NCCM Urges Quick Action On Refugees

(N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)

Washington—The National Council of Catholic Men's executive committee has called for immediate passage by Congress of emergency legislation which would permit 240,000 refugees to enter this country from Europe.

The committee said it was acting on behalf of 7,000 affiliated organizations and "motivated by Christian charity for our suffering fellowmen."

The action was taken at a meeting of the NCCM executive committee here in the nation's capital. Present at the meeting were Francis I. Nally of Toledo, president; Albert J. Sattler of New York, vice president; David A. McMullen of St. Louis, secretary; Patrick J. McDonald of Boston, treasurer; Garnet Griffin of Detroit, John C. Hayes of Chicago, Joseph Lemp of Pittsburgh, and Martin H. Work, executive secretary.

THE NCCM committee favored legislation along the lines of the Watkins bill, which embodies President Dwight D. Eisenhower's plan to help Europe's refugees, expellees and escapees.

"In this hour of international crisis," the committee's resolution said, "the passage of a bill to admit 240,000 new citizens to our country would not only be an act of mercy and charity, but one which would provide a partial and temporary solution to the tremendous excess population problem that exists in Europe as a result of the flight of millions of refugees and expellees from Communist countries, as well as population problems created by unsettled postwar economic conditions in some of our allied countries."

The resolution expressed the belief that the United States readily can absorb 240,000 refugees and such action would encourage other nations to follow this country's example. The resolution said that "it would symbolize to the world our everlasting concern for the poor, the homeless and the persecuted."

Negro Bishop Ordains Negro Priests

Bay St. Louis, Miss.—Bishop Joseph O. Bowers, S.V.D., of Accra, West Africa (center), is shown with two Negro seminarians he ordained in colorful ceremonies at St. Augustine's Seminary here. The new priests are: The Rev. Hubert Singleton, S.V.D., of Lake Charles, La. (left); and the Rev. Vance Thorne, S.V.D., of Bath N. C. The rites marked the first time in the history of the Catholic Church in the United States that a Negro prelate ordained Negro priests. (Religious News Service Photo)

CPA Picks Chicago For '54 Convention

New York — (NC) — The 1954 convention of the Catholic Press Association will be held at the Palmer House in Chicago from May 12 to 14, it was announced at CPA headquarters here by Father Thomas A. Meehan, editor of the New World, Chicago, and CPA president.

Father Meehan said the 1954 meeting will be co-sponsored by The New World and Extension magazine, with His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, as host.

Auxiliary Bishop William D. O'Brien of Chicago, will head the program committee as honorary chairman, Father Meehan said.

Warning From Washington

A Constant Challenge

Reds Have Initiative

By J. J. GILBERT

Washington — (NC) — A fact that stands out clearly in the present world crisis is that Soviet Russia still holds the initiative. A corollary of this is that the West knows very little what goes on behind the Iron Curtain, and is unable to foresee what the Kremlin will do next, or why.

At the start of this year, practically everyone in this capital was agreed that 1953 would be fateful. There were some who believed we would in not too long a time be called upon to fight another two-front war, but this one virtually alone. That belief is credited with speeding up the negotiations looking to the establishment of U.S. air and naval bases in Spain. At the same time, there were those who thought the prospect of a "hot" war were less than they had been for some time.

Nevertheless, the fact that the talks looking toward a truce in Korea finally began to go smoothly came as a surprise to a great many. Then, when President Rhee of Korea released the anti-Communist prisoners of war and jeopardized all the negotiations, there were those who said there could still be a truce, "if Russia wanted one badly enough."

UP UNTIL THAT time, observers were trying to guess why Russia was agreeing to truce talks at this time. Some thought the five-man regime that succeeded Stalin in the Kremlin wanted time to re-group before a new attack. Others thought the Reds wanted to inaugurate a diversionary action elsewhere. Some were bold enough to say that maybe the Kremlin had learned that armed aggression did not pay.

They didn't say that the Reds were going to stop being aggressors, only that they would use other types of aggression.

Then came the uprising against Soviet tyranny in East Germany. People here began to wonder how much this might have had to do with the Russian show of a desire for a truce in Korea. The uprising came after the truce talks were well under way, but Moscow could have known long before the truce talks that trouble was brewing in Germany. We could not.

OF COURSE, no one expected the German uprising to survive very long when enormous armed might was pitted against a disarmed people. But it was a terrific propaganda defeat for Russia, something the Kremlin seems to mind very much.

And, since we knew nothing about the storm that was brewing in East Germany, could there be trouble stirring, or actually existing, for the Reds in other Iron Curtain countries? Some people said they saw signs of this, but actually they didn't know.

Once again it becomes apparent what a powerful, and dreadful, weapon it is that Moscow wields, when it shuts off a puppet nation from contact with the outside world. It suffocates the hopes of patriots in those subjugated countries, and it prevents the Free World from capitalizing upon the unrest and heroism of these patriots.

And, since Moscow has thoroughly disarmed all of these countries, there is little hope that they will ever win freedom, except with help from outside. But with this impenetrable censorship existing, neither the patriots can help the West, nor the West can help the patriots.

PRO-COMMUNISTS in this country constantly are raving and ranting, trying to create the impression that their rights are being invaded, and they spare no effort to sell this idea to decent Americans. They should be reminded of the hobbles Moscow puts upon the people of every country it "liberates."

Meanwhile, Moscow is going to to see to it that every hope of of liberty in a puppet country is crushed before the West can learn about it, and co-operate with it.

