

### Singapore Catholics Rap Subsidy For Birth Control

Singapore — (NC) — A wave of resentment has surged among Catholics here over the government's arbitrary decision to double the allotment of public funds to the birth-control agencies.

Responsibility for the decision is placed on T. P. McNeice, the president of the Singapore City Council, an office equivalent to mayor. Mr. McNeice is also president of the Singapore Family Planning Association, the name used by the birth-control group here.

**CATHOLICS HERE** point out that this allotment of public funds is for a purpose to which Catholics are opposed in conscience. They also note that the taxpayers were not consulted on this move.

Meanwhile it was learned that the International Planned Parenthood Federation will soon open its Western Pacific headquarters here. This city will thus become the place from which birth-control propaganda will be channeled to all of Malaya, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Oceania.

The Family Planning Association cites an alleged overpopulation in these areas. Statistics show, according to Catholic sources here, that there is in fact no overpopulation, but only a faulty distribution of the people and underproduction, both of which could be remedied by government measures.

Catholics here call for coordinated government efforts to decentralize the population which has crowded into the large cities in increasing numbers. They point out that this can be done by encouraging a decentralization of the industries, a clearing of huge jungle areas and the cultivation of more rice through increased irrigation.

### Nehru Rejects Birth Control

New Delhi, India — (NC) — Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru took quick exception to the birth-control recommendations made by Census Commissioner R. A. Gopalaswami.

A census report issued by the commissioner advocated the adoption of effective steps to "limit births to approximate parity with deaths."

Declared the Prime Minister: "I do not think that we should try to check the growth of population. The rate at which it is growing is not very rapid. In the totality there is a large increase, because the country is big, but the rate is not bigger than the

### Church Rising On Site Of Atom Blast

Hiroshima, Japan — (NC) — Within blocks of the blast center of history's first atomic attack, workmen are completing a Catholic Church subscribed to by people of many faiths the world over.

It will be consecrated and dedicated to man's so-far-futile search for peace on August 6, 1954, ninth anniversary of the awesome explosion.

**RISING ON** the ruins of the Church of the Assumption destroyed in the 1945 blast, the new World Memorial Church of the Assumption is now complete in its external structure. The gleaming edifice, with its clean, modern lines and 150-foot bell tower, is 200 feet long and 80 feet wide. It contains seven altars.

Funds for its erection have come mostly from abroad, notably the United States and South America, but Japan has contributed a generous share, too. Japan's contribution was raised in drives sponsored by the Hiroshima Shrine Committee headed by Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida and the chief abbots of the Sodo and Shingon Buddhist sects.

Decorations and fixtures, including four great bells for the tower, an organ, a tabernacle and a number of statues, have been donated by Catholics and Protestants of Europe, especially in Germany.

A **STRIKING** feature of the new church will be a perpetual crusade of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for world peace by cloistered Franciscan nuns from the United States. This incessant prayer will go on against a backdrop of flags representing all nations who fought in World War II. Preserved in a prominent place in the shrine will be a set of golden books listing thousands of living and dead war veterans of those nations.

Father Hugo La Salle, S.J., who conceived and executed the project, visited Tokyo recently to organize a final drive for funds for interior decorations still needed.

**City Council**  
Manchester, N. H. — (NC) — The Board of Mayor and Aldermen has adopted a special resolution supporting a campaign to rid Manchester news stands of indecent literature.

### NUNS BUILD CONVENT



Turin, Italy—Four of 13 disheveled Carmelite nuns who are building the stone walls of their new enclosed convent near here are shown carrying heavy cement bases from their material dump to the convent grounds. A special Papal dispensation made it possible for the nuns to disrupt their normal daily prayer and meditation to carry on the construction work. After the convent is solemnly dedicated during the 1954 Marian year, the doors will be closed upon its 13 nuns who will return to the vigorous life of the enclosed community, one of the Catholic Church's most austere and withdrawn orders. (RNS Photo)

### Missionaries Hope Of 'Silent Church'

Techny, Ill. — (NC) — Addressing 197 young men at the Society of the Divine Word missionaries' training center here, His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, expressed surprise and satisfaction at the large number of missionaries in training and called them the hope of the Silent Church.

"I have come here to visit His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Tien," the Apostolic Delegate said, "who would like to go back to his beloved China but cannot. His missionaries are banished,

### Retail Union Fights Sunday Store Openings

Cincinnati, O. — (NC) — The Cincinnati union which successfully fought violations of the Sunday observance law here early this year is waging a campaign in Reading against Sunday opening of furniture and appliance stores.

Proprietors of two Reading stores are scheduled to appear before the Reading Night Court, Dec. 4, to answer charges of violating the Ohio Sunday Closing laws.

Charges were preferred by the Retail Clerks Union, District Council No. 9, whose spokesman is George Porcaro, district secretary and a member of Holy Name parish, Cincinnati.

A union statement declared that "this commercialization desecrates the day set aside by the law of God and Ohio statute as a day of worship and rest."

Test cases begun by the union in Cincinnati last December brought Police Court conviction of the violators.

