

Clean-Up Drive On Newsstands Spreads In Nation

An anti-filth drive continued to gain impetus across the U. S. as groups took action this week in Cincinnati, Scranton, Pa., and Los Angeles.

Catholic P-T-A leaders in Cincinnati heard a plea by Police Chief Stanley R. Schrotel for public testimony against dealers in obscene literature when they come up before the courts. "We can only go as far as you want us to," he told more than 220 P-T-A presidents and delegates. He pointed out that after the police make arrests it is often difficult to persuade any well-organized segment of the public to appear in court and back up the law.

ATTEMPTS to clean up book stands often end when the judge apologizes to the man who arrested and sets him free, the police chief said. "We need you to stand up and say: 'Judge, that's the kind of stuff we don't want our children to see.' We want to be sure you'll be there to say it."

Mrs. Joseph A. Beismuche of the Cincinnati Federation of Catholic Parent-Teacher Associations promised that the Federation would back a campaign to arouse public opinion concerning indecent literature.

IN SCRANTON, the Knights of Columbus were summoned by Bishop William J. Hefey to spearhead a drive to rid newsstands of filthy literature. In a letter in the Catholic Light, Bishop Hefey called on Pastors and parents in the diocese to cooperate in the effort.

A team of investigators sent out by the diocesan newspaper reported to the Bishop on a large number of indecent books and magazines. Teams of Knights of Columbus members will now tour the city's stores asking the owners' cooperation in keeping only acceptable books, comics and magazines on the stands.

Bishop Hefey also called on religious leaders and commentators of every denomination, lay, fraternal organization, civic and national organizations, and the news leaders themselves to aid in the drive.

A COMMITTEE of Citizens Council in Los Angeles has struck out at lurid billboard advertising in a drive to clean up the city.

Red Attack Polish Cardinal Target For

London — (NC) — Poland's high-gear propaganda campaign against the Church has struck at the highest Catholic prelate there, His Eminence Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, Primate of Poland.

The attack on the recently created Cardinal was made by Zygie Warzawski, official government daily in the Polish capital. It climaxes months of propaganda charges against various Polish priests and Bishops.

ACCORDING TO a copy received here, the government daily called Cardinal Wyszynski and Josef Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, the "two greatest foes of the Polish people's republic in the College of Cardinals."

The paper charged that the new Cardinal is "carrying on in Poland the Vatican's politics contrary to the interests of the people's democracy." It added: "Let there be no doubt that in the matter of the recovered (former German) territories, the Polish nation stands on one side, and the Vatican and Cardinal Wyszynski on the other."

AT THE SAME time the Red regime is using terror and violence to carry out its new decree making all church appointments subject to communist approval.

Red police removed by force a pastor, his assistant and a housekeeper from a village parish in the Katowice diocese. At first the attempt to remove the priests was foiled by an army of faithful who formed a solid human line around the rectory. Confronted with this scene the Red Police simply drove away. But they returned three nights later and seized the priest and the housekeeper.

K. of C. Sponsors Fatima Pilgrimage

New York — (NC) — The New York chapter of the Knights of Columbus has announced a "National Fatima Pilgrimage" to visit the famous Portuguese shrine and other points of Catholic interest in Spain, France, Switzerland, Germany and Italy this summer.

Scheduled to sail on the Independence on July 29 and return to New York on the Constitution on September 9, the tour will also provide for members of the party who choose to fly.



FROM BEHIND THE 'JAMBOO CURTAIN'—It is estimated that some 1,000,000 Chinese have fled from Red China. They must be housed, fed and clothed. Many need medical attention. In year charity, give all you can now to the U. S. Bishop's 1953 Appeal for the Victims of War in Europe, Asia, the Near and Far East. Catholics in most dioceses of the United States will be asked to contribute to this fund on Lenten Sunday, March 15.

Negro Priest: Why So Few Colored Catholics In United States

New Orleans — (NC) — Lack of contact with the Catholic Church is the answer to the question: "Why Are There So Few Colored Catholics in the United States?"

This was the explanation given by the Rev. Carlos Lewis, S.V.D., Negro priest who is a member of the faculty of St. Augustine's Seminary, Bay St. Louis, Miss., at a meeting here.

Father Lewis was ordained at St. Augustine's, his alma mater, in 1949, and returned to it some six months ago after receiving the Doctor of Sacred Theology from the Gregorian College, Rome. He is a native of the Canal Zone, has a brother who is a priest and another who is in his last year of theology.

"Among the 15 million Negroes in the United States," said Father Lewis, "there is a Catholic population of 400,000. Out of every 40 Negroes in the United States one is a Catholic. For millions of Negroes the

Girl Basketballers In Public School Reform Uniforms

White Cypress, Min. — (NC) — There's a determined group of girls who attend Sisters' public school near here. They're members of the CYO and the Blessed Virgin Sodality of Infant of Prague Church, conducted by the Trinitarian Fathers.

They're also members of the highest team at Sisters' school. They showed their determination when basketball season opened and the school issued uniforms to the team. The girls objected that the uniforms were too skimpy and besides they belonged to a crusade for modest dress.

Backed by their non-Catholic school mates, the girls got permission from the school principal to provide their own uniforms—it was either that or no basketball team. So the team became known as the "Blue Jeans" and they went through their season undefeated—each game a victory of Mary, as they put it.

"WHEN MILLIONS of immigrants came to the United States, seeking jobs they tried to keep Negroes out of these jobs, and riots resulted. Many of these immigrants were Catholics, so Negroes naturally associated these labor troubles with Catholics.

Due to lack of contact with the Catholic Church, Negroes naturally considered it a White man's church. The great educator, Dr. Booker T. Washington, was so sure of this that he said: "When I meet a Negro not a Papist or a Methodist, I know someone has been tampering with his religion."

"THE NEGRO priesthood is indispensable. Because Negroes are deeply race-conscious, it is highly necessary that more Negro youth be trained for the priesthood. When a White priest comes among unchurched Negroes he is considered as being condescending, but a Negro priest leaps over psychological barriers.

"As for Colored Catholics, first they want a good priest, regardless of race. They not only desire to see their own sons and daughters priests and sisters, but they want them to be able to go into any diocese, into any religious community. In some Northern dioceses Negro priests are assigned to parishes not exclusively Colored."

Because not only the lack of priests and sisters, White and Negro, retards the spread of the Catholic Church, but also the attitude of White Catholics toward Negroes. "Let those in charge of White Catholics and of Colored Catholics bring them together," Father Lewis suggested.

"From time to time," he said, "a Colored priest should be brought to a White church, and Colored sisters to a White school. White parishioners will say of a Negro priest, 'That's just like our priest.' Familiarity 'wipes out suspicion.'"

'Silent March' Protests Tyranny

Frankfurt — (NC) — All during Lent, Catholics in the Diocese of Limburg are remembering in a particular manner their persecuted brethren in the communist-ruled countries. Catholic Action organizations in the diocese have called for special services of intercession and public meetings under the slogan: "Church of Silence—Church of Suffering."

The plans include a solemn "silent march" of the Catholic men of Frankfurt, preceding a Pontifical Mass in the Frankfurt dome on Palm Sunday. Among the speakers at the meeting will be Bishop Gratian Grimms whom Chinese communists expelled from his See of Tientsin.

Reds Push Tenets In Mexico Schools

Mexico City — (NC) — A three-fold communist campaign has been loosed to win education in Mexico for Marxism. It aims to "convert" rural teachers to Marxism, to suppress private schools, and to increase the distribution of Marxist text books in public schools.

This charge was made here by Excelsior, leading daily newspaper. It named Dr. Jose Gomez Robledo, Under Secretary for Education, and his secretary, Professor Modesto Sanchez, as leaders of the movement.

Excelsior's accusation came in the wake of disclosures that a list of textbooks approved by the Department of Public Education for use in Mexico's grade schools during the present semester contained a number of communist works which attack the Catholic religion.

THE NEWSPAPER'S charges followed also widespread protests in Catholic educational circles occasioned by the recent action of the University of San Nicolas de Hidalgo in Michoacan in expelling 19 Catholic students because they opposed Marxist teachings in the institution.

Three organizations — the National Union of Parents, the National Confederation of Students, and the University Anti-Communist Front — have protested the inclusion of Marxist texts in the school list and demanded the ouster of Dr. Robledo, holding him chiefly responsible.

According to Excelsior, Dr. Robledo and his aide have recruited a group of avowed communists and communist sympathizers from employees in the Department of Education, the General Office of Primary Education, the General Office of High School Education, and other leading educational bodies.

THE NEWSPAPER summarized the objectives of the communist campaign as follows:

- (1) To promote an intensive Marxist indoctrination of rural teachers; (2) to counteract the popular movement for repeal of Article 3 of the Mexican Constitution; (3) to oppose the tolerance of religious beliefs in the private schools; (4) to increase the distribution of Marxist, anti-Catholic textbooks in public schools; and (5) to bring about the dismissal of teachers opposing Marxism and their replacement by communists or communist sympathizers.

WHEN MINISTER of Education Jose Angel Canteleros was

asked why anti-religious and pro-Soviet texts were included in the school list, he replied that there had been no time to revise the list. He said he would proceed to do so at once, but added that the texts objected to would have to continue to be used during the present year.

Informed of the Minister's reply, the National Confederation of Students issued a public statement in which it said: "It is because there was 'no time' to revise the list that these communist texts are going to be studied all this year by grade school pupils? Is it a matter of protecting youth or of supporting those who have initiated an active communist campaign?"

Both the National Union of Parents and the University Anti-Communist Front declared it was inconceivable that the task of forming young consciences should be entrusted to a man of anti-Mexican ideas. They were thought to be referring to Dr. Robledo, who is regarded as a "disciple" of Vicente Lombardo Tellez, prominent leftist leader.

Buddhist Monk's Son Baptized

Osaka, Japan — (NC) — When the Salesian Fathers opened a school here in 1949, one of the first applicants was a son of a bonze, or Buddhist monk, whose father came in person to have the boy enrolled.

Assuming that there must be some misunderstanding, the priests explained the Catholic atmosphere of the school. But the bonze insisted that he wanted to have his son accepted.

Last Christmas, when 87 of the pupils were to be baptized, the bonze's son also asked to receive the Sacrament.

The priests hesitated. But when Father Tassinari, Salesian Provincial in Japan, visited the school, the boy showed him a document signed by his father in which the necessary parental consent was given. The boy was baptized.



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