Bishop Of Wheeling

Challenges Birth Controllers To Aid Poor By Joining Fight For Social Justice

Wheeling, W. Va.— (NC) — Birth control advocates would serve the poor more by helping to remedy their social handicaps than by inducing them to use sinful methods of family limitation.

This view was expressed here by Bishop John J. Swint of Wheeling in a statement issued following announcement of plans by the Planned Parenthood Association to open a birth control clinic at the Camden - Clark Memorial Hospital at Parkersburg in September.

"Were the advocates of birth control to expend the same energy, zeal and money, as they do on birth control or planned parenthood, in remedying the conditions that produce poverty, and in guaranteeing working people a family wage," Bishop Swint said, "much more would be done for the poor, without inducing them to use immoral, sinful and degrading means to limit the number of their children."

Declaring that birth control, as advocated by the Planned Parenthood Association is "essentially a moral issue," Bishop Swint said he made "no pretense of telling non-Catholics what they must believe or do."

HOWEVER, he added, "it is our solemn duty to tell them what is right and what is wrong. And, as regards our own Catholic people, it is our duty not only to tell them what is wrong and sinful, but to safeguard them as far as possible from the dangers of sin such as are offered them by establishing birth control clinics in their midst and the propaganda that goes with them."

Bishop Swint asserted that within little more than fifty years ago, "practically all who considered themselves as Christians stood with us in this matter."

"It is only now, with the complete surrender to presumably moralistic and hedonistic propaganda," he said, "that many can see longer see the fundamentals of it. They allow themselves to be governed and guided, not by what God wants or has commanded, but by their own ideas of what ought to be or what is right or wrong."

Bishop Swint stated: "There when have people had the right to decide for themselves in all things what is right and what is wrong? Hence when have people claimed or exercised the right to decide for themselves what is right or wrong?"

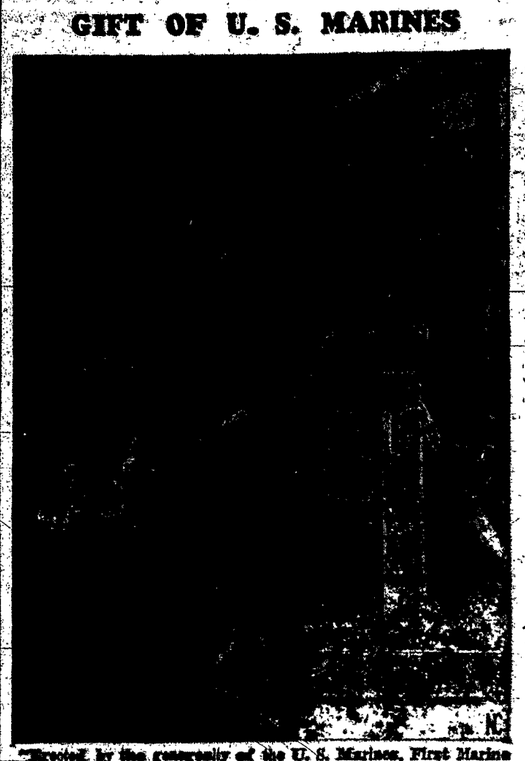
"If this has not the mission of the Church," he said, "the Church has no reason for its existence."

REMARKING THAT it is "perfectly logical" to suppose that "all scientists and doctors approve of birth control as advocated today," Bishop Swint added:

"Many of the most outstanding doctors date disposed to it and believe that it results in very definite physical, and especially nervous and emotional, evil consequences. When you violate nature, nature attacks back."

"If it were not for the sinfulness of the thing," Bishop Swint declared, "I would say to the advocates of birth control: Go ahead. Do your worst. The more you succeed the sooner will those who uphold God's moral law 'possess the land.'"

GIFT OF U. S. MARINES



"Erected by the generosity of the U. S. Marines, First Marine Air Wing, MAG-33" reads the sign in front of St. Michael's Catholic Church, in Pohang-dong, South Korea. The Korean girl, Tjyhs-ok, seized Col. John D. Condon, USMC, of Alexandria, Va., and Three Rivers, Mich., the meaning of the sign. The colonel acted as interpreter at the dedication ceremonies. The pastor, Father Aloysius Kim Dae-Ho, looks on. Official U. S. MARCORP photo. (NC Photos).

