

Red Nations Said Fostering Anti-Semitism

New York — (RNS) — Anti-Semitism is being systematically fostered by Communist governments in Russia and the Soviet satellite countries, Charles S. Zimmerman, Jewish labor leader, told a forum here sponsored by the Catholic International Council.

"What is being done to the Jews in these countries is something the world might well stop to consider," Mr. Zimmerman declared, "particularly in view of the familiar Communist boast that anti-Semitism is illegal in the Soviet Union. It is true that anti-Semitism is illegal in Russia, but what is being practiced is entirely different from what the law proclaims."

Mr. Zimmerman is vice-president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and a member of the executive committee of the Jewish Labor Committee.

He said that Jews in Russia are being made the scapegoat in the Soviet Union's new campaign to develop a spirit of extreme nationalism among the Russian people.

"The Moscow regime proclaims racial equality and it is forbidden to preach anti-Semitism," he said, "but in January, 1948, an official campaign was started against what it called 'homeless cosmopolitanism,' and 80 per cent of the victims have been Jews, although Jews constitute only one per cent of the Russian population."

IN MAKING the Jews the scapegoat in their campaign, the Russian government, Mr. Zimmerman added, is "doing exactly the same things that Hitler did in Nazi Germany."

He said that besides "purging" Jewish cultural leaders, the Soviet government had suppressed every Jewish newspaper in the country, and begun a deliberate effort to exterminate every kind of Jewish cultural activity.

"The campaign against the Jews is also aimed at their religious life," Mr. Zimmerman asserted, "The Soviet authorities have forbidden the teaching of Hebrew, which can no longer be taught in schools; nor is it permitted to use Hebrew even in religious worship."

Truman Receives Catholic Students



Representing the delegates to the annual convention of the National Federation of Catholic College Students meeting in Pittsburgh, four students accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Schieder, Director of the Youth Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, were received by President Harry S. Truman at the White House in Washington.

Pictured on that occasion, left to right, are: William J. Dohdy, St. Mary's University, San Antonio; John W. Lynch, St. Joseph's College, Collegeville, Ind.; Paula Huse Burns, Trinity College, Washington; President Truman; Father Schieder and Herbert Yonira, Loyola University, Los Angeles. (CNC Photos)

Fake Peace Rally Lures Czech Priests

By C. STRACHWITZ
Vienna (NC) — How do the Czechoslovak communists manage to get priests and faithful to their rallies denouncing the Vatican and Bishops which are so highly publicized by the official press and radio?

An answer to this question is found in a report from Banaka Bystrica, where the regime recently installed its own "apostolic administrator" over a diocese. A certain date was declared by the communist officials a "Day of Demonstration for Peace." All leading citizens in the area, including the clergy, were invited to attend. The invitations were so worded that nonattendance would constitute the basis for charges of "hostility to peace" and "warrongering."

About 100 priests appeared at the "peace rally" only to discover that the entire program was devoted to speeches full of vicious attacks on the Holy See and the Czechoslovak Hierarchy.

At the end of the rally the priests and faithful were invited to attend the "installation" of the communist-appointed "apostolic administrator" of the Banaka Bystrica diocese, the Rev. Jan Dechet. The ceremony was to take place in the cathedral on the following day.

NONE OF THE priests in good standing appeared at the "installation." Only a number of excommunicated priests from various parts of the country were present to assist the "administrator," also excommunicated, offer a High Mass. The "sermon" given consisted of an attack on the Vatican and the Hierarchy.

The usual crowd of worshippers was absent. In its place were large numbers of secret police, planted in the church to listen to the comments of the people, large delegations of communist factory workers and members of a communist organization holding a meeting nearby.

The attitude of the Catholic population can best be judged by the fact that the members of the cathedral choir unannouncedly refused to sing at the ceremony. They were replaced for the occasion by the Slovak school teachers' choir, whose membership is mainly non-Catholic.

