

Missionaries in Colombia To Get State Funds

Bogota, Colombia—(NC)—The Colombia government has signed an agreement providing for yearly grants of about \$40,000 to Catholic missionaries working among the nation's Indian population.

Overall aim of the agreement is to help bring economic and social benefits as well as the Christian Gospel to some 750,000 natives in a 330,115 square mile area ecclesiastically divided into eleven apostolic vicariates and seven apostolic prefectures. The mission areas are served by some 175 priests, assisted by 400 nuns.

The agreement, which will operate for 20 years, was signed by Archbishop Antonio Samano, Papal Nuncio to Colombia, on behalf of the Holy See, and by Secretary of Foreign Affairs Juan Uribe Holguin, acting for the Colombian government. It amplifies and brings up to date a similar agreement made in 1933.

With the financial assistance assured by the government, the missionaries will be able to build orphanages, schools, dispensaries, health centers, and housing developments. They will also be able to teach the natives improved methods of land cultivation and organize them into compact communities.

THE AGREEMENT provides that in addition to receiving direct aid from the State, the missionaries also may occupy uncultivated lands for fruit-growing, grain cultivation, and the erection of granaries. It states that the missionaries are to study the products of the various regions for the purpose of devising the best methods of cultivation and production.

Each of the missionary territories will be given an annual sum of about \$13,000, with an additional amount of \$156,000 for special expenses of the territories as a whole.

THE AGREEMENT stipulates that the government also will make other contributions for the building of schools, orphanages and dispensaries, as well as roads, in the native areas.

Another clause states that the government will aid in the construction of seminaries in the missionary territories "as a stimulation to the formation of the native clergy of Colombia," and will support the awarding of Seminary scholarships.

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Police Advise Decency Code For Magazines

Cleveland—(NC)—Two major distributors of comics and magazines have agreed to set up their own censorship code in Cleveland.

The two distributors will set up a censorship committee with one member of the police department. The move resulted from police objections to books available to youth on newsstands throughout the city.

The decision was made at a meeting attended by the two distributors, police officials and 14 representatives from stores where police have seized the books.

The police warned that future violations will be prosecuted but stated that the distributors should set up their own code.

"There is no reason why the police should censor your publications," deputy inspector Carl C. Bare said. "It is your industry. You should know what to do."

NCCM Slates Annual Convention

Washington—(NC)—Invitations have been sent out to some 3,600 national, state, diocesan and parish men's organizations to send representatives to the 33 annual National Council of Catholic Men convention at the Hotel Chase in Louisville on April 11 and 12. It was disclosed at NCCM headquarters here.

Theme of the convention will be "A Program For Catholic Action."

Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter of St. Louis, host to the convention, will address the delegates at the opening session. Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, Episcopal chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations, National Catholic Welfare Conference, will be the featured speaker at the banquet which will close the convention.

BUFFALO PRIEST CONSECRATED



Buffalo, N. Y.—The Most Rev. Celestine Damiano of the Buffalo diocese (left), named Apostolic Delegate to South Africa last December, was consecrated Titular Archbishop of Nicopolis in Epirus in St. Joseph's Cathedral here. Shown with him is Auxiliary Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of New York, who said in a sermon following the consecration that Archbishop Damiano was the sixth native American to be honored by the Vatican with a diplomatic post in foreign service. About 3,000 persons attended the ceremonies in Buffalo's white marble cathedral. The consecrator was Bishop Joseph A. Burke of Buffalo. Archbishop Damiano, a former pastor of Our Lady of Loretto church at Falconer, N. Y., served in Rome for the last five years on the staff of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith. (Religious News Service Photo).

Reds Challenged On Probe Of Anti-Church Persecution

Rome—(NC)—One of Italy's top Catholic Action leaders has dared the communists to permit an impartial commission to investigate the truth about persecution of the Church behind the Iron Curtain.