Protestants Aid Drive For Catholic-Sponsored Hospital

Shreveport, La. — (RNS) — Protestant and Catholic clergymen and civic leaders spoke here at a special kickoff dinner of a campaign to raise $1,500,000 for construction of a new $4,000,000 T. E. Schumpert Memorial sanitarium to be operated by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. The proposed building will replace the present 41-year-old unit.

FUNERAL SPEAKER was Shreveport climan Charlton H. Lyons who stressed the need for a return to religious values and said that the fund appeal for a new community hospital was a good way to begin.

The $1,500,000 requested from the public will be supplemented by $500,000 to be contributed by the order of sisters; $1,000,000 expected to be allocated by the federal government under the Hill-Burton Act and the balance to be underwritten by the sisters. United Gas Corporation has made a contribution of $100,000.

SPEAKERS AT the dinner said that 75 per cent of the people admitted to the hospital last year were Protestants, and that erection of the new building is a religious as well as civic responsibility. Protestant speakers lauded the sisters for their unselfish and great service to the hospital and the community.

Among the speakers were Roman Catholic Bishop Charles P. Greco of the diocese of Alexandria; Dr. W. A. Alexander, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, and Dr. Guy M. Hicks, pastor of First Methodist Church.

Daughters Vote $50,000 Gift To Church Work

Lake Placid, N. Y.— (NC) — The Catholic Daughters of America at their convention here voted $50,000 to extend the Apostolic word of the Church, in thanksgiving for 50 years of blessings as a national organization.

Of the total, $10,000 will be sent for disposition by His Holiness Pope Pius XII; $15,000 to the Catholic Extension Society; and $5,000 to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The balance will go to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for a jubilee year project that will be national in scope, Catholic in action, and feminine in nature.

Maryknoll Sends Largest Group To Missions

New York—(NC)—While 1951 was Maryknoll's period of greatest suffering under Red persecution, the society recently sent overseas the largest mission group in its history.

This was disclosed here by Bishop Raymond A. Lane, Superior General of Maryknoll, who said the society sent 39 priests and three Brothers to the missions in its 1952 class.

THE PRELATE added that nearly every day Maryknoll has been receiving reports of the imprisonment or expulsion of members of its mission in South China. He expressed the belief that "there never has been so many martyrs in so many countries as there are now."

Nevertheless, Bishop Lane predicted the greatest resurgence of Christianity in history, as a result of the Reds' war on the Church in Red China and Korea.

Scores of Maryknollers have been victims in these areas, Bishop Lane said.

Notre Dame Honors Cardinal Gilroy

Notre Dame, Ind.—(NC)—The entire world is looking to the United States for a spiritual contribution to supplement its generous material aid, His Eminence Norman Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney, Australia, declared here.

The Cardinal spoke at a special convocation of the University of Notre Dame in Sacred Heart Church on the university campus, at which he received an honorary doctorate of laws.

GOP Silent On Proposed Migration Law

Chicago — (NC) — War Relief services — National Catholic Welfare Conference joined here with 25 national, fraternal and religious organizations, federated in the American Committee on Special Migration, in presenting to the Platform of the Republican Party a proposal for special legislation in the party's 1952 platform.

HOWEVER, THE platform as drafted had nothing whatever to say about immigration.

Msgr. Edward E. Swanstrom, Executive Director of War Relief Services and Acting Chairman of the American Committee on Special Migration, headed a committee of four member agencies which appeared before the Foreign Policy sub-committee of which Senator Eugene D. Milliken of Colorado was chairman.

Paul McCormack, executive assistant to Monsignor Swanstrom, was the spokesman for the group. He urged the Republican Party to adopt a platform plank supporting immediate enactment of special migration legislation designed to help alleviate the refugee and population stresses in Western Europe.

"OBVIOUSLY, THE larger part of this western European migration movement will have to be absorbed by countries other than the United States," the American Committee on special migration statement said.

"But in the years since the war, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Latin America have proportionately opened their immigration doors to new-comers and it may be expected that these cooperating western governments will continue this open door policy so long as the United States continues to admit a "'fair share" of Western Europe's surplus peoples."

University Awards Jubilee Scholarships

Pittsburgh — (NC)—Duquesne University will give 281 scholarships to parishes of the Pittsburgh Diocese in the next year as part of the University's 75th anniversary observance.

In a letter to pastors, the Very Rev. Vernon F. Gallagher, president of Duquesne, announced that the university will give a four-year half-tuition scholarship to "one needy but competent high school graduate in every parish of the diocese." A total of 142 scholarships will be awarded for the academic year 1952-53, and the other 139 will be granted for 1953-54.

