

## Polish Reds Take Rap At U. S. Catholics

London — (NC) — The Polish communist regime has unleashed a slander campaign against American Catholics aimed at destroying the prestige built up by them through generous relief shipments to Poland after World War II.

The attack on American Catholics was launched in *Slows Powozczenie*, the daily organ of the regime, "patriotic" Catholics. The paper stated that "American Catholics, descendants of Irish, Italian and Polish immigrants, have become rich and joined the ranks of the bourgeoisie."

The majority of American Catholics are tools of "American imperialists and warmongers," bent on the destruction of the Polish nation, it added.

In the first five years after World War II, American Catholics sent to war-ravaged Poland an estimated 20 million pounds of food, clothing and medicines, valued at more than seven million dollars.

## Fatigue Caused Prelate's Collapse

Boston — (NC) — The Archdiocesan Chancery announced that Archbishop Richard J. Cushing's collapse in Worcester came about because he was "fatigued." The Ordinary of the Boston See had fainted on the stage of a Worcester theater while giving an address on the eve of St. Patrick's day.

Treated at St. Vincent's Hospital there, he was able to return to Boston shortly, and surprised the congregation of 3,000 at Holy Name Cathedral by maintaining his schedule in celebrating the St. Patrick's Day Mass.

In explaining the Archbishop's seizure in Worcester, the Chancery recalled that he had undergone two surgical operations last December — one for the removal of a cyst on the kidney — and that he had been hard at work since then. Following the operations, the 58-year-old prelate's weight dropped from 205 to 160 pounds.

## Priest Sees Rise In Number Of Women Alcoholics

Cleveland — (RNS) — Within the next five years, America may have as many women alcoholics as men — maybe more.

That's the opinion of Father Otis Winchester, a leader here of movements to help reform alcoholics.

Father Winchester, assistant pastor of St. Agnes Parish, was a founder of the Stella Maris Home for men ex-alcoholics. He hopes to open a similar home for women this year.

In an interview, the priest said his main reason for expecting a sharp upturn, in female alcoholics is the continuing attempt of many women to do men's work — to do things for which they are neither physically nor psychologically equipped.

In addition, he said, the number of recognized problem drinkers will increase as people learn more about alcoholism and the Alcoholics Anonymous program. As that happens, he explained, many women who are already hidden alcoholics will admit their trouble and look for help.

On the cause, Father Winchester said women working in men's jobs (in factories, for example) create psychological conflicts within themselves that they release in drinking. He added:

"They don't really want to drink, but they feel they must in order to keep up with men, to be able to do as much as men."

## Colleges' Leaflet Goes To 70,000

Atchison, Kans. — (NC) — A leaflet outlining the advantages of the six Catholic colleges of Kansas has been distributed to 70,000 persons throughout the State. This is the second year for the cooperative advertising venture sponsored by the colleges and encouraged by the prelates of the province of Kansas City in Kansas.

Will Talk Turkey Washington — (NC) — A team of language experts from Georgetown University have been sent to Turkey to teach English to Turkish technical trainees, Father Edward B. Bunn, university president, announced. The project is an aid to the Foreign Operations Administration's technical assistance program.

## Youth Laxity On Atheism Irks Soviets

Berlin — (NC) — The Soviet Union's leaders are worried because their young people are lax in using their "freedom for anti-religious propaganda."

This becomes clear from a speech made by A. N. Shelepin, national secretary of the Young Communist League (Komsomol) at the organization's first national meeting in five years. The gathering took place in the Kremlin and was attended by Premier Georgi M. Malenkov and other top Soviet officials.

THE "FREEDOM for anti-religious propaganda" contained in the Soviet Constitution is not just a freedom but a duty for the 18,000,000 members of the youth league, Mr. Shelepin made clear. According to the Soviet system, from these 18,000,000 members will rise the future rulers of the vast Soviet empire.

"Anti-religious propaganda in the Komsomol has been seriously weakened and in some places it has stopped completely," the Soviet official complained. Some Komsomol leaders underestimate the injurious influence of religion on youth and children, he said, and this negligence by Komsomol officials has resulted in the fact that many youths have fallen prey to "religious ideology."

