

Church Schools Hit At NEA Parley

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Trotskyite Leader Returns To Church

Minneapolis, Minn. — (RNS) — Grace Holmes Carlson has returned to the Roman Catholic Church after 16 years as a revolutionary Communist.

Mrs. Carlson also has resigned from the Socialist Workers Party, on whose ticket she was scheduled to run for Vice President of the United States — the same post she ran for in 1948.

(Socialist Workers Party members are Trotskyite Communists, as distinguished from Stalinist Communists who now dominate the Soviet Union).



GRACE CARLSON
"Plagued By Faith"

MRS. CARLSON was one of 18 leaders of the party who were convicted early in World War II under the Smith Act on charges of plotting to overthrow the United States government. She served a 13-month sentence in the federal women's reformatory at Alderson, W. Va.

The 46-year-old party leader had been automatically excommunicated from the Catholic Church for following the teachings of Karl Marx and Leon Trotsky. The excommunication ban was lifted June 19, the day after she resigned from the party, she said. On June 20, she received Holy Communion for the first time in 16 years.

Explaining her return to the church, Mrs. Carlson said:

"Just as a Christian often may be plagued by doubt, an atheist is plagued by faith.

"My return to a religion, faith was a slow one extending over several months. But as the campaign began to get under way, I had to be honest with myself and with my party colleagues. I knew I couldn't stand up and speak a philosophy about which I had doubts."

Mrs. Carlson said the Catholic Church was the center of her life as a girl. For a while she had planned to become a nun. She holds a B.A. degree from the College of St. Catherine, a Catholic school in St. Paul, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota.

It was while she was at the university that studies in psychology and reading the works of Karl Marx upset her beliefs, Mrs. Carlson said.

She now says it is difficult to discuss what brought her on the road back to the church. Through her years in the revolutionary movement, she read no Catholic literature and thought of herself as "an avowed and stable atheist."

But the beginnings of her renewed faith forced her to a re-evaluation of her philosophy after her father died last fall.

"Death is such a tremendous thing," she said. "I realize that I didn't have all the answers."

For several months, Mrs. Carlson kept her problem to herself. She returned to the classics of her childhood, again reading "But with new understanding" — St. Thomas Aquinas.

By May her mind was made up and she sought the advice of the Rev. Leonard P. Cowley, pastor of St. Olaf's Catholic Church. Mrs. Carlson still is opposed to capitalism.

"The church," she said, "permits a wide range of opinion on social problems so long as it doesn't conflict with moral principle."

FATHER COWLEY said that he had been seeing Mrs. Carlson for the past six weeks and "can affirm that her return to the church has been determined completely on ideological and theological grounds."

"She is undoubtedly a liberal and will remain," he said.

"Mrs. Carlson deviated from (the church's) time honored teachings only because she was rightly concerned with the most liberal ideas of humanitarianism and was rightfully concerned with the notion that the Catholic Church censured these concepts.

"Her faith has glowed like an ember throughout the past 16 years and has recently broken into a flame. I am happy for her that she has returned to her God."

Korea Bishop Reports Conversions

Montreal — (NC) — Conversions in the Vicariate of Taegu, Korea, since the outbreak of hostilities have exceeded the number of faithful there before the war, Bishop John Cho, Vicar Apostolic, disclosed in a letter to friends here.

New Auxiliary Bishop Of Buffalo Named

Washington — (NC) — Pope Pius XII has named Monsignor Leo R. Smith, Chancellor of the Diocese of Buffalo, to be Titular Bishop of Marida and Auxiliary to Bishop Joseph A. Burke of Buffalo.

Announcement of the appointment was made here by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

IN ADDITION to the office of chancellor, which he has held since 1946, Bishop-elect Smith has been Director of the Bishop's Committee for Christian Home and Family since 1940. He was assistant chancellor from 1932 to 1946; director of the Catechetical Office from 1935 to 1945 and director of the Diocesan Youth Apostolate from 1942 to 1946.

The Bishop-designate was born at Attica, N. Y., August 31, 1905, the son of Adam Henry and Mary Jane (O'Neill) Smith. His father died in 1916; his mother resides in Buffalo.

THE NEWLY-NAMED Bishop attended Canisius College, Buffalo, and the North American College in Rome. He was ordained in the Basilica of St. John Lateran in the Eternal City on December 21, 1929.

He took further studies in Canon Law at the Pontifical Institute of Both Laws, Rome, between 1930 and 1932. He was an assistant in St. Joseph's Old Cathedral parish from 1932 to 1940.

