

Red China Seeks To Form 'Independent Catholic' Church

Beiping (NC) — Communist propaganda has been working for an independent Catholic Church in China since the capture of Beiping.

There is no way of checking the accuracy of these Red reports. It is pointed out here, but it is believed that the communists are giving such wide publicity to these stories as a means of weakening the opposition of Catholic laymen and perhaps some priests to a communist run church.

There is no information available here on the alleged "Catholic" movement in China. The Ordinary of Chungking is 80-year-old Archbishop Francis Xavier Jantzen of the Paris Foreign Missions Society. According to latest information available here, he is still actively governing the archdiocese. His vice general is Mgr. Francis Baker, according to the listing of the latest pontifical yearbook.

FATHER WANG is known here to be the pastor of a group of some seven or eight hundred Catholics in Kwangyuan near the Szechwan border. Ordained three years ago, he has been known to arouse anti-American sentiments. It is believed possible here that the priest may have gone along with the regime's present "Trust America, Aid Korea" movement, but it is doubted that he participated in a schismatic "independent church."

Interviews secured here point to the communist technique of the "big lie." Because of strict communist censorship, Red propaganda reports about one part of the vast empire of China cannot usually be investigated or dispelled by the people of another

section of China. Thus communist reports, though false, that Catholics in one city are "enthusiastic" over the "independent church" movement, might prompt weaker Catholics of another city to embrace such a movement.

It is known here that both the Chinese clergy and laity are under severe pressure to join the "patriotic reform movement." They have been repeatedly called to attend meetings to "discuss" their attitude towards the government's expressed wish that all ally with foreign nations be broken.

FOR ALL HIS CHILDREN



This striking poster will herald the 1951 children's drive in the annual Bishops' Campaign for the Victims of War. Some 2,000,000 youngsters in the Catholic schools of the United States will be asked to aid the needy in war-wrecked countries. The National Catholic Welfare Conference will open the campaign in a special broadcast from Rome on Ash Wednesday, February 7.

Korea Action Wins Bronze Star For Priest

Indianapolis (NC) — A Hoosier priest has been awarded the Bronze Star for "heroism and devotion to duty" while with a convoy which smashed through a five-mile-long roadblock near Kusan, Korea.

The Rev. (Major) John Kraska, Indianapolis archdiocesan priest who has been an Army chaplain since 1942, received the award for his part in the action on last November 30. The citation said in part:

"Each time the convoy was halted by burning vehicles, Father Kraska refused to take cover but remained in an exposed position to encourage and steady the officers and men around him.

"With complete disregard for his own safety he moved from one vehicle to another, through the heavy enemy fire, administering to and comforting the wounded. Father Kraska's conduct under fire was a source of tremendous inspiration to all who witnessed it and was a major factor in the ultimate success of the convoy in penetrating the roadblock."

Army Chaplain Reported Missing

St. Louis (NC) — The Rev. Lawrence F. Brunner, Army chaplain and captain, has been reported missing in action in Korea. It was disclosed here. The Department of the Army sent notifications to Father Brunner's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Brunner of this city, and to the St. Louis Chancery Office.

'Trust God,' Says Missioner's Mother

New York (NC) — "God will take care of him." This confidence was expressed by Mrs. Charles G. Dennis, 79, of Staten Island, when she was informed that her son, Father Allan J. Dennis, veteran Maryknoll missioner in China, had been arrested by Chinese communists.

Vatican Envoy (NC) — John Victor Thomas Perowne, 53, Great Britain's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Vatican, died here Jan. 8. He had held the post for four years.

Bans Compulsory Religion Study

Manila (RNS) — Compulsory religious instruction in public schools is not permissible under the Philippine Islands' new civil code enacted last summer, according to an opinion handed down here by Secretary of Justice Jose Bengzon.

Justice Bengzon's decision was issued in response to a request from Secretary of Education Pablo Lorenzo, who sought advice as to whether the government should appropriate funds for religious instruction in the State schools under the terms of the new code.