Requests For Rosaries Swamp Father Peyton

Cleveland — (NC) — Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., director of the Family Rosary Crusade, who just has completed a family Rosary rally in this diocese, has been deluged with requests for Rosaries from Catholics, non-Catholics, lapsed Catholics and prospective converts.

In addition to offers made here to donate a Rosary to anyone who wanted one, Father Peyton also made an offer to donate a Rosary during nation-wide broadcasts on each Sunday during May on the Five Glorious Mysteries. The programs were carried by The Catholic Hour, produced by the National Council of Catholic Men and broadcast by the National Broadcasting Company.

Most of the mail asking for Rosaries came from Catholics, Father Peyton said, but there was an encouraging amount from non-Catholics, [illegible] ... Rosary. There was one letter, for example, which said:

"I am not a Catholic, so we never had a Rosary. For the blessing it will bring, I would like to have one, if you have any to spare. Thanking you for all the service you are rendering to us and others, God bless you."

AND THERE WAS another letter which said:

"I would like very much to have a Rosary sent to me because I do admire Catholics and I believe in everything they stand for and live up to. Therefore I would like very much to have a Rosary because it is one of my daily prayers and I am trying hard to become a Catho-[illegible]

Catholics Serve On New Cabinet In France

Paris — (NC) — France's new Premier, Joseph Laniel, has named a cabinet that includes many noted Catholics.

Himself a Catholic, Premier Laniel has always favored laws granting government aid to Catholic schools.

During the 37-day cabinet crisis, longest since the war, the school issue again became a source of controversy.

The new Premier comes from Lisieux, a strongly Catholic region and site of the national basilica built in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus who lived there. He has represented that district in the French legislature for the past 25 years, succeeding his father who had represented it for 40 years.

PREMIER LANIEL is owner of a large textile mill. In 1945 he was elected president of the Republican Party of Liberty, a small conservative group that merged with the Independents in 1951.

Among the 22-man cabinet, 18 members belong to parties that have traditionally supported legislation favorable to the Church.

The five Catholic Popular Republican members are headed by Georges Bidault, who has been renamed Foreign Affairs Minister.

27 Young Women Join St. Joseph Sisters' Ranks

(Continued from Page 1)

Among those receiving the habit were the twin daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Weaver of St. James' parish.

After a special blessing imparted to the new novices, Bishop Casey offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

AT THE CLOSE of Holy Mass, Bishop Casey congratulated the new novices on following the call God gave them to enter the religious life.

He told them that because of their sacrifice there are children in the diocese of Rochester who will receive the benefit of a Catholic education.

To the parents, the Bishop said, "The child you give to God is the child you really keep. These sisters will continue to love their fathers and mothers and their families with an ever increasing love as the years go on."

The Bishop exhorted the new novices to lay for themselves a strong foundation in the religious life in the year that is just ahead. "With this preparation you will be able to meet the problems of the classroom, be faithful sisters of St. Joseph and an inspiration to all whom you meet," he told them.

Assisting Bishop Casey were: the Reverend Fathers Edward Lintz, Edward McAniff, William Shannon and George Wood.

Rev. John Morgan, cross bearer; Rev. John Norris and Rev. James Callan, acolytes; Rev. Edward Zimmer, candle bearer; Rev. Robert Downs, book bearer.

Monsignori present in the sanctuary included: the Rt. Rev. Monsignors Thomas Connors, Louis Edelman, Joseph Gefell, William Stauder, John Duffy and the Very Rev. Msgr. John Randall.

Priests present were, the Reverend Fathers Austin Hanna, Francis Marks, Hubert Bisky, Joseph Merkel, John Crowley, John Reddington, Joseph Hogan, Charles Connell, Richard Tormey.

The Reverend Fathers Roy Morphy, Leo Schwab, Albert Ryan, William Hickey, William Thomas, Leonard Kujawski, Robert Flood, C.S.B., Clarence Drouillard, C.S.B., John Whalen, John Newcomb, John McCafferty, Frank Mason.

The Reverend Fathers Joseph Dailey, Robert Fennessy, Francis Feeney, Darcy Bolger, William Naughton, John Kleintjes, Joseph O'Connell, Edward Tolster, Michael O'Brien, Bernard Hanna, Bernard Kuchman, Raymond Wahl.

The Reverend Fathers George Schmitt, Thomas Murphy of Oswego and the Rev. Justus Bush, O.F.M. Conv.

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Social Conference

Antigonish, N. S. — (NC) — St. Francis Xavier University announced that a Canadian Catholic Social Conference will be held at the campus here August 2-4 under the patronage of His Eminence James Cardinal McGuigan, Archbishop of Toronto. The theme of the meeting—the first annual conference of the English section of the Semaines Sociales du Canada—will be the parish as a basic cell of society.

Lutherans Hit Mixed Marriage With Catholics

Houston — (NC) — The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod declared here that marriages of Lutherans with Roman Catholics are "diametrically opposed to the eternal truths of God," and called upon its pastors and congregations to take "firm but evangelical" action against them.

A resolution, one of 104 adopted by the meeting here, struck out against the fact that the Lutheran party to a mixed marriage must take preliminary instructions from a priest, and must promise to raise children born of the marriage in the Catholic Faith. It said this is a sinful promise and "condemns unborn children to the soul-destroying religion of the anti-Christ."

Rev. F. A. Hertwig of Detroit, chairman of the Convention Committee on Parish Education, said "we must recognize the fact that in some of our congregations mixed marriages now are the rule instead of the exception." "While we cannot say such marriages are unmitigated evil," he added, "we ought to prepare our young people. If our members acknowledge they love Jesus Christ most of all, then our answer is they must submit all other love to that."

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