

Day's Pay Urged As Mission Gift

New York — (RNS) — Catholics throughout the United States will be asked to contribute a day's pay to the foreign missions on Mission Sunday, October 21, it was announced here at the seventh national convention of diocesan directors of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

More than 160 clergymen, representing 126 archdioceses, dioceses, missions and apostolic vicariates attended the convention, at which His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, presided.

A STATEMENT presented to the meeting implied that the main burden for support of foreign missions lay upon American Catholics. The statement said that per capita income in the United States was \$1,453 last year, as compared with from only \$25 to \$100 in Japan, India, South Korea and other countries where missionaries are most actively employed.

According to the Society's report, 40 cents of each dollar contributed last year went to the home missions and 60 cents to the foreign missions.

Truman Asks Christian Front

(Continued from page 1) do all we can to prevent the outbreak of another world war. Christ is their Master and Redeemer and the source of their strength against the hosts of irreligion and the danger of world catastrophe.

Joseph Short, White House Press Secretary, explained later that the President's efforts consisted mainly of talking with "various and sundry religious leaders" who came to see him.

Washington ministers, with two exceptions, said they were unacquainted with President Truman's proposal. The President's pastor and a Rabbi said they or persons close to them had heard Mr. Truman advance the idea of a "common affirmation of faith" on several occasions.

THE PRESIDENTIAL appeal said that "Today the whole human enterprise is in danger."

"On the one hand, we have to resist the expansion of a power that is hostile to all we believe in," he said. "It is a power that denies the rule of law, the value of the individual, and belief in God. It is a power which has become militant and aggressive, using the weapons of deceit and subversion as well as military might.

do all we can to prevent the outbreak of another world war. Such a war, using modern instruments of destruction, would be more terrible than anything we have ever experienced. It might well shatter our whole economic and social system, and plunge mankind back into barbarism.

"It is not just this church or that church which is in danger," he stressed. "It is not just this creed or that creed which is threatened. All churches, all creeds, are menaced.

"The very future of the word of God — the teaching that has come down to us from the days of the prophets and the life of Jesus — is at stake."

TOGETHER with his appeal for world religious unity in the face of current perils, the President called on Americans to live up to their religious heritage which he said "imposes great responsibilities upon us as we face the problems of today."

"We must remember that the test of our religious principles lies not only just in what we say, not only in our prayers, not even in living blameless personal lives — but in what we do for others," he declared.

"We must work for morality in public life and in private life. Mr. Truman said "We must stamp out crime and eliminate

corruption. We must have high standards of personal conduct."

THE PRESIDENT'S audience was made up of Protestant churchmen who made a three-day pilgrimage to religious and national shrines in the Capital. "You have come here to emphasize the fact that this nation was founded on religious principles," the Chief Executive told them.

"You will see, as you make your rounds, that this nation was established by men who believed in God. You will see that our Founding Fathers believed that God created this nation. They believed that God was our strength in time of peril and the source of all our blessings."

"If we go back to the Declaration of Independence," he continued, "we notice that it was drawn up by men who believed that God the Creator had made all men equal and had given them certain rights which no man could take away."

Since the days of the Constitutional convention, the President declared, "millions of Americans... have believed that the keeping of our Republic depends upon keeping the deep religious convictions on which it was founded."

President Truman Raises A Problem

(Continued from page 1) in Catholic and Protestant camps. If this be so, then it is even more necessary that all Christians be reunited in the unity of the True Faith. Otherwise the new threat of Soviet atheism cannot be repelled from the doorstep of the Free World.

MR. TRUMAN SEES, at least vaguely, the need for Christian and spiritual unity in this present hour of world crisis. But he does not see all the difficulties that this problem entails.

Some of the President's statements in this matter, particularly his call for "a common affirmation of faith" on the part of world religious leaders, sound like an endorsement of that weak modern movement which Pope Pius XI called "Pan-Christianity."

The gospel of Pan-Christianity labors in the error which looks upon all religions (despite mutual contradictions) as helpful to man's native attraction to God, and, therefore, all religions are good and praiseworthy. All religions are good, the Pan-Christian tells us, and it really don't make any difference which one you follow.

More logical minds have concluded that if it doesn't make any difference what religion you embrace, it doesn't make any difference if you abandon all religion.

By promoting religious indifference, Pan-Christianity has played directly into the hands of Atheistic Communism. Any attempt to form a united Christian front on the shallow basis of Pan-Christianity would be doomed. It would be an open declaration to the atheists that we don't take our Christianity very seriously, at least, not as seriously as the atheists take their godlessness.

IN FAIRNESS TO MR. TRUMAN, we do not think he wants to embroil himself in the creedal and doctrinal difference which divided the Christian world. We see the President as a practical-minded and worried leader who senses the need for spiritual unity in the Free World but is not quite sure how it can be achieved.

Neither do we feel that Mr. Truman is thinking of doctrinal differences so vital to Catholics and Protestants when he calls upon us to "lay aside our differences and come together now -- for never have our differences seemed so petty and insignificant as they do in the face of the peril we confront today."

We suspect that Mr. Truman's reference to "petty difference" is a rebuke to the mutual suspicions and prejudices that plague both Catholic and Protestant ranks.

We wonder, too, if the President's reference to "petty differences" includes the endless protests against his sending a personal envoy to the Vatican, the organized attempt to deny free bus rides and health services to American children who exercise their constitutional right of attending a Catholic school, the organized crusade to discredit the patriotism of American Catholics.

Mr. Truman's complaint that the churches are unable to state their moral position in the face of atheistic aggression is unmistakably blunt. But the moral position of the Catholic Church in the present crisis should be no secret to Mr. Truman or anybody else.

AS EARLY as 1937, when Communism was only a joke to most Americans, Pope Pius XI saw and warned against the very menace which Mr. Truman now sees and warns that a new atheism threatens to destroy Christian civilization and the liberties of free men.

Mr. Truman must remember, too, how the Catholic Bishops of the United States, on the very eve of the first San Francisco Conference, made a forthright appeal for recognition in the new World Charter of those Christian and moral principles which alone can guarantee human rights and peace among all nations.

AND IF ANYONE is still ignorant of the Catholic moral position in the present crisis let him open his eyes to the dramatic fact that prisons in every communist nation in the world are crowded with brave bishops and priests.

The sufferings of these martyrs bespeak "a common affirmation" in the principles of Jesus Christ against the scourge of atheism more eloquent than any document. The Catholic moral position is on the record for all to read — written not only in ink but in the blood of martyrs!

All of us must sympathize with the President's effort to rally a Christian Front against atheism, even though we may be discouraged by the problems involved. We must recognize his noble intention.

If Mr. Truman's complaint to the Protestant Churchmen does nothing else, at least, it dramatizes the tragic evil of spiritual division which rends and weakens modern Christian society. Mr. Truman also exposes the great American myth — this is the popular boast which thinks it is wonderful that we have so many different religions here in America. Only a madman can rejoice in the fact that our nation is divided by religious differences. Glorification of religious differences only leads to religious indifference and even godlessness.

Pope Pius XII has often pointed out, and even Mr. Truman seems to fear that our Free Christian society is facing a modern Calvary. "THEY ALL MAY BE ONE!"

As Christians facing the united ranks of atheism, we have every reason for repeating more earnestly than ever the prayer that Christ made to His followers as He started the journey to His own Calvary — "THEY ALL MAY BE ONE!"

Woman Prosecutor Heads Drive On Runaway Fathers

Toledo, Ohio — (SNC) — A total of 132 runaway fathers from Lucas County here are feeling the law's hand on their collars as a result of a campaign by Mrs. John Macelwane, assistant county prosecutor and a leader in the Toledo Council of Catholic Women.

LAST MAY, when 22 delinquent cases were pending, Mrs. Macelwane discovered that there was a far larger number of delinquents in the county. Four social welfare and relief agencies which may use funds for support or aid of dependent children, she found, were not reporting delinquent cases to the prosecutor.

The woman assistant prosecutor got a \$5,000 appropriation from the judges for use in returning delinquents, who are assessed costs of their cases. A police officer was assigned to full-time duty in tracking down the big backlog of delinquents. And she got the cooperation of the

Book On Marriage Education Published

Washington — (SNC) — A 153-page volume, "Marriage, Education and Counseling," edited by Dr. Alphonse R. Clemens of the Catholic University of America here, has been issued by the Catholic University of America Press. The volume includes papers given at the university workshops on marriage and the family and the Casa Institute held at the university in 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950. It is intended to equip educators with knowledge needed to adequately deal with marriage problems.

Polish Churchman Sentenced By Reds

Warsaw — (SNC) — The Rev. Edmund Kocynski, Missionary for Education in the Polish Government in Exile in London during World War II, has been given a two-year prison sentence, according to Catholic Worldnet, a Polish refugee paper published in Western Germany.

Father Kocynski, a leader of the Polish Christian Labor Party before the war, has been held in prison for several years. The speculation in western countries was that he was being considered for a full-scale propaganda "trial." However, there have been no reports of such a "trial." If the Polish refugee paper's report is accurate, the priest apparently was "blatantly" and sentenced in secret.



"American Catholics Are Giving"

on
MISSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1951

BECAUSE

1. Pius XI said: "Charity to the missions surpasses every other work of charity."
2. They can make atonement for their sins or their want of faith by bringing others to the faith. When they save a soul, they help save their own.

BECAUSE

3. If they were starving in India, made homeless in Korea, persecuted in China, a victim of leprosy in New Guinea, they would want their neighbor to help them.
4. There are 1,100,000,000 people in the world today who have not the joy of knowing Our Lord and His Blessed Mother.

LAST YEAR-- The Catholics gave 8c per capita on Mission Sunday — but they spent \$8.60 per capita on movies.

THIS YEAR-- For the sake of the peace of the world give ONE DAY'S SALARY.

The per capita income of the United States last year was \$1,453. But the per capita of other countries was very low: Japan \$100, Ceylon \$67, India \$57, Pakistan \$51, Liberia \$38, South Korea \$35, Iran \$25. That is why we have to help.

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