GIFT OF AMERICANS



Every refugee in the Military Government camps in Trieste received his share of the 1,200 pounds of butter that was War Relief Services-N.C.W.C.'s Christmas gift. Moreover, the aged and infirm shared in a second gift of 400 food parcels distributed by this organization.

Bishops' Organization Seeks Social Security For Staff

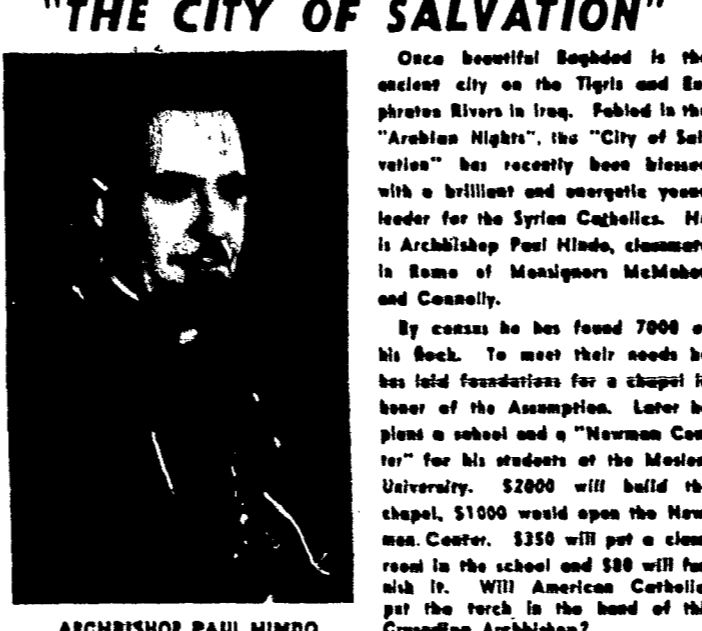
Washington (NC) — The National Catholic Welfare Conference, organization of the American Bishops, has taken steps to make the old-age benefits and survivors insurance of the Social Security Act available to its lay employees.

THE 1950 amendments to the Social Security Act made it possible for the first time for tax-exempt religious, charitable, and educational organizations to participate in the Social Security program. The Administrative Board of the N.C.W.C. approved participation by the Conference in the program under the new conditions, and more than the necessary two-thirds of the 110 lay employees voted to participate.

In view of this authority, Mgr. Howard J. Carroll, General Secretary of the N.C.W.C., has filed with the Internal Revenue Bureau, here, a waiver of the Conference's tax-exempt status under the Social Security Act. The N.C.W.C. will pay 1.5 per cent of its payroll for lay employees into the fund of the Social Security program, and the employees will make a similar payment.

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- A "Bunny Bear" auto bed converts from a comfortable bed into a seat in a jiffy! Royal blue canvas complete with waterproof mattress! **5.98**
- Auto bed sun shields. **1.98**
- B New! Sit 'n Stand car seat hooks over the car seat. The chrome bar can be raised, and the seat dropped. Baby stands... watches in complete safety. **5.95**
- C Aluminum steam sterilizer with back holds 8 bottles. Make up the formula in advance when you're planning a trip away from home! **5.95**
- D Sturdy wooden high chair keeps baby comfortable and safe while eating. Load the tray with toys and carry on with your housework! **10.95**
- E Jack 'n Jill chair with suction cup legs fits firmly onto any dining chair. Baby fits into the table group at home or traveling! **2.95**

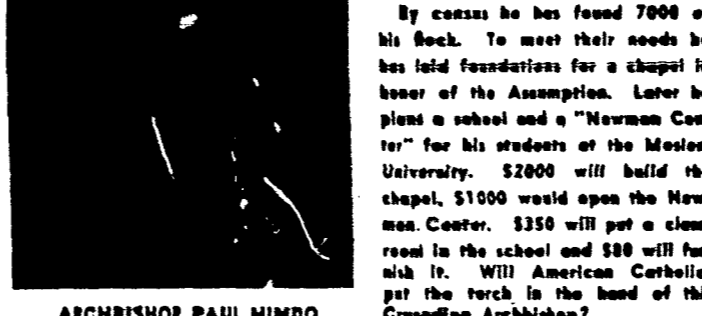
McCurdy's Infants' Shop, Third Floor

Near East Missions

Francis Cardinal Spellman, President
Mgr. Thomas J. McMahon, Nat'l Sec'y
Rev. Wm. Kailer Dunn
Rev. Andrew H. Rogosh

"THE CITY OF SALVATION"

Once beautiful Baghdad is the oldest city on the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Iraq. Fabled in the "Arabian Nights", the "City of Salvation" has recently been blessed with a brilliant and energetic young leader for the Syrian Catholics. He is Archbishop Paul Hinde, clonement in Rome of Monsignors McMahon and Connelly.



By census he has found 7000 of his flock. To meet their needs he has laid foundations for a chapel in honor of the Assumption. Later he plans a school and a "Newman Center" for his students of the Maronite University. \$2000 will build the chapel, \$1000 would open the Newman Center. \$250 will put a classroom in the school and \$80 will furnish it. Will American Catholics set the torch in the hand of this Crossing Archbishop?

LENTEN FILM
PALM SUNDAY, GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER IN JERUSALEM—beautiful ceremonies and music in the places Our Lord made sacred forever in the first Holy Week are shown on our 16mm sound movie "THE HOLY LAND." Narrated by newspaperman BOB CONSIDINE. You may purchase it for your organization or private library for \$45 Or you may book it now for a Lenten showing. Write for details.

SCHOOL CHILDREN GIVE \$346
"I KNOW YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN TOUCHED," wrote the Pastor, "to see little tots bringing in their grimy pennies saved or earned for this cause." The money went for the little war-victims at St. Joseph Refugee Camp in Beirut. We'll send a photo of the children there, if you'd like your school to help.

LITTLE ACORNS—NIGHTY OAKS
OUR CHRYSOSTOM CLUB, enrolling supporters of the Church's efforts to train more and better priests, celebrates, Jan. 27, the feast of golden-voiced St. John Chrysostom, late great Bishop of the Near East. Will you join that day? Only \$1 a month.

"IN GOD IS OUR TRUST"
AN ENSIGN, he collected \$65 from his shipmates and asked us to say Mass that each man listed "would be kept safe and drawn closer to God." Could you match his spirit of religion and have Mass said for the servicemen dear to you?

LITTLE JESUS' GRANDMA
WAS ST. ANN, who came from Sephoris, near Nazareth. A tiny orphanage is run in Sephoris by nuns of the Order of St. Ann. Would you give grandma to the tots and send them \$2?

A HELPING HAND TO THE ALTAR
HEART AND MIND ABSORBING the teachings of Jesus that he may feed hungry Egyptian souls. This describes young MICHAEL KARES, just entered at the Seminary of St. Leo the Great, Tantah, Egypt. Who will adopt Michael and furnish his tuition? \$100 a year for the next 6.

CLOTHES AND SOAP
ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED in the Refugee Camps where thousands of Arabs are housed by the Holy Fathers' Relief Mission. Ship a bundle today to CNEWA Warehouse, 53-15 Flushing Ave., Maspeth, L. I., N. Y.

A JAZZ BAND
MIGHT SEEM THE BEST GIFT for the orphanage in GHEZZA-BANDA, Eritrea, East Africa. Actually the children there are singing "Yes, we have no schoolbooks, sewing material or sewing machines to learn with." The Ursuline nuns hope you will send \$15 to help prepare the little girls for a useful life.

STRINGLESS GIFTS MEET MISSIONLAND EMERGENCIES!
Send all communications to:
Catholic Near East Welfare Association
480 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York 17, N. Y.