inside of millions: A revolutionary doctrine advocating violent principles to change society. It was scorned by the rich and powerful as an irrational dream of a crazed intellect. One hundred years later the world has seen the cruel effects of Marxian doctrine in Russia, and many parts of the world. Today China with its millions is feeling this same doctrine as a new philosophy of life.



Fr. McKee

We know that the communist system of ideas contradicts the principles of Christianity, but it has gained millions of followers in so-called Christian countries. Why? There is only one answer: Christians have failed to be true Christians.

THE REAL doctrine of Christ (teaching the social and economic world has never been universal) tried. There is great confusion for men will refuse to listen to the church speaking with authority. Now, then, can they oppose materialistic atomism with the alluring appeal to those who are disappointed, the proletariat of the world? As Nicholas S. Timoshin, an outstanding authority on Russia, has said:

"One can say that the Communist Manifesto aims at in-

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"Lawyer of the Poor"

That's the name this earnest young German student won for his kind service to the poor. That's the title he enriched by becoming a Franciscan priest. That's the role he fulfilled by becoming a missionary martyr and a great Patron of the Mission. St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen is one of our favorites. He didn't talk about the poor. He did something for them. We'd like to do the same for him on his feastday, April 24. There's a little town in Upper Egypt, Tilla. The townspeople travel five miles to church and send their children five miles to school. A Chapel-School, cost \$1,000, would help them and honor St. Fidelis in the way he'd like to be honored, by helping the poor to come to God.

PINK CARNATION
If you're lucky enough to have them, please to give a gift on Mother's Day, we have the answer, our GIFT CARD. You make a gift to the missions for her welfare... send her this beautiful card to light up her day... and all his without getting out of your chair. Write for our pamphlet.

MEDICINE MAN
Have you got to Palestine? Mr. McMahon has played every possible role. Now he wants to play "Medicine Man" for the love of God and the help of the sick. We want to put a show on the road with two mobile health units that will be able to get to remote towns where disease in its terrible severity and medical treatment a rare treat. The cost is great, \$1,000, but the work is the work of Christ. Are there any "angels" to back this year's campaign?

WEDDING GARMENT
To child will be sealed first Holy Communion for not having one. But each one will feel better and have a happier memory of a great day. If the dress suits the occasion, \$10 buys the "wedding garment" for some million young are approaching this "great day."

WHISTLER'S MOTHER
Learn down from the walls of many houses. The Mother of Christ should look down from the walls of the Shrine Chapel in Trivandrum in India. A few more pieces of material, a few more days of work and the building can be completed. We need a little more help. Want this last chance to get in?

EASTER PARADE
All over but the shouting. We'll about 50-year old clothes. They're broken in and ready to give up. Our warehouse is 32-15 Flushing Avenue, Maspeth, L. I.

BAG O' BONES
That's the way the young missionary priest looked in the picture. Take time to improve the bones. \$25 will improve the bag by buying a new case. Write to the market.

Send all communications to:
Catholic Near East Welfare Association
100 Lexington Ave., 46th St., New York 17, N. Y.

Discovered in Grottoes Under St. Peter's



Excavations among long-hidden grottoes under the giant St. Peter's Basilica in Rome tend to support the traditional Catholic belief that St. Peter's grave is under the church which bears his name. Tombs and crypts were uncovered recently in what was once a pagan cemetery site on Vatican Hill. Also found were mosaics like the above showing Christ between Paul and Peter (right) holding the keys of divine authority. (Photos reproduced permission of LIFE.)

Roman Excavations Reveal St. Peter's Tomb in Old Cemetery Under Vatican

BY REV. FRANCIS X. MURPHY, C.S.S.R.

(The author of the following article, written for NCWC News Service, recently returned from graduate studies in history and archeological excavations in Rome.)

Rome. Occasionally, in the course of human events, a discovery occurs that appears to have the imprint of a direct intervention of Divine Providence. Such a claim might be made for the recent excavations beneath St. Peter's Basilica.

In the course of selecting a proper resting place for the magnificent marble mausoleum for the body of Pius XI, investigations were undertaken that led to the unearthing of the pavement in the original Constantinian basilica honoring the Prince of the Apostles. This path was opened leading to the very tomb of Peter himself.

THIRTY YEARS' diggings beneath the great St. Peter's basilica at the center of western Christendom have revealed an ancient Roman cemetery that ran along a slope of Vatican Hill and which was in use during the first three centuries of the Christian era. It contains tombs and burial urns, mosaics and decorative devices of ancient pagan as well as of earliest Christian culture.

