

Ex-Yugoslav Official

Tito's Own Reds Opposed Cardinal Stepinac Persecution

New York (NC) — Marshal Tito's campaign against his Eminence Aloysius Cardinal Stepinac was undertaken against the advice of members of his own communist party.

This is revealed by a former Tito press relations officer in an article in the Commonweal printed here. The author is Bogdan Raditsa, who served as head of Tito's foreign press department from 1944 till the end of 1945.

He escaped to the United States after he witnessed the arrest and persecution of democratic-minded leaders in Yugoslavia that year. He is now professor of modern European history at Fairleigh Dickinson College, Rutherford, N. J.

MR. RADITSA states that on seizing power in Yugoslavia Tito at first hoped to obtain the cooperation of the fearless Archbishop of Zagreb.

ac to prove that he vigorously opposed both the massacre of the Serbs and their forced conversions to the Catholic Church. He states that in this matter the "Croatian Catholic clergy has an excellent record, with the notable exception of a few Franciscan friars from the Herzegovinian province, over whom Archbishop Stepinac had no authority.

AMONG THE protests made by the Cardinal against the massacre of the Serbs, Mr. Raditsa relates the following dramatic one. After having official letters of protest ignored several times by Pavelic, the Cardinal walked into the puppet dictator's office and said:

"God's Commandment reads: 'Thou shalt not kill.' With that he turned around and left the room, Mr. Raditsa says.

The writer states that Tito has used every possible propaganda technique to malign Cardinal Stepinac: "half truths, distortion of facts, falsification of documents, re-writing of Croatian and Yugoslav history and even fake photography."

The fact is, Mr. Raditsa says, that "nobody in Yugoslavia believes Tito's propagandists, but in the west there are always people ready to fall victim to the communists' attempts to muddle the real issue."

he saw regularly during this period were his secretary and other officials from the Zagreb Archdiocese.

Although technically confined only to the Krasic village limits, the prelate has never stepped outside the hilltop area enclosing the church, where he says Mass daily, and the parish priest's residence, in which he has two rooms.

THE FIRST restriction on Cardinal Stepinac's contacts with the outside world came in November when police patrols, placed at the edge of the village, became stricter in their examination of prospective callers.

Yugoslav Regime Bans Visits To Card. Stepinac

Belgrade (RNS) — Yugoslav authorities have banned visits to His Eminence Aloysius Cardinal Stepinac at Krasic, the prelate's native village where he is confined by the government.

The ban is understood to have stemmed from several interviews with the Cardinal which the government deemed "unacceptable."

Before his nomination as a Prince of the Church last November, Cardinal Stepinac was permitted to receive an unlimited number of visitors. Among those

Tito Stayed In Catholic Home

London (RNS) — White Lodge at Richmond Park, near here, the house in which President Tito lived while on his state visit to Britain, is the home of Mrs. Novak Velich, a Catholic.

The house is Crown property leased to Mrs. Velich, who was away during the stay of the Yugoslav leader. King George VI had his residence there for a time and it was the birthplace of the Duke of Windsor.

SPRING IS HERE



KITE DAYS—Five-year-old Johnny Luma gets help in launching his kite from Sister Agnes Theresa, a kindergarten teacher at Marygrove College school in Detroit.

Jew Heads Board At Catholic Home

Cleveland (NC)—A Jewish Cleveland resident is repaying crippled children at a Catholic home for the blind shown to him by a Bishop when he was a newsboy.

Adolph E. Shagrin, now successful in Cleveland civic and political life, sold newspapers as a boy. And he remembers how the late Bishop Ignatius Hoestmann always bought his newspaper from the "little Jewish lad." The things he is doing for youngsters at Rosemary Home for Crippled Children, he says, only pay back in part some of the kindness extended by "the good Catholic Bishop."

Mr. Shagrin first became interested in the diocesan supported institution as a ticket seller for its benefits. Later he helped take the children on rides and picnics and he became so much a part of the home that he was invited to be a member of its advisory board.

Now, by a unanimous vote, Mr. Shagrin is president of the board. The board's choice of a Jew to guide a Catholic institution was "the happiest thing that ever happened to me in my life," Mr. Shagrin said.