Auxiliary

Msgr. Leo B. Smith, Chancellor of the Diocese of Buffalo, who has been named Titular Bishop of Marida and Auxiliary to Bishop Joseph A. Burke of Buffalo. The Bishop-elect has been diocesan director of youth work, the catechetical office and the Bishop's Committee for Christian Home and Family. He is a native of Attica, N. Y. (NC Photos).

Bishop Markham Buried In Boston

Lowell, Mass —(NC)— A Solemn Pontifical Mass of Requiem was offered here for Bishop Thomas F. Markham, Auxiliary of Boston. He died July 9 at the age of 61.

Bishop Markham, who was consecrated in September 1950, was the American representative for War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference in Italy from 1944-47. Moving behind the U. S. Army into war-devastated areas, he supervised distribution of food, clothing and medicines — provided by U. S. [illegible] — to thousands of Ital[illegible] refugees.

Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, consecrator of Bishop Markham, gave the sermon at the funeral in St. Peter's Church, Lowell, where the Bishop was pastor. Archbishop Cushing rushed to Bishop Markham's bedside at St. John's Hospital, Lowell, after the Bishop was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage in his rectory five days before his death.

German Red Zone Travel Restrictions Harass Parish Life

By REV. DR. MAX JORDAN

Berlin, Germany —(NC)— All clergy residing in the Western sectors of Berlin or any part of Western Germany, are now barred from entering the Soviet sector of the city, or any part of the Soviet occupation zone.

All attempts too, of Bishop Wilhelm Weskamm of Berlin, who lives in the American sector, to obtain permission from communist authorities to visit his own flock behind the Iron Curtain have failed. Both Protestant ministers and Catholic priests are being refused permits of residence beyond the border, if they now reside in the West.

SEVERE DIFFICULTIES have already ensued from this state of affairs. Catholic parishes in the Soviet domain which so far have largely depended on the help of priests and particularly Religious in the Western zones, now face problems almost impossible to solve in view of the prevailing clergy shortage.

Parishes located on the border line are deprived of church services for those of their members living beyond the tightly sealed border.

Even burials are no longer permissible in the customary way. The families of the deceased who reside in the West are unable to secure permits to gain access to cemeteries located in the Soviet realm.

IN THE BERLIN suburbs of West Staaken and Stahnsdorf the cemeteries are under communist jurisdiction, but the majority of the parishioners live in the West. The bodies of the deceased may be taken to these cemeteries, but the families cannot attend the burials. This applies to both Catholics and Protestants.

St. Francis' parish of Staaken is now severed into two strictly separated parts, as its church is located on the very border line. Western parish members no longer attend the services since as the communists have ruled that there may be "American spies" among them, who under all circumstances must be kept out of the Eastern zone.

THE ASSISTANT of the pastor who resides west of the border line can no longer cross it and go after his duties. The parish organist was arrested when she attempted to cross the border, because she lives in the West.

Irish Saints Honored At German Mass

Munich— (NC) —A Mass in honor of Irish missionary-martyrs slain in Germany 1,263 years ago was sung by an American Bishop who represents the Holy See in that country.

THE OCCASION was the observance of the 1,200th anniversary of the exhumation of the remains of St. Kilian and his two Irish fellow-martyrs, St. Kolonat and St. Totnan. They were slain in the year 689 after having labored as missionaries in the Wuerzburg region for over 50 years. St. Kilian in particular has been revered ever since in the Wuerzburg diocese.

The remains of the three martyrs were exhumed in the year 752 by Bishop Burkard, the first Ordinary of the Wuerzburg diocese which had been founded eleven years earlier. He did so at the recommendation of St. Boniface, Apostle of the Germans.

THE PONTIFICAL High Mass in honor of the martyrs was sung in the central square of Wuerzburg by Archbishop Aloisius J. Muench, Bishop of Fargo and Apostolic Nuncio to Germany. The festivities commemorating these important events in the early Christian history of Germany will last several months.

Nine Bishops, including the Bishop of Kilmore, Ireland, have accepted the invitations of Bishop Julius Doepfner of Wuerzburg to attend the celebrations.

Marist Head

London—(NC)—The Rev Laurence Patton, head of St. Mary's College, Middlesbrough, in the north of England, has been appointed first provincial of the newly-constituted English province of the Marist Fathers.

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