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President Free To Appoint Vatican Envoy

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — Congress has cleared the way for President Truman to make a re-appointment of an American ambassador to the Vatican, it is so desired.

The Senate passed and sent to the White House the State Department appropriation bill which would have banned the use of funds for any new diplomatic mission the first chief of which had not been confirmed by the Senate.

THE STATE Department indicated that it had allotted \$70,000 in its 1952-53 fiscal budget for the establishment of an embassy at the Holy See. The Department now has that money without any strings.

The rider introduced by Rep. Price H. Preston (D-Ga.) was adopted by the House when the bill originally passed that body. Subsequently, the Senate, in considering the appropriation measure, deleted the rider and in a conference between the two chambers, the House accepted the Senate version of the bill.

700 POWs Turnout For Mass On Kojie Island

Helena, Mont. — (NC) — More than 700 North Korean prisoners-of-war attended a Mass offered in their compound of Kojie Do Island by a U. S. Army chaplain.

The Rev. (Lt.) Emmett P. O'Neill reported the incident in a letter to the Rev. James R. White, editor of the Western Montana Edition of the Register here.

A MASS OFFERED by Father O'Neill was the first opportunity the prisoners had to attend religious services since the prison riots broke out on Kojie Do. Before the break-up of the big compounds into smaller units, and separation of de-hard communists from other prisoners, it was impossible to reach Christians in many of the compounds.

An army officer told the prisoners that a priest was coming to say Mass in their midst, and that all who wanted to could attend. There would be no communion.

Father O'Neill expected a few dozen at most and arranged to use one of their huts. To his surprise about 700 showed up, and he was forced to say Mass outdoors.

"They made a very devout audience even though only a few were Catholics," Father O'Neill wrote. "They expressed the desire to have me return."

Warden Sends Prisoners To Parish Church

Mito, Japan — (NC) — "Instruction is not enough. The young men must be able to get the atmosphere of a church."

This is what the new warden of a prison for youthful offenders outside the city of Mito recently told the superior of a group of Catholic missionaries who give bi-weekly instructions in the faith to interested inmates.

Last December, with the warden's encouragement, 27 of the "pupils" together with their guards, were taken to Mass in the Mito parish church by priests of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

However, the pastor, the Rev. Lawrence Craig, believes that this is only a start. He said he hopes to have prisoners taking instructions brought to church more frequently in the future.

Rochester Nun In Korea Plays Role In Infants' 'Back Door To Heaven'

Pusan, Korea — (Special) — "The Back Door to Heaven" operates on a large scale at the Maryknoll Sisters' Clinic here in this war-torn city. On some days, as many as 20 dying



BACK DOOR BABY arrives inside the Maryknoll Sisters' Clinic at Pusan, Korea. SISTERS MAGDALENA (URLAACHER) of Rochester, N. Y. helps to care for thousands of such children who need EVERYTHING. Sister Magdalena joined Maryknoll Sisters Medical team at Pusan after her expulsion from China by the Communists.

babies receive the waters of Baptism. Recently, four were baptized in an hour.

Heaven's Back Door is a real back door. As the thousands of refugees await treatment outside the building, doors in critical condition and mothers with babies dangerously ill are urged to go up ahead. They are sent around the back and in by a special door.

Here Sister M. Doloresa (Oberle) of Mankato, Minn., examines them. If a baby is in a hopeless condition from a medical point of view, she gives Baptism. Thus Sister Doloresa is, so to speak, "St. Peter's Receptionist." She sorts out the clients in his waiting room.

To receive the sacraments, dying adults must, of course, express a desire for it, and if time allows, be instructed. The Sisters themselves marvel at the deep roots the doctrine takes in so many young people. However, no questions concerning religion are ever asked any of the patients unless they themselves bring up the subject.

SISTER DOLOROSA has been intimate for many years with God's Holy Innocents. For 13 years she was stationed at Young Kong, China, where she received many destitute infants into the Maryknoll Sisters' Orphanage there. She has baptized thousands of abandoned tots given to the Sisters when close to death. So, she is an experienced receptionist at the entrance to the great golden city.

Sister is one of the hundreds of missionaries who have been expelled from China by the Communist government. She crossed the famous border into Hong Kong on March 17, 1951.

Off to Korea last August, Sister, with Sister Magdalena, a nurse from Rochester, N. Y., joined the Maryknoll Sisters team in the war ravaged city of Pusan. Here the Sisters care for 2,000 refugees a day. A recent USIS (U. S. Information Service) report says it tends, "probably more charity cases than any other hospital in the world."

Sister Magdalena is the sister of John Urscher, 63 Chimesa Road, and George Urscher, 63 Chimesa Road, Rochester.