Catholics Face Challenge For Office

POAU Takes Religion To Election Poll

By J. J. GILBERT Washington (NC)—Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State is going into a new phase of its fight against Catholics and the Catholic Church.

POAU, which has its headquarters here, is trying to get Protestants in all communities throughout the country to go after Catholics who seek election to any office that has an influence on the public schools.

religion to the polls—on anti-democratic or un-American. At any rate, it overlooks completely the fact that a very large proportion of Catholic children of school age—perhaps 80 per cent—are people in public schools.

Irish Give \$106,400 Dublin (NC)—Irish aid to Holland to relieve the food disaster there had reached 38,000 pounds (\$106,400), the Netherlands embassy here has announced.

'No Segregation In Heaven,' Says Southern Prelate

New Orleans, La. (RNS)—A call for Catholics to make segregation "disappear in our Catholic Church life," was issued by Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans.

In a pastoral letter, read in all churches of the archdiocese, Archbishop Rummel pointed to the need for "all members of our beloved flock to exercise the role of peacemakers in our intercourse with those who may differ from us by characteristics of race, nationality, color of skin, habits or creed."

"Let there be no further discrimination or segregation in the pews, at the Communion rail, at the Confessional and in parish meetings," the Archbishop said. "Just as there will be no segregation in the Kingdom of Heaven."

The prelate said that great strides in race relations have been made in his See.

"We have already made notable progress," he said, "by the removal of offensive signs that limited the use of certain pews and by the segregation of colored units with the Metropolitan, Deaneary and Diocesan Unions of the Holy Name Society, the Sodality and the Councils of Catholic Men and Women."

ARCHBISHOP RUMMEL said that while Negro Catholics are encouraged and urged to retain loyalty to and membership in their special congregations, they should not be harassed when they attend services in any parish church or mission, or when they apply for membership in parish organizations.

He urged the faithful to be "ever mindful of the basic truth that our colored Catholic brethren share with us the same spiritual life and destiny, the same membership in the Mystical Body of Christ, the same dependence upon the word of God, the participation in the Sacraments, especially the Most Holy Eucharist, the same need of moral and social encouragement."

The pastoral letter was based on the theme, "Blessed are the Peacemakers," and Archbishop Rummel asserted that peace must be achieved by sacrifice.

Chaplain Need Spurs Army To New Ruling

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—Disclosing that the Army has 200 chaplain vacancies unfilled at the present time and that another 200 will occur before the end of 1953, the Pentagon has announced that clergymen may now volunteer for one year of active duty, instead of the previous 17-24 months.

Those who hold company-grade (first lieutenant or captain) commissions in the Army Reserve or National Guard are eligible for the new reduced tour of duty, the Army said. It added that age requirements will be waived for those who apply for such commissions.

Chaplain (Major General) Ivan L. Bennett, Army Chief of Chaplains, pleaded for volunteers to come forward to help maintain morale and high spiritual standards in the armed services.

"I CAN REMEMBER of no greater opportunity for a young clergyman today than the opportunity to serve in the Army," he said. "Those who have a great influence upon our leaders of tomorrow. If we preserve our spiritual strength, we shall preserve our country, regardless of the adversaries we may face. But if we lose our spiritual resources, we are defeated even though we gain military victory."

The new one-year tour of duty is designed to meet the needs of those clergymen who cannot obtain extended leaves of absence from their civilian pastoral work, Chaplain Bennett said. He expressed the hope that denominational authorities will cooperate.

Pope Grooms Veterans Rome (RNS)—Pope Pius XII appeared briefly on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica here to greet some 50,000 Italian agricultural workers assembled in the Square below.

Advertisement for Sibley's Budget Basement cosmetics. The ad features a large graphic of a shopping cart overflowing with various cosmetic products like lipsticks, powders, and lotions. Text includes 'Sibley's Budget Basement', 'Famous 5th Avenue', 'Elizabeth Post Cosmetics', and 'Finest Quality At Budget Prices'. A list of products and prices is provided on the right side of the ad.

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