

Government Assistance For Catholic Schools Vital Issue In England, France

Catholics In Britain Need \$155 Million

By JOHN A. GREAVES
(Specialist, N.C.W.S. News Service)

London — (NC) — The Catholics of England and Wales have been told that they must find \$155,000,000 (about \$155,000,000) out of their own pockets to maintain their primary schools within Britain's Government aided educational system.

This would include 28,500,000 pounds (about \$285,000,000) to bring existing Catholic schools for nearly 600,000 children up to the standards required by law. In addition, 28,000,000 pounds (about \$280,000,000) for providing new schools for an additional 250,000 pupils.

THE MONEY OF THE GOVT. estimated at \$155,000,000 pounds (about \$1,550,000,000) for Catholic education would be met by the Government.

Government, particularly in view of the fact that the Government is the owner of the land on which the schools are built. It is said that the Government is not prepared to bear the burden of the cost of the schools, but that the Government should bear the burden of the cost of the schools.

England and Wales has a total Catholic population of about 2,500,000 (about 10% of the total population of 25,000,000). The majority of them are in the working class living in the big industrial centers. Their present schools, built up with their parents' own money, are now mostly overcrowded and ill-equipped and many popular districts just have not got one at all.

THE GOVERNMENT now makes considerable investments in these existing schools but one vital point of present regulations is that the State will not help Catholics to build new schools of their own. Those who do build new schools before any Government help is forthcoming must in the meantime the Catholic children must go to the schools run by the local authorities.

The need for new schools has become very urgent in some industrial areas which since the war have had a new influx of Irish workers and of European refugees, many of them Polish or Italian.

Priest, Nuns Expelled By Chinese Reds

Hong Kong — (NC) — Seven more priests and Sisters have been expelled from Red China in the regime's continued campaign to drive out foreign missionaries.

Sister Repulbine, an Irish nun, and Sister Raphaela, a French nun, have arrived here after being expelled by a Red "people's court." They are members of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.

THEY WERE "tried" in Nanking on February 12 for alleged "crimes" in the operation of the Sacred Heart orphanage there. Communist women's organizations were most voluble during the proceedings held in a large room in the former foreign office. The nuns were sentenced to six months' imprisonment and expulsion. It was later commuted to "immediate" expulsion.

The public request of the Sisters to stay in China even in prison rather than be expelled was howled down by the women's organizations. The personal effects of the nuns — watches, rosaries and medals — were confiscated during the imprisonment and returned to them when they reached the border under military escort.

MGR. PAUL Hugentobler, Prefect Apostolic of Taitshar, Manchuria, together with four of his missionaries, was deported from Tientsin aboard the ship Hendrichessen.

Monsignor Hugentobler had been sentenced in July 1948 to 12 years in prison for alleged espionage. The other ousted missionaries are: the Revs. Frieder Bousart, who had been sentenced to 12 years; Emil Weber, five years; and Gustave Schetzler and August Widmer, four years. The group had served three and a half years of their sentence.

The Rev. Matthew Ruf, a German priest and former seminary rector at Taitshar, is believed to be still in jail. There are now eight priests and three Sisters in Taitshar, and six priests and two Sisters in Harbin, Manchuria.

Holy Father Sees Primate of Poland
Rome — (RNS) — Archbishop Stefan Wyszynski of Warsaw, Primate of the Roman Catholic Church in Communist Poland, was received in audience by Pope Pius XII. The audience lasted 65 minutes.

Pope XII later gave a 20-minute audience to Bishop Michael Klapszal of Lodz, who accompanied Archbishop Wyszynski on his Rome visit.

'THIS WAY TO ST. PATRICK'S'



Father John O'Donnovan, St. Columban priest, and Catholic adviser in the Religious Section of General MacArthur's Headquarters, explains to a Mr. Suzuki (carrying baby son on his back) that this is where you turn off for St. Patrick's parish church, built by the St. Columban Fathers in Tokyo in 1948.

'Time' Magazine Incorrect On Korea Missioner Loss

By REV. PATRICK O'CONNOR

Teagu, Korea — (NC) — The summary of Christian missionary casualties in Korea as given in the April 2 issue of Time magazine, which quoted the Methodist Church Board of Missions, is inaccurate. According to Time, the Board says that 32 foreign missionaries of all denominations have been "lost" since the outbreak of the war. Actually, 41 foreign missionaries, of whom 31 are Catholics, have been killed or are missing since the war began.

The Catholic total includes 13 priests of the Paris Foreign Missions, nine Columbans, two Maryknollers — one of whom is Bishop Patrick J. Byrne, Apostolic Delegate to Korea, five Carmelite nuns and two Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres.

The non-Catholics include three Methodist men, three Methodist women, two Anglicans — one of whom is Bishop Cecil Cooper and the other a minister, one Anglican Sister and one Salvation Army member, Commissioner Herbert Lord.