These diggings have now laid bare the foundations of Emperor Constantine's basilica built around the original tomb of St. Peter.

In supplying "irrefutable archaeological evidence that the burial place of the Prince of the Apostles was and is under the central point of the gigantic cupola" of St. Peter's to use the reigning Pope's own

words — the present discoveries are but further confirmation of a fact conceded on all sides by the conscientious modern historian.

After the splendid studies of such non-Catholic scholars as Eusebius, Gerken and Caspar, it would require a rare degree of obtuseness or prejudice not to admit the probative force of the testimony of St. Clement of Rome (about A.D. 97), St. Ignatius of Antioch (A.D. 110), St. Irenaeus (about A.D. 180) and St. Peter's, regarding the fact that Peter lived and died as a martyr in Rome.

YET A puzzling if polite doubt has remained in the mind of the historian

When the Renaissance architects and builders of the sixteenth century, under the guidance of Maderno, the name and Michelangelo, pulled down the old Constantinian basilica on the Vatican hill replacing it in the course of a hundred years with the present magnificent structure, no attempt was made to investigate beneath the pavement of the original edifice.

In 1944 when Pope Clement VIII had the present main altar in St. Peter's built immediately over its predecessor, the work of Callisto II in 1222, the Pontiff refused to allow any tampering with the foundations of that altar which rested upon an

original put in place by order of Pope Sixtus IV (1471-81).

Thus the matter stood until January of 1941, when in the course of diggings beneath the pavement of the Sacred Grotto under St. Peter's, the Sampietrini Vatican workmen, came upon marble slabs forming the floor of Constantine's basilica. Excavating further, a full cemetery was unearthed. These massive funeral monuments had evidently been occupied by both pagan and Christian families.

IMMEDIATELY A commission of Vatican architects and archeologists was formed under the guidance of Magr. Ludwig Kaas, the guardian of the Fabric of St. Peter's. The project as shrouded in the strictest secrecy as much because of the importance of the discovery as to prevent wild rumors.

The work required double care in carrying out the precious remains of ancient Rome, and in keeping up the tremendous pillars and supports of the basilica itself.

It was carried on amid housing difficulties caused by winter seepage from ancient springs out of the course of the construction under Constantine, shortages of cement and other material as result of Italy's participation in World War II, and the desire to document each finding scientifically in keeping with the best modern archeological techniques.

Conclusive evidence was produced demonstrating that Constantine had selected the site of the ancient Roman cemetery on the Vatican hill, as the place for the first St. Peter's, leveling an immense plain by looping off the top of the height, and filling in the mausoleum with rubble, and using as an axis for his new basilica the pavement of one tomb that in which lay the remains of St. Peter.

It is now certain that the body of the Prince of the Apostles was buried in an ordinary tomb located immediately beneath the central section of the basilica within what is now known as "The Confession of St. Peter." The coffin that contained his remains is at a level just a trifle below the pavement of the Sacred Grotto. Over it were built the three altars of Pope Sixtus, Callistus and Clement VIII.

IN RECENT Vatican revelations regarding the discoveries, nothing has been said about the body of Peter. This is due to the Pope's desire that the matter should be handled in a strictly scientific fashion. An international commission of archeologists has been formed to investigate the tomb itself. But it is hardly to be hoped that they have found Peter's bones intact. Most probably, of course, if the tomb of Peter has now been opened, it has been found empty. For as one of the Vatican archeologists, the Jesuit Father Kirshbaum, warns: "When we speak of the tomb of the Apostle, we are not to imagine that there should be found a body miraculously incorrupt over the course of nineteen hundred years. But, as in the case of the greater number of tombs of saints and heroes of history, we should say: here is the place where the bones have become dust, and where the Prince of the Apostles will one day celebrate his glorious resurrection."

New Book Tells Social Struggle Of Mexicans

Milwaukee — (NC) A book designed to set the facts straight about Mexico has been written by Bishop Joseph H. Schlarman of Peoria. Announcement of the publication of "Mexico: A Land of Volcanoes," has been made by the Bruce Publishing Company here.

The Bishop for years has been interested in Mexico. He long has been a member of the board of the Montezuma (N. Mex.) Seminary maintained by the U. S. Bishops to educate priests for Mexico, and for many years has been active in affairs of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference. Factors in both of these fields came in for treatment in the story of modern Mexico.

