

New York Controller Urges Aid To Religious Schools

New York — (RNS) — A proposal that New York City study the feasibility of making financial grants to promote the building of religious schools was made here by Controller Lazarus Joseph.

The city official told a fund-raising dinner of the Jesuit Seminary Association that such aid would facilitate the construction of additional parochial schools and help relieve overcrowding in the public schools.

"Bigots may characterize this as 'interference of State with Church' or vice versa," Mr. Joseph said, "but that's sheer nonsense. Let me cite just one example of the valuable assistance the city receives from religious schools.

There are 332 Roman Catholic elementary and 104 secondary schools with approximately 300,000 pupils in New York City. They utilize 6,790 religious teachers and 173 lay instructors, and the total cost of Catholic school construction has reached \$425,000,000 with annual operational and maintenance expenses being

currently \$110,000,000. "Our city government would be in bankruptcy today if it were required to pay over the years the cost of building and operating these schools."

SCROLLS conferring life membership in the Jesuit agency for their aid to its seminary building fund were presented to Mr. Joseph, Parole Commissioner John C. Maher and James Hanifir, secretary of the Acme Freight Corp.

Other speakers at the dinner included Msgr. Gustav Schulze, secretary to His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman; the Rev. James E. Barash, S.J., rector of Bishop McQuaid High School in Rochester, N. Y., and the Rev. John J. Hooper, S.J., and the Rev. Adrian L. Bona, S.J., of Fordham University, New York.

Colorado Bars State Aid To Nun-Taught Schools

Denver — (RNS) — The State Department of Education has notified four small schools in south-central Colorado that it will withhold payment of aid-to-education funds as long as nuns continue to teach in their religious garb.

Letters to that effect were sent to the four schools by Burtis E. Taylor, acting commissioner of education, who said he acted on the advice of Attorney General Duke Dunbar.

LAST SEPTEMBER, a district court ruling at Sterling, Colo., stopped the payment of state funds to St. Peter's School at Fleming, Colo., on the grounds that there was no separation of Church and State in the school. That case, Mr. Taylor said, is due for appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court. He said he was advised to withhold further payment on the basis of the Sterling decision until after the Supreme Court acts.

The four schools have a total of 15 teachers. The state aid is small — amounting to about one per cent per pupil per day of attendance.

State Rep. S. T. Parsons of La Jara, Colorado, in whose district the four schools are located, said they cannot get teachers other than the Catholic nuns.

"THEY ARE NOT teaching any religion, and the school is open

to members of all faiths," he said. Residents of the area are almost all Spanish-Americans. The four schools are located just north of the Colorado-New Mexico border.

French Gypsies Join In Gala Pilgrimage

Paris — (NC) — Gypsies from all parts of France have again taken part in one of the world's most colorful pilgrimages.

Each year just before Pentecost thousands of them turn their brightly-painted wagons — some of them horse-drawn, some towed by expensive cars — toward the Church of Saints Maries de la Mer on the Mediterranean Coast. There, according to ancient tradition, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Sarah, patroness of the Gypsies, and others sought refuge after they had been driven from the Holy Land following Christ's death.

This year's ceremonies at Saintes Maries de la Mer were presided over by Archbishop Charles de Provencheres of Aix-en-Provence.

Cuba Troops Break Up Rally Of Catholics

Havana, Cuba — (NC) — Widespread protests followed in the wake of an incident here when government troops broke up a political demonstration staged by the Catholic Action Youth Federation and arrested a group of Catholic Action leaders.

The Catholic celebration was intended to commemorate the birth of the Cuban Republic in 1902, and to pay tribute to Jose Marti and Father Felix Varela, two outstanding leaders in the Cuban independence movement. All necessary permits had been secured from the municipal authorities.

Headed by Captain Perez Pantoja, soldiers came upon the demonstration when Arnaldo Fiallo, former president of the Catholic youth group, was delivering a speech at a meeting that follows an impressive thought procession. The captain ordered him to "end your speech in five minutes."

"It does not matter," Fiallo was reported as replying. "Five minutes are sufficient to say what should be done to save Cuba." Before he had time to say anything else, the officer demanded the meeting be ended at once. At the same time, his men seized four of the Catholic leaders present. They included, besides Fiallo, Dr. Andres Valdespino, professor of law at the National University; Dr. Jose Lavastida, president of the Legion of Decency; and Carlos Barrero, chief organizer of the demonstration.

THE ARRESTED men were accompanied to the local barracks by an indignant crowd clamoring for their release and shouting demands for the restoration of the Cuban constitution. The constitution was set aside more than a year ago by the defunct regime of General Fulgencio Batista. When the crowd refused to disperse, the soldiers charged the people, waving their machetes and firing shots in the air. One woman, mother of six, was seriously wounded by a bullet that had not been aimed high.