The following account tells what the Maryknoll Sisters face here in Pusan:

"During the morning as Sister Doloresa took care of the waiting crowds of people, directing them to treatment room, injection room, and doc-

China Bishop, Who Spurned Red Bid To Become National 'Pope,' Dies In Prison

Hong Kong — (NC) — The fifth Bishop is known to have died as a result of maltreatment by the Chinese communists.

Information received here from two sources states that Archbishop Joseph Chou Chi-shih of Nanchang, Kiangsi province, has died in prison. No further details were given about his death.

ARCHBISHOP CHOU was arrested on May 3 following a "denunciation meeting" organized by the Reds. He was accused of sabotaging the communist "church reform" program, of anti-communist activities, "killing orphans" and of being "a running dog for imperialism."

Prior to that the 60-year-old Vincentian Archbishop had been restricted in his pastoral work for some time. He once accepted a communist invitation to become "pope" of an "Independent Catholic Church" in China.

Archbishop Chou's death in prison follows by only a few months that of another native Archbishop Ignatius Pi-Shu-Shih of Mukden died in prison at the age of 55 earlier this year. He had been held incommunicado on unknown charges since October 1951.

THE THREE other Bishops who are known to have died as a result of Red maltreatment are Archbishop Cyril Rudolph Jarro, O.F.M. of Tsinan, Bishop Leo J. De Smet of Siwantze and Bishop Alessandro Curzio of Lanjing. Archbishop Jarro, a native of

Germany, died on March 8 at St. Joseph's hospital at Tsinan where he had been moved by his Red jailers a few weeks earlier. He had become dangerously ill in prison. No priest was permitted to attend the dying prelate.

Bishop De Smet, a Belgian-born member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary missionaries, died on November 24 shortly after his release from a Red prison.

Bishop Curzio died in January of this year en route out of China after harassment and expulsion by the China Reds.

Taft's Brother Defends Cardinal

Detroit — (NC) — During discussion at the National Education Association convention here Mrs. Agnes E. Meyer assailed the late Michael Cardinal von Faulhaber of Munich and Mr. Charles F. Taft, a Protestant, defended him.

In his speech Mr. Taft, Ohio gubernatorial candidate and brother of Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, asked what else but religion could have given Cardinal Faulhaber the courage to defy Hitler.

Mrs. Meyer retorted that if religion had motivated the Cardinal, how could he and other German prelates direct Catholics to pray for Hitler when he was sending Jews and others to the gas ovens.

Mr. Taft replied that some religious people "pray for their enemies."

Noted Minister Says O'Neill Book Answers Blanshard

New York — (NC) — Dr. Daniel A. Poling now sees the Catholic Church in the United States from the viewpoint of Prof. James M. O'Neill and his work, "Catholicism and American Freedom."

He has abandoned the position he once took of looking on the Church from the standpoint of Paul Blanshard and his two anti-Catholic books, "American Freedom and Catholic Power," and "Communism, Democracy and Catholic Power."

THE WIDELY known Presbyterian churchman and author says so in a review of Professor O'Neill's book in the Christian Herald, published here, of which Dr. Poling is editor.

"In a commendatory review of Paul Blanshard's best seller, 'American Freedom and Catholic Power,'" Dr. Poling states, "I blushed for the sake of what it affirms will stand unless answered and disproved. I reviewed Dr. Blanshard's second book in the same spirit. A careful reading of 'Catholicism and American Freedom' by James O'Neill, chairman of the department of speech of Brooklyn College, makes one think crystal clear: Every reader of the Blanshard books owes it to himself to read now the O'Neill book."

Beauty Contests Archbishop Byrne Bars Catholics

Santa Fe, N. M. — (RNS) — Archbishop Edwin V. Byrne of Santa Fe forbade Catholics to take part in, or assist in staging, a beauty contest scheduled at Albuquerque on July 6.

In a pastoral letter, Archbishop Byrne said:

"Such beauty contests are an appeal to the baser instincts of mankind and an incentive to uncleanness in thought and action. At a time when our nation needs all the inspiration deriving from purity and morality it is tragic that our citizens are debased and humiliated for commercial ends."

"As the Archbishop of the Catholics of this area I forbid any Catholic to participate or help in any way in said beauty competition and I entreat parents to prohibit their daughters from doing so."

The Archbishop said that any Catholic who participates or assists in the contest will be denied the sacraments of Penance and of Holy Eucharist and the parents or guardians will fall under the same punishment.

Sponsors Cancel Beauty Contest

Santa Fe, N. Mex. — (NC) — Sponsors cancelled a beauty contest after Santa Fe's Archbishop Edwin V. Byrne sternly forbade Catholic participation. The contest was to have been staged in Albuquerque on July 6.

Dr. Poling observes that Professor O'Neill's book "renders American freedom and democracy its basic duty a significant service." He points out that "Mr. O'Neill in answering questions, raises other questions which remain unanswered and that it would be impossible in one volume to cover all the ground now opened by the deep-cutting plows of these two writers."

Red Minister Hits Religious Processions

London — (RNS) — Charges that Catholics and "even non-believers" take part in religious processions to "demonstrate their anti-Communist feelings" were made by Zdenek Nejedly, Czechoslovak Education Minister, in a speech broadcast by the Prague Radio.

Mr. Nejedly said that Easter and Corpus Christi processions, attended by great numbers, were "anti-State demonstrations by people who otherwise would not dare to openly express themselves in such a way. But hiding behind religious freedom they quite impudently stage their demonstration."

Germany Suffers Clergy Shortage

Muenster, Germany — (RNS) — Catholic parishes in Germany need 2,900 priests, according to a report by the Diocese of Muenster.

The report said the shortage of priests is due largely to losses in clergy during World War II and to the decreasing number of theology students as a result of the war.

Of the 3,486 theology students presently enrolled at West German universities, the report disclosed, three-fourths come from workers' and farmers' families and only one-fourth from upper social levels.

Ohio Gubernatorial Candidate Rebutts Church School Foe

Detroit — (NC) — A vehement attack on church schools launched here on the convention floor of the National Education Association was promptly challenged by Charles P. Taft, Ohio gubernatorial candidate and nationally known Protestant layman.

Spurring the controversy over public and church schools among NEA convention delegates was a speech by Mrs. Agnes E. Meyers. She charged that "clerical politicians" are seeking "to force our people to support sectarian schools whose rapid increase would destroy our secular schools and tear our nation into irreconcilable factions."

AT THE END OF MRS. MEYERS' speech Mr. Taft, brother of Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, took the floor and said he completely disagreed with her. The audience appeared divided on whether to agree with Mr. Taft or Mrs. Meyer, with a slight edge seeming to go to Mr. Taft.

The religious efforts of parochial schools make up a thoroughly sound objective and the public schools should not only recognize the validity of the objective, but help stimulate the churches into doing a good technical job in accomplishing it," Mr. Taft stated.

"It is not somewhat stocky to realize that those basic elements in the good life which the West has achieved are substantially untaught in our public schools today?" he asked.

"The decision to omit 'the basic question of religion' in public schools to avoid controversy, Mr. Taft said, has led 'to the opposite extreme which has made religion an extra-curricular activity, certainly not as important usually as football or basketball.'"

MRS. MEYERS, wife of a writer and wife of chairman of the board of the Washington Post, said "clerical politicians are taking advantage of the mental confusion of our postwar era to regale their ancient privilege of controlling education."

"The parochial schools try to teach 'democracy,' she went on, "but no human being can fully accept authority in one area of life and become 'well-meaning' in day to day decisions in the field of morals, politics and economics. . . . If it (Catholic teaching in parochial schools) is authoritarian in theology, it can never hope to produce creative minds in other cultural areas."

MRS. MEYERS warned that "if Protestant leadership condemns our secular education, why shouldn't the Catholic prelates also condemn our public school system as 'Public Enemy No. 1' and urge their congregations to what amounts to civil disobedience by preaching that our first duty to the public school is not to pay taxes for its maintenance."

"THE COSTS of private and parochial education are mounting steadily," she added. "Few American girls wish to become nuns. The vocations are decreasing, and the salaries of lay teachers are increasing every year. The cost of their schools, especially the sectarian schools, is a crushing burden upon the millions of poor Catholics."

"If the Catholic laity realize that they will have to bear the total economic weight of the parochial schools in perpetuity their attitude toward these schools will become more realistic. We must therefore devote means that will make crystal clear the determination of the American people never to support sectarian institutions with public taxes, whether Federal or local."

To accomplish this, she proposed a constitutional amendment forbidding diversion of school funds "for any and all church or sectarian purposes," including so-called "fringe benefits" such as textbooks and transportation.

American Women ? ? ? ?

Washington — (NC) — The American Association of University Women announced at its headquarters here that it was urging national party platform drafters to include a plank for Federal aid to public schools.

Independent schools would not benefit from the aid measure which the AAUW has recommended to Republican and Democratic committee drafting party platforms. Here is the text of the AAUW proposal:

"Federal aid under conditions safeguarding state control to tax-supported elementary and secondary schools which are under public supervision and control."