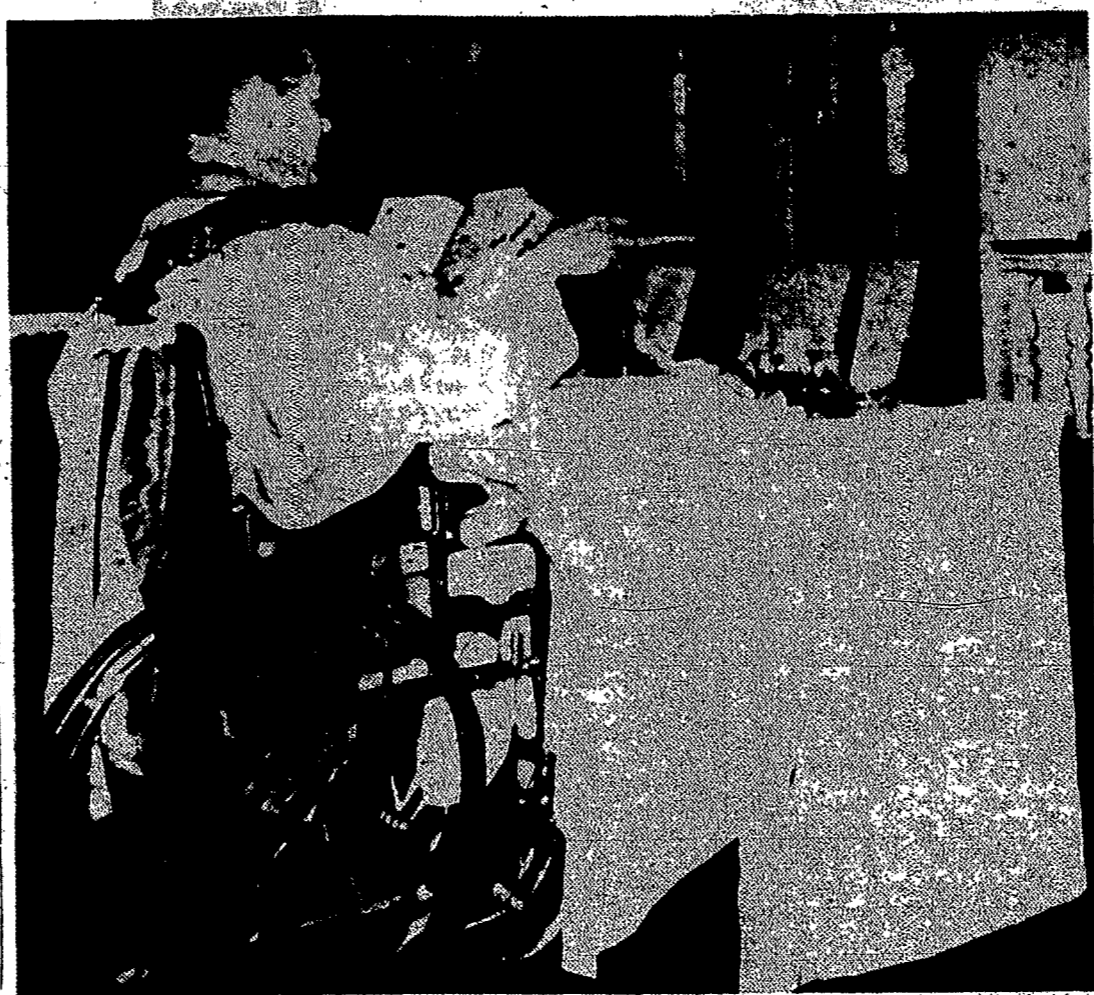
## Gannon College Gets \$100,000

Erie, Pa. — (NC) — A \$100,000 gift to Gannon College by Archbishop John Mark Gannon of Erie will go toward payment for a new engineering building, the college announced. In a letter explaining his gift, the Archbishop said: "I realize you are laboring under the pressure of a tremendous debt. Educators should not be burdened with debt. As a consequence I am hereby making you a gift of \$100,000."

The college is conducting a campaign among business leaders to raise funds for the \$610,000 building.