The Catholic leaders were released early the following morning, Barrero being required to raise bail in the amount of \$100. The Batista government upheld the arrests, charging that "partisan political speeches" were made at the Catholic meeting.

"Book That Went To Hell"



One of the sacred relics of St. Gemma Galgani, the 50th anniversary of whose death is being marked this year, is the celebrated "book that went to hell." According to pious sources, a notebook belonging to the saint disappeared after it had been placed under lock and key. The Devil then appeared to St. Gemma and told her that he was going to fight her Master. Exorcising was resorted to for the return of the notebook. It eventually was returned in scorched condition and has since been preserved at Fascist headquarters in Rome. Photo shows an actual page from the book with its scorch marks. St. Gemma (1878-1928) was the subject of extraordinary supernatural phenomena, including pericardial stigmata. She was canonized in 1940.

Teacher Cites Exam 'Howlers'

Lingayen, P. I. — A Columbian Sister who teaches in the high school here believes that the 'howlers' you perpetrate in examinations are an excellent index to your character.

Eduardo shows signs of growing up to be a 'scary guy.' To the question, 'How is Baptism to be administered?' he answered: 'By pouring water and feeding with salt. Make sure the water goes through the scalp.'

Juan likes to 'play 'em close to his chest.' He was asked to name the principal mysteries of Religion. 'The five principal mysteries of Religion are known to God alone,' he wrote.

Amando is ultra practical. He was asked, 'Why should children be given the name of a saint in Baptism?' He answered: 'So they will know when their mother is calling them.'

Ministry Of Mercy Called Aim Of Catholic Hospitals

Kansas City, Mo. — The objective of the Catholic hospital is to carry on a "ministry of mercy" and continue the work of Christ among men, Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara of Kansas City, told the 38th annual Catholic Hospital Association convention here.

"The Catholic hospital seeks to give expressions to the basic concept of religion—the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," Bishop O'Hara declared.

Some 300 religious workers from 140 hospitals in the United States and Canada attended the sessions. Father Francis P. Lively of Brooklyn, N. Y., took office as president, succeeding Msgr. Charles A. Towell of Covington, Ky. General theme of the convention was "Co-ordinating the Spiritual and Professional Objectives of the Catholic Hospital."

Among other convention speakers were Bishop William A. O'Connor of Springfield in Illinois, and Dr. Frederick G. Gillick, dean of Creighton University's medical school. A report of

board activities was given by Msgr. Donald A. McGowan, director of the Bureau of Health and Hospitals, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The convention was opened formally with a Solemn Mass offered by Bishop O'Hara in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop Mark K. Carroll of Wichita, preached the sermon. In his address to the convention, Bishop O'Hara reminded the delegates:

"The Catholic hospital bears witness to the value of the human person, the dignity of man because he has been made in the image of God, his worth because his salvation has been purchased by the suffering and death of Christ."

Catholics Slighted In Army Report On Korea Religions

Seoul, Korea — Catholic missions are slighted in a "Report of Christian Missionary Activity in Korea," published by the Civil Education Section of United Nations Civil Assistance Command, Korea. This agency, known as UNCAAC, is actually under Far East Command, U. S. Army.

The report is a mimeographed booklet of 22 pages, issued early this year. Half of it deals with the history of Christian missions in Korea, their present activity and projects. The other half gives statistics, lists of institutions and a map of Christian missions in Korea in 1931.

Catholic missions appear nowhere on this map. In 1931 there were three Catholic Bishops, one Prefect Apostolic and more than 100,000 Catholics in Korea. The map shows only the divisions in which six Protestant denominations had agreed to work separately.

The "historical sketch" in Chapter I ignores more than a century of Catholic history in Korea. That means the beginning of Christianity in Korea.

THE BOOKLET says: "As regards the church itself, organized Protestant mission work had begun in Korea in 1884." The earliest date at which the text mentions a Catholic population in Korea is 1921!

Actually the beginnings of the Christian faith in Korea go back to the 1770's. Korean scholars brought back Catholic doctrine books from Peking and decided to become Christians. The first missionary in Korea was Father Chu, a Chinese priest, who came in 1784 and was executed in 1801. By that date there were some 5,000 Catholics in the country.

Three French missionaries, one of them a Bishop, came to Korea in the 1830's and were martyred in Seoul, with Korean Catholics, in 1839. In that year there were 3,000 Catholics in the country. The first Korean priest was ordained in 1845 and martyred in Seoul in 1846.

THE READER of the booklet published by Civil Education Section of UNCAAC gets no hint of these events. Nor is he told, for instance, that Catholic Bishops opened an orphanage in Seoul as far back as 1888.

In the second section of the booklet Catholic institutions are listed with the others.

Pray For Queen Rome — (RNS) — Osservatore Romano, Vatican newspaper, assured Queen Elizabeth II that Catholics everywhere were asking God to protect her "and enlighten her thoughts for the good of her nation and international understanding."



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