Cardinal Dougherty Flies To Rome; Visits Pontifi



His Eminence Denis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, at 81, dean of American Cardinals, is pictured at New York International Airport, as he boarded a Pan American World Airways plane which took him to London, en route to Rome, where he will make a Holy Year Pilgrimage. Accompanying him on the trip are James P. McGraw (center), Federal Judge of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Samuel F. Pryor of Greenwich, Conn., Vice-President of P.A.A.

Philadelphia Cardinal Among Oldest In Sacred College

By G. R. BRUNST
Vatican City (NC) — Pope Pius XII received in private audience last week two Cardinals who are among the oldest members of the Sacred College.

His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, who is in his 85th year, was received first. He is the oldest of the "extra urban" Cardinals, or Cardinals not residing in Rome, and the second oldest member of the Sacred College.

After the audience Cardinal Dougherty presented to the Holy Father two Philadelphia students at the North American College, John Ivers and John O'Rourke, also the Rev. Salvatore Bargino, a Vincentian Father, United States Judge James P. McGraw of Philadelphia and his wife and Samuel Pryor, vice president of Pan American Airways who accompanied the Cardinal on the latter's first air trip to Rome.

Leaving London, Cardinal Dougherty arrived here after being delayed by a storm north of Rome, which necessitated an unplanned overnight stop at Nice, France. According to fellow passengers the Cardinal made the trip well. While here he will be the guest of North American College.

Tito Regime Hits Religious Seminarians

Genoa, Italy (NC) — Seminars and Religious continue to be among the hardest hit in the drive by the Yugoslav communist authorities to wipe out the Catholic Church in the country, according to reports reaching here.

An arbitrary ruling by the Red authorities has forced a seminary to leave the Yugoslav territory in Dalmatia. The Red authorities are making life for seminarians as difficult as possible, despite the basic laws which supposedly guarantee "freedom of conscience" for everyone.

THE YUGOSLAVS there have repeatedly been subjected to lengthy questioning, have been prohibited from performing needle work, the only means of support in many of them are being preserved in disbanding their religious habit and have been prohibited from their usual charitable work among the sick.

The Salsesian house of Skitjevo, Slovenia, used for novices and students of theology, has been confiscated by the Red regime on the pretext that it needed the building. The Salsesian community has been forced to scatter throughout various localities.

ANOTHER CURRENT report reaching here states that at least 56 priests were given varying sentences by "people's courts" in Yugoslavia during 1949. Most of the others received long term prison sentences. The total of 97 priests, the report says, does not include the many priests who disappeared last year without a trace.

The report adds that at the present time it is estimated there are 400 priests in Yugoslav prisons. This includes at least two members of the Hierarchy and two Administrators Apostolic.

Rules Hiring Chaplains Legal

Sacramento — (RNS) — California's Attorney General has ruled that it is legal for the state to hire Protestant and Roman Catholic chaplains for correctional institutions.

The issue was raised by State Assembly Speaker Sam I. Collins (R.) of Fullerton, who pointed out that the state spends about \$100,000 a year for chaplains of the Protestant and Catholic faiths. He asked if the hiring policy might be construed as discriminatory against Adventists, Jewish and other denominations and faiths.

In a two-part ruling the Attorney General said the state is within its legal rights to hire chaplains since their work is "rehabilitative in nature." He said there was "no reason to believe—the use of public funds in support of their (the chaplains) activities" violated either the state or federal constitutions.

The Attorney General also asserted that there is no evidence of religious discrimination in the hiring of chaplains. In this connection, the ruling pointed out that it would be impossible to employ chaplains of more than 200 denominations and faiths.

New Priest Blesses Mother Over Wire Fence

Rome — (NC) — The war's aftermath and strained relations between nations provided a graphic sidelight in Gorizia yesterday. A newly-ordained priest gave his widowed mother his first blessing over a barbed-wire fence marking the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia.

Just ordained, Father Recelli, celebrated his first Solemn Mass, according to Trieste press reports, and immediately afterwards went to the barbed-wire boundary, which actually crosses a street in the Italian city of Gorizia, accompanied by a small group of friends. His mother, with a group of women, approached the fence from the Yugoslavian direction.

When the women reached the barbed wire they knelt in the street some 30 feet from her son, who then raised his arms in the first blessing of his priestly life for his mother. She is the only other family survivor of a Yugoslav partisan massacre at Brestovizza in 1944.

Medical Societies Condemn Mercy-Killing Philosophy

New York — (NC) — Without a dissenting vote, the Bronx County Medical Society at a recent meeting passed a resolution condemning euthanasia in all its forms. Previously, the neighboring Kings County Medical Society had publicly condemned the practice of "mercy" killing.

Another action on the euthanasia question was reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association. The Journal's Paris correspondent transmitted the text of several resolutions in which the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences denounced the practice.

THE FRENCH society cited the fact that the incurability of human beings is an unknown factor, and that even if incurability was certain the practice of euthanasia "would have the effect of endowing doctors with a power over life and death, a power contrary to their essential role... and to moral principles."

The Academy also declared that "all medical or social doctrine that does not systematically respect the very principles of life leads finally, as shown by recent experience, to criminal abuse and even to the sacrifice of persons who, notwithstanding their physical infirmities are capable, as demonstrated by history, of contributing magnificently to the permanent growth of our civilization."

Protestant children Vienna — (RNS) — The number of Protestant children receiving religious instruction in the Vienna public schools increased from 2,833 in 1945 to 10,632 in 1949, a report here disclosed. These figures do not include children attending schools sponsored by the Protestant churches.

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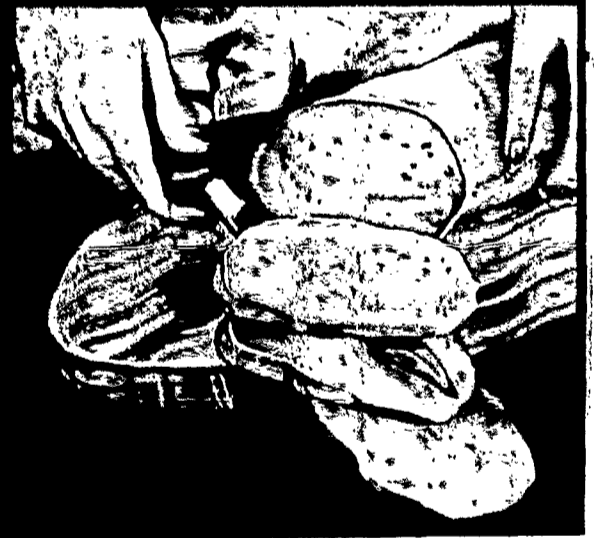
Polish Cardinal On Rome Visit

Rome — (RNS) — Adam Cardinal Sapieha, 83-year-old Archbishop of Cracow, Poland, has arrived here to consult with Pope Pius XII. The cardinal last came to Rome over two years ago. Only three other members of the Polish hierarchy have been permitted to visit the Vatican in 12 years.

There has been no confirmation of a rumored trip to Rome by Archbishop Stefan Wyszynski of Warsaw, the Primate of Poland.



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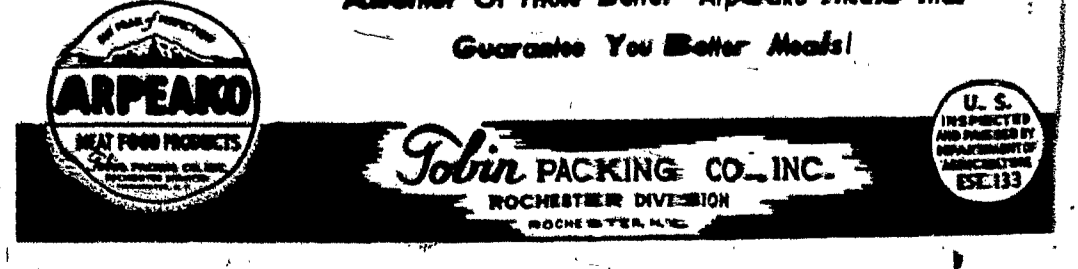


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