Asks Prayers Chicago — (NC) — His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, has called upon his priests and people to set aside Passion Sunday, April 4, as a day of prayer for the persecuted of other countries.

## Celebrates Mass In Wheelchair



Warm Springs, Ga. — The Rev. Louis J. Prohaska, pastor of St. Patrick's church, Union Lake, Michigan, is shown celebrating Mass in a wheelchair at the March of Dimes Polo Foundation here. The priest, who was stricken with polio last August, is paralyzed from the waist down. Special permission for offering Mass was granted to him recently. He has responded to treatment sufficiently to be able to dress himself and roll his wheelchair one block to the chapel.

## Pius XI Warned Mussolini On Downfall But 'Il Duce' Only Smiled, Did Nothing

Rome — (NC) — The staunchly anti-fascist Pope Pius XI foresaw Mussolini's downfall and warned him of it. What's more, the Italian dictator agreed the Pope was right but never did anything to prevent it.

These facts are revealed in a new book, "Twenty Years of History, 1922-1943" by Attilio Tamaro, former Italian minister to Switzerland.

One day, the former diplomat relates, Pope Pius XI was talking to Italy's first ambassador to the Holy See, Count Cesare De Vecchi, of whom he was particularly fond. During the conversation the Holy Father asked the ambassador if he was willing to take Mussolini's message that would require a great deal of courage. The ambassador replied that he was.

The Pope then said: "Tell Mr. Mussolini in my

name that the sort of divinization of which he is the object displeases me and is harming him. . . . Tell him in my name

## Protestants, Jews Get CYO Bids

Washington — (NC) — The Catholic Youth Organization of the Washington archdiocese has voted to invite Protestants and Jews to become associate members of the heretofore all-Catholic organization Alfred A. McGarraghy, president, has announced.

Mr. McGarraghy explained that the move was taken because of interest expressed by Protestants and Jews, as well as Catholics, in the new class of associate membership. Father Edwin A. Luckett is executive director of the organization.

to consider that there is only one God, Mr. Mussolini can therefore be only an idol, a false God or, at most, a false prophet. Ask him in my name to remember that the people always end by breaking their idols. If he does not change his ways, he will end badly.

"I confide this message to you. Fix it well in your mind and give me your promise that you will omit nothing. You understand me you are not to blurt it. Only you can tell this to Mr. Mussolini for me."

Ambassador De Vecchi took the message to Mussolini, who asked him if he had reported it accurately, adding nothing of his own. The diplomat assured that he had delivered the message just as it had been given him.

"Very well, then," Mussolini replied, smiling ironically, "go tell the Pope he is right."

## U. S. Eyes Bid To Free China-Held Missionaries

Washington — (NC) — Possibility of pressing Red China directly for release of 32 imprisoned Americans — 13 of them Catholic missionaries — is being studied by the State Department in planning for the Geneva Far Eastern Conference April 26.

Since the United States does not recognize Communist China diplomatically, previous attempts to gain release of the Americans have been made in the United Nations, or through Britain, Russia or some other intermediary. Officials said that if a direct demand cannot be made at the talks in Switzerland, the Peking delegates might be approached through a neutral.

The 13 imprisoned Catholic missionaries are Bishop Ambrose Plieger of Chowtsun (Francisco), Lindsay, Neb., and the following priests:

**Passionists**  
Justin Garvey, Ridgewood, N. J.; Marcellus White, Waltham, Mass.; and John Baptist Maye, Scranton, Pa., who according to U.S. consular officials in Hong Kong is being held in Changsha, Hunan Province, site of his old mission. Father Maye reached the border at Hong Kong last August 27, but the Reds stopped him there and sent him back to Changsha, the officials said.

**Jesuits**  
Thomas Phillips, Butte, Mont.; John A. Houle, Glendale, Calif.; Charles J. McCarthy, San Francisco; John W. Clifford, San Francisco; Armand Proulx, Lowell, Mass.; and Joseph P. McCormack, New York.

**Franciscans**  
Fulgence Gross, Omaha, Neb.; and Cyril Wagner, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Divine Word Society**  
Harold Rigney, Chicago, Ill.

## Bingo Proposal Blocked In Michigan

Lansing, Mich. — (RNS) — A resolution which would have permