

China Reds Oust Six More Priests

Hong Kong—(NC)—Six more foreign priests ousted by the Chinese Reds have arrived here. They came here after an ordeal of five sleepless days and nights on the deck of a Yangtze river boat during a howling winter gale. Police guards stood over them with revolvers to keep them from lying down and going to sleep.

THE GROUP includes two Benedictines, the Revs. Angelo Vinciguerra and Joseph Winance; three Paris Foreign Missions, the Revs. Theophile Gabriel of Rodez, Paul Azden of St. Eriuc and Yves Spariel of Quimper, and the Rev. Paul Kasser of Brandenburg, Germany. The priests had worked in the Chentu area. The priests were arrested on November 9 and 10, last year, when they refused to sign prepared "confessions" regarding their activities in the Legion of Mary.

THE DOCUMENTS presented to them for their signatures stated that the Legion of Mary was a secret, counter-revolutionary organization set up to oppose the government. When the priests denied these allegations and explained the true nature of the lay organization, they were rounded up and placed in prison.

The priests were not subjected to a public "trial." The Catholic people of Chentu were planning to demonstrate their disapproval of the priests' arrest. The expelled missionaries believe that their "public trial" never took place for that reason.

'Asia's Fastest Human' Hailed

Madras, India—(NC)—Lavy Pinto, a 23-year-old Catholic athlete of Bombay, was acclaimed as "Asia's Fastest Human" at the 15th Indian Olympic Games held here. Mr. Pinto won the 100-meter race in the record time of 16.7 seconds. He was selected to represent India in the forthcoming world Olympic Games in Helsinki, Finland. At last year's Asian Games, Mr. Pinto captured both the 100-meter and 200-meter races and set new records for both events. He was born in Mombasa, Africa.

Roosevelt Bid To Win Stalin Revealed

Washington—(NC)—After the Tehran Conference, the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed confidence that he could persuade Soviet Russia's dictator, Josef Stalin, to see the advantages of democracy and change his views accordingly.

This was disclosed by Jan Ciechanowski, former Polish Ambassador, in an address before the winter meeting of the John Carroll Society in the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here. Mr. Ciechanowski, deviating from his prepared address, said that President Roosevelt made this profession of confidence to him. The former diplomat said he replied to the President: "You might just as well talk about persuading a man-eating tiger to become a vegetarian."

Catholics Share Holy Sepulchre Repair Cost

Jerusalem—(NC)—Jerusalem's Catholic community will share the cost of restoring the dome of the Holy Sepulchre Basilica here which was damaged by fire in 1949. The Catholic community will contribute 4,000 Jordan Dinars, or a little more than \$10,000. Similar contributions will be made by the Armenian and Greek communities which share the custody of the shrine.

The three religious groups were given control of the Holy Sepulchre Basilica under the terms of a status quo, established in 1878 and confirmed in 1852, governing the use and occupation of the Holy Places. After the fire in 1949, it was reported that the late King Abdullah of Jordan intended to defray the cost of repairs. It is considered probable here that developments following the king's assassination prevented the fulfillment of his pledge.

Catholic Vote In Germany Wins Election

By REV. DR. MAX JORDAN Frankfurt—(NC)—Catholic voters are responsible for the success of the Christian Democratic party in the elections of a constitutional assembly to set up the government of the newly-formed South-West State of the German Federal Republic. This state, to be composed of the former states of Baden, Hohenzollern and Wuerttemberg, will have a population of 6,600,000, nearly half of whom are Catholics.

ABOUT 35 1/2 per cent of the total vote was cast for the Christian Democrats whose leader is Konrad Adenauer, Chancellor of Germany. The Christian Democrats drew their strength mainly from the Black Forest and Lake Constance regions comprising the Diocese of Freiburg-im-Breisgau and part of the Diocese of Rottenburg. The Christian Democrats will control 50 of the 121 seats in the constitutional assembly. It will meet in Stuttgart, the capital of Wuerttemberg and also the capital of the new state.

THE SOCIALISTS who are the strongest among Dr. Adenauer's opponents drew 23 per cent of the total vote, the liberals 18.2 per cent, the refugees party 6 per cent and the communists only 4.3 per cent. The neo-nazi group suffered a smashing defeat with only 2.3 per cent of the voters in their favor.

It is expected that a Catholic will head the government of the new South West German state. It will rank fourth among the states composing the Federal Republic of Germany, after Bavaria, North Rhine, Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate. The governments of all these states are headed by Catholics.

Religious Freedom Urged For King

Copenhagen—(RNS)—Denmark's Catholic weekly, Katolsk Ugeblad, has urged the abolition of a constitutional provision that the King must be a member of the Danish State Lutheran Church.

A new national constitution is now being drafted by a special commission. The present Danish constitution stipulates that the King must be a member of the State Church.

EX-GENERAL ORDAINED



Former Paul Theisen is shown during the ceremonies in the Cathedral at Aachen, Germany, at which he was ordained a Catholic priest. Father Theisen, 62, commanded a German army corps in Russia during World War II. He lost his wife and children during the war and decided to study for the priesthood. Wide World radiophoto.

Dr. Livingstone Not First To Bring Africa Gospel

Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia—The idea that David Livingstone, Scottish explorer, was the first harbinger of the Gospel in central Africa has been dispelled by an Anglican missionary here.

In a series of broadcasts here the Rev. J. T. Munday, Anglican missionary, linguist and anthropologist, gave the results of his studies into the history of Christianity in this area.

THROUGH THE study of old Portuguese annals, Dr. Munday said, he discovered that the Congo Basin was opened to Christianity in 1482. He also learned of the baptism of Chief Mani Songo and Paramount Chief Mani Congo and many counselors in that early era, the Anglican minister stated.

The Paramount Chief's son, Henry, he stated, was baptized and became Bishop in the Congo Kingdom in 1521. Thousands of other natives were baptized at the time, he said.

Nehru, Party Back Birth Control In India

San Francisco—(NC)—Prime Minister Nehru and the Congress Party are fully behind United Nations establishment of pilot projects for observing birth control's effects in selected areas of India.

"This statement was made by India's new Ambassador to the United States, Bina Ramani Sen, at a press conference here. Five pilot projects were set up recently by the U. N.'s World Health Organization with the aid of Dr. Abraham Stone, vice president of the Planned Parenthood Association of the U. S.

Ambassador Sen asserted that India's birth control plans are meeting with "no opposition" from the people of his country. "There is no reason why they should," he said. "The Hindu religion does not forbid the use of artificial contraceptives in the manner they are prohibited to Catholics."

In his statement that there is "no opposition" in his country to the birth control plans, Ambassador Sen apparently overlooked the five million Catholics in India, who have been alerted against the plans by a statement from the Catholic Bishops' Conference. The statement, issued in January in the name of Archbishop Joseph Alipity of Varanasi, the conference's Director of Catholic Social Action, warned that birth control is a "sin against marriage."

Archbishop Louis Mathias of Madras declared last August that "it is not family planning, especially as advocated by birth control, that will save India from its economic anguish, but agricultural and industrial planning."

Irish Nuncio Dublin—(NC)—In his new capacity of Papal Nuncio to Ireland, Archbishop Gerald P. O'Hara, Bishop of Savannah, Atlanta, attended a Solemn Votive Mass in Dublin's pro-cathedral commemorating the 13th anniversary of the coronation of Pope Pius XII.

Negro Catholics In U. S. Mark Gains

Washington—(NC)—For every new member gained by the Church among the nation's Negroes through birth during the last decade, two others have been gained by conversion. Since the 1940 census, the Negro population has increased 15.9 per cent, but the increase of Negro Catholics during the same period has been 52.5 per cent.

THE SPIRITUAL welfare of the 100,000 Catholics among the Indian population of the country "is, in general, quite well provided for." The Church has "a solid foothold" among the Indians, who number slightly more than 300,000 in this country. These are the highlights of the annual report of the Rev. J. B. Tonnely, S.S., secretary of the Commission for the Catholic Missions Among the Colored People and the Indians, which has been carrying on this work for 66 years.

The commission's board of directors is composed of His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, chairman; Archbishop Francis P. Keough of Baltimore, and Archbishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., of Philadelphia. The report estimates the Negro population of the nation at more than 14,750,000 and stated that the Catholic population among Negroes is 410,000. There are 455 churches provided especially for service to Negroes, an increase of 10 during the last year, and to them 637 priests are attached, the report says. It adds: "The fruitfulness of the contacts with non-Catholic Negroes is indicated by the 9,482 adult converts reported for the year."

NEXT IN importance to the churches, the report says, are Catholic schools for Negroes, which now number 329—nine of which were newly opened during the last year. They are mainly elementary schools, but some of the larger institutions offer junior and senior high school courses.

"Solidarity for Negro welfare is manifested in many ways," the report states. "Twelve hospitals and twice that number of well-equipped and well-staffed medical clinics are now being operated under Catholic auspices."

"Twenty-two institutions for the industrial training of Negro youth and for the care of orphaned and delinquent Negro children are being maintained. Twenty-five Catholic social welfare centers for Negroes are

Hatred Bars Abp. Stepinac From Diocese

Rome—(NC)—Archbishop Aloysius Stepinac of Zagreb is being barred from resuming administration of his See by "an ideological hatred" of all he stands for, the Quotidiano, Italian Catholic Action daily, charged here in an article.

The article referred to a recent interview in which Marshal Tito reportedly told an American group that Archbishop Stepinac was condemned for "crimes" and would no longer be recognized as an Archbishop. "WHEN THIS is said and we are told that in Yugoslavia the law is equal for all, we have a right to deny both statements," the Quotidiano article said. Declaring that it is not a case of Archbishop Stepinac being condemned for crimes he did not commit but of being a Catholic Bishop and the defender of his Faith, the article added: "He is now impeded from his pastoral ministry by an ideological hatred which closes its eyes to all ideal refutations and the teachings of historical reality."

Bills Seek Plane Rates For Clergy

Washington—(RNS)—Legislation to permit airlines to grant free or reduced fare transportation to clergymen is pending in both houses of Congress.

Ministers of religion have traditionally enjoyed such privileges on railroads. Congress recognized this in the Interstate Commerce Act of 1887 which permitted railroads to continue offering special passes to clergymen.

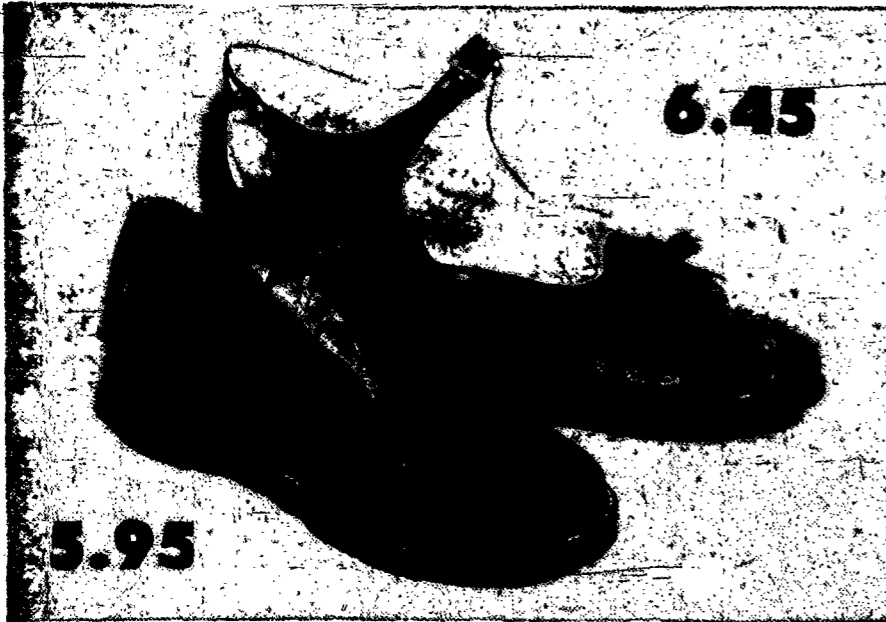
Should the pending bills be approved by Congress, there would be no compulsion on airlines to grant reduced fares. They would merely receive legal permission.



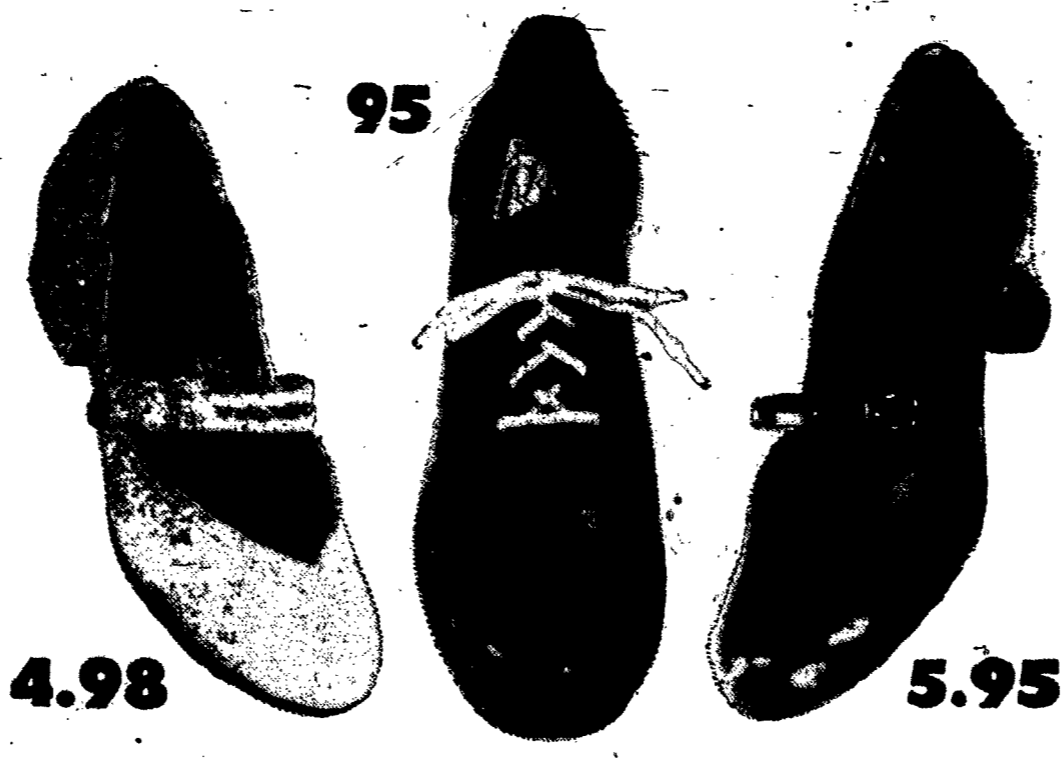
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