### Heated Sidewalks Front Newest Church In Denver

Denver — (NC) — The Archdiocese of Denver saw the celebration of its third major church in a year when Archbishop Urban J. Vehr blessed St. John the Evangelist Church here.

Admired by President Eisenhower during a visit to Denver, the rose brick structure features a slanting floor for better viewing by the congregation, a glass paneled "crying room" for infants and parents, and a basement lounge room and kitchen for parish meetings.

Exterior walks at the entrance to the church will be cleared of ice and snow by electric conduits imbedded in the concrete. Pastor of the church is Msgr. John P. Moran.

**Papal Envoy**  
Vatican City — (NC) — Archbishop Giovanni Panico, newly named Apostolic Delegate to Canada, plans to assume his post toward the end of January, 1954. It has been announced here.

### Church's Fight Against Racial Discrimination Told In UNESCO Work

United Nations, N. Y. — (NC) — The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has issued a pamphlet by a leading French Dominican theologian showing that the principles of Catholicism are by their very nature opposed to racial discrimination.

In releasing the English edition of "The Catholic Church and the Race Question," by Father Yves Congar, O.P. — UNESCO said publication of Father Congar's manuscript has the approval of the ecclesiastical authorities.

**IN THE PAMPHLET**, Father Congar declares that human dignity "is the same in all men." Then he adds: "He who, while saying 'Our Father' would deny a Negro or a Jew the status of a brother, even if only by implication or as a pure matter of practice, would not be really invoking the Father who is in Heaven, and he would not be heard."

"It is because there is but one God, in whose image all have been fashioned, one Father Whose children we all likewise are, that all men are brothers, in a way no created power can destroy. The only means of denying this brotherhood is to set oneself outside the Fatherhood of God. Here again, the logical conclusion of racism is the abandonment of Christianity."

After reviewing the long history of papal condemnations of race prejudice — an elaboration of a previous article he wrote for the UNESCO Courier — Father Congar treats of the current difficulties in relations between Negroes and Whites, dealing at length with the United States and South Africa.

As for the stand of the Church regarding the race question in America, the priest recalled the address of Archbishop John Ireland of St. Paul on the anniversary of the Act of Emancipation in 1861 — less than 30 years after the slaves were freed. In it, Archbishop Ireland declared:

"Let the Negro be our equal in the enjoyment of all political rights of the citizen. The Constitution gives him these rights; let us be loyal to the Constitution. If the education of the Negro does not fit him

### Negro Priest

United Nations, N. Y. — (NC) — While there were only 33 Negro priests in service in the United States in 1850, it is anticipated that there will be a thousand by 1960, according to Father Yves Congar, O.P.

In the UNESCO pamphlet, "The Catholic Church and the Race Question," the French Dominican asserts that the number of American Negroes "being called" to the priesthood is increasing, and that "the Holy See is naturally encouraging this trend."

to be a voter and an office holder, let us, for his sake and our own, hurry to enlighten him.

"I would open to the Negro all industrial and professional avenues — the test for his advance being his ability, but never his color. I would, in all public gatherings, and in all public resorts, in halls and hotels, treat the black man as I treat the white. I might shun the vulgar man, whatever his color, but the gentleman, whatever his color, I would not dare push from me."

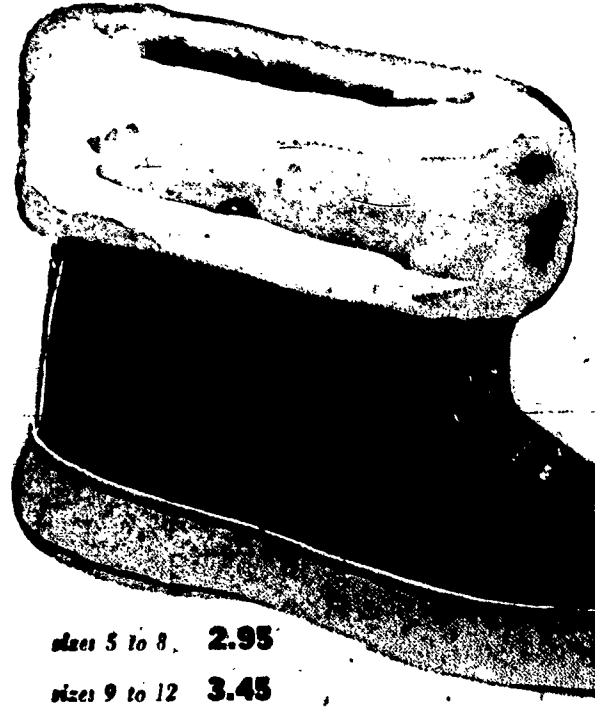
**TURNING TO** the problem of anti-Semitism, Father Congar holds that the Catholic protest against it "is definite, united and absolute" as regards religion and respect for the human person and the primary rights as well as in the matter of anti-Jewish discrimination based on racism. He cites a long list of explicit condemnations of anti-Semitism by the Popes and Bishops and recalls that in March, 1928 — five years before Hitler came to power in Germany — the Holy Office decreed:

"Because it reproves all hatred and ill animosity between the peoples, it (the Holy See) condemns, unreservedly, hatred of the people once chosen by God, that hatred which is today commonly called anti-Semitism."

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