Korean priest and Sisters suffered heavily, but the Methodist board's round figure of 80 given in Time is inaccurate. Furthermore, Catholic casualties in Korea, both native and foreign began in May 1948, 13 months before the open war. Bishop

Yanks, Koreans Baptized In Taegu Church

Teagu, Korea — (NC) — Three American servicemen were among the 43 converts baptized in the Cathedral of Our Lady here.

The Rev. (Capt.) W. L. Travers, O. Carm., U. S. Air Force chaplain baptized Sgt. Charles Carnes, Denver, Colo., Cpt. Donald E. Hansen, Beaver Dam, Wis., and Cpt. John W. Belmonte, of Allentown, Pa. They are all of the Air Force.

AT THE SAME time the Rev. John Syc, Korean pastor of the cathedral, baptized 20 Korean men and 20 women converts. These Baptisms brought the total up to 100 within recent days.

At about the same time, about 200 wounded Korean soldiers in seven Korean army hospitals at Pusan received Baptism and were confirmed by Bishop Paul M. Ro, Vicar Apostolic of Seoul.

The soldiers had been attracted to the Catholic Church by the work of Korean Sisters for the wounded. Refugee Sisters of four communities are full-time workers in the Korean army hospitals here, all of which have Korean priests as chaplains. Two are attended by two priests each. The priests and Sisters instructed the converts. Protestants are also working among the wounded in the hospitals.

AT PONTIFICAL High Mass in the Central Church here on Easter Sunday morning, 100 of the newly baptized wounded received their first Holy Communion from Bishop Ro. Dr. John Chang, Prime Minister of the Korean Republic, attended the Mass and also received Holy Communion.

The Mass was followed by a dinner at which Bishop Ro was host to the wounded soldiers and other guests. The confirmation took place that afternoon. Among the converts, who included officers as well as enlisted men, were blind and crippled soldiers. Some 20 women, some of them nurses in the army hospitals, were also baptized here at Easter.

Carmelite Prior Named Mayor

London — (NC) — The Rev. Murtha E. Lynch, Carmelite Prior of Faversham, Kent, has been nominated mayor of the town for the new municipal year. He has served on the town council for 14 years.

French Bishops Ask Church School Aid

Paris — (RNS) — An appeal for "immediate" State aid to church schools was made here by the French Catholic Hierarchy in a statement issued following a two-day plenary session attended by four Cardinals and 102 Archbishops and Bishops.

The statement was the first major pronouncement of the Hierarchy on the subject of church school education since World War II. Communist, Socialist and other left-wing groups have repeatedly demanded State control of all education.

"THOSE WHO support the Christian schools," the Bishops declared, "have reached the limit of their resources. Immediate measures to help them are necessary. Otherwise the schools will die of financial asphyxiation."

The Bishops said their appeal was especially necessary now because a rising birth rate had caused a large increase in the number of school-age children.

Declaring that their statement was intended "to open the way to a necessary solution of a distressing, often tragic problem," the Bishops said the problem could only be solved in "an atmosphere of loyalty and reciprocal confidence."

THE BISHOPS said the Catholic Church in France was not attacking State education, "whose value she does not underestimate," but was merely maintaining the necessity of Christian schools.

Catholic parents have an obligation in faith to send their children to Christian schools, the hierarchy stated, adding that "the solution of a neutral State school in a country of varied beliefs" was "not a solution for Christians."

"National unity is not compromised, as some seem to fear," the Bishops said, "by the existence of two parallel educational systems which can only favor the union of all in respect to the liberty of each one."

THE BISHOPS said that Catholic parents demand only that the State does not overstep its rights by establishing a monopoly in education, and that it "acquit its duties impartially."

Blaming the government for making a mockery of legal guarantees to a free choice of education, the Bishops asserted that only the privileged classes could afford the luxury of religious schools at the present time.

The Hierarchy concluded its statement by appealing to the State to recognize the injustices suffered by Catholic parents and children.

Top Honors
Miss Pauline Wright (above), sophomore at St. Mary's Academy, New Orleans, holds the trophy awarded for first place in the annual oratorical contest sponsored by the New Orleans Conference of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade. Topic for the event was: "Catholicity Is Measured by Mission Interest." (NC Photos)

Canonization Voted 'Safe' For Three

Vatican City — (NC) — The Sacred Congregation of Rites declared it safe to proceed with three canonizations and accepted the miracles proposed for the canonization of two other Blessed.

This action was taken at a general session held in the presence of His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Those who canonizations were voted safe were: Blessed Ignatius de Laconi, a Capuchin priest, Blessed Emilia de Vialar, foundress of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition, and Blessed Maria Domenica Mazzarello, co-foundress of the Daughters of Mary Auxiliatrix.

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