Mr. Gedda made his proposal in a reply to Luigi Longo, one of Italy's leading communists, who had branded as false the claims about the "Church of Silence" on Catholic Action posters.

"Let's make a proposal to the honest judgment of free men," Mr. Gedda said. "Let an international investigating commission be permitted to visit countries behind the Iron Curtain under the Soviet regime. Let communism finally have the courage to show the world its true face."

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Crime Doesn't Pay

You Can't Fool All People All The Time

Philadelphia—(NC)—The old adage that begins "you can fool some of the people some of the time," was proved once again here.

Father Joseph E. Grady, curate of St. Monke's Church, in South Philadelphia, went to visit a fellow priest, at the Corpus Christi parish rectory in North Philadelphia. As he walked through a hallway Father Grady saw Thomas J. Feeney, a teacher at Roman Catholic High School for Boys

talking to a young man in a side room.

Father Grady called Father Feeney to the hallway and asked "Do you know that man?" Father Feeney replied "Why no. But he says he's a Villanova College man who lost his wallet and stopped here to see if he could make a loan."

"Keep him here," Father Grady said. Then Father Grady called the police. When they arrived Father Grady told them the same man appeared at St.

Monke's rectory last November 14, gave him the same "hard luck" story and "borrowed" \$20. He said he had not seen the man nor the \$20 since.

When arrested the man identified himself as Henry Boner, 34, and gave a midcity hotel as his address. He was sentenced to three months in the House of Correction on charges of passing, after police testified he had victimized several other priests with the same story.

Roy Rogers, Keep Out!

Bremen, Germany—(NC)—The citizens of the town of Papeburg have decided that "something ought to be done" to stop the dangerous effect of imported Wild West movies on the community's youth.

The call for action came after a 14-year-old lad, dressed up like a cowboy, was caught armed with a long butcher knife which he had filched in the town's hardware store.

Then, two other lads disappeared from home in search of adventures of the type they had read about in Wild West novels. As a result police, ministers, representatives of police, parents, theatre owners and booksellers formed a committee to decide on countermeasures against the Wild West vogue.

Georgia Lawmakers Act To Ban Evil Literature

Atlanta, Ga.—(RNS)—The Georgia Senate voted unanimously here to set up a state censorship board to outlaw "obscene literature." The bill previously had been unanimously approved by the House.

A three-man literature commission will be set up with powers to investigate any books, pamphlets, papers, drawings, lithographs, engravings, photographs, or pictures being distributed in the state, label them obscene, and seek the prosecution of agencies distributing them, or the manufacturers if they are in the state.

INDIVIDUAL persons, newsstands, and book stores would not be liable for prosecution under the bill. Daily newspapers are exempt from its provisions.

The measure empowers Gov. Herman Talmadge to name the three commission members, who will meet once a month to review printed matter being distributed in the state. The commission is charged with deciding which items are "offensive to the chastity or modesty of people of the state."

When the commission label any matter obscene, it must notify distributors to stop circulation of the item in question.

If the distributing agency or manufacturer has not stopped sale within 30 days after receipt of its order, the commission must report the fact to the solicitor general of the circuit from which the literature is being sold and recommend prosecution for the distributor.

THIS IS believed to be the first such commission authorized by any state legislature.

"Let's let Georgia be first one more time," Sen. James Adams of Weston County, sponsor of the bill in the Senate, said in urging its passage. "Let's take this filth off the market and protect the morals of our young people."

Irish Officials
South Orange, N. J.—(NC)—Paul J. G. Keating and Eamonn Gallagher, New York vice-consuls of Ireland, will alternate in a series of discussions on "Modern Ireland" under the auspices of the Institute of Irish Culture of Seton Hall University.

Priest-Editor
Burlington, Vt.—(NC)—Father Frederick R. Wilson, 36, editor of the Vermont edition of Our Sunday Visitor, was killed instantly when a truck skidded into his car near here.

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