COVERING THE country's history from Cortes in Alesman, Bishop Schlarman describes how through the centuries Mexico has remained a land of volcanoes, not merely by reason of its topography but by reason of its more violent social, economic and political eruptions.

In developing a central theme, Bishop Schlarman emphasizes the fact that the lack of solution to the national problem of Mexico is directly due to the people have had to do with their own fortunes. Only in the sense that they have been restless and ill at ease because of in justice have they been susceptible to the many revolutionary movements that have assailed them, he said in solving their own problems, they have had virtually nothing to say to the Bishop stressed.

BISHOP SCHLARMAN spent almost ten years preparing and checking his manuscript, visiting practically every part of Mexico and most of South America. The latter result is a clarification of the story picture of Mexico that has grown out of the faulty book, magazine and news reports of the country.

Credit Given 2 Parishes

The Catholic Courier Journal regrets two typographical errors which occurred in last week's long list of parish totals for this year's circulation campaign.

Correct total subscriptions for the two parishes wrongly listed are: St. Dominic, Shortsville, 34; St. John, Newark Valley, and St. Francis, Catawunk, 14.

The Courier Journal, as the result of its 1950 campaign, has established a new circulation record — more than 30,000 paid subscribers, an increase of more than 1,300 over last year.

Balancing The Books

Post-Easter

By REV. JOHN S. KENNEDY

The Old Testament is a land unknown to most of us. Of the Old Testament, we know that it exists there, know something of its outlines and a few scattered verses of its contents, something of its relationship with the Christian dispensation which is our spiritual patrimony. We have never before these explored it for ourselves.

We can now read The Old Testament as translated by Monsignor Ronald Knox. The second volume of this monumental work is just published. It begins with Job and goes through Malachi, and to it is appended a translation of the new Latin version of the Psalms approved by the present Holy Father in 1945.

THE REVIEWER would like to use all over again the superlatives evoked by the previously printed volumes of the Knox translation. Certainly they are justified and nothing less will properly evaluate the work.

I have examined it, closely, fascinatedly. It was my original intention to dip into Job and do so by dipping all along the line. But having begun with chapter one, verse one of Job, I went through that book to the end.

The lucidity of this rendering makes for remarkable coherence and fluency, points up the drama, causes one to feel that he is reading not a stodgy ancient document but a timeless story pertinent to one's own day and one's own everyday experience. Rid of archaisms and blotches of verbal opaqueness, Job's history comes tellingly home.

If you compare the Knox translation with the Douay, you notice such differences and superlatives as these: "The wise of heart receiveth precepts, a fool is better with lips" (Douay) and "Warning the wise man hears the fool talks on, and is ruined" (Knox). "There is no remembrance of former things, nor indeed of those things which hereafter are to come shall there be any remembrance with them that shall be in the latter end" (Douay) and "We have no record of older days. So, believe me, the farms of tomorrow's doings will be forgotten by the men of a later time" (Knox).

LOUIS BOYER'S The Paschal Mystery is a magnificent book packed with information and quick with spiritual vigor and beauty. It is described as "meditations on the liturgy of the last three days of Holy

Week," but it is suitable for reading at any time. It should be slowly read and searchingly meditated over a whole year.

"Rightly understood," the author says, "the limitation of Jesus Christ is the very essence of the Christian life. We must have in us the mind that Christ had, we must be crucified and buried and rise with Him. The whole matter is a mystery, signifying that we are to be grafted upon Him so that the same life which was in Him and which He has come to give us may develop in us as in Him and produce in us the same fruits of sanctity and love that it produced in Him."

To show how the liturgy enables us to do so, is the purpose of the book. Specifically it deals with the Holy Week liturgy, but everything which it says of the Mass and the Sacraments (and it is plentiful and fresh) applies to any day and every day.

This is an intensely practical study, grand and lofty because of its subject, but homely and apposite to common life. The volume represents enormous erudition, unusual insight, and an intimate appreciation of the needs and problems of the ordinary Catholic.

The Old Testament in English. Volume Two. Translated by Ronald Knox. 863 pages. New York: Sheed and Ward \$5.90.

The Paschal Mystery by Louis Boyer. 346 pages, with index. Chicago: Henry Regery Co. \$3.00.

Rome: Portrait of the Eternal City. Edited by Herbert Bittner and Ernest Nash. Chicago: Henry Regery Co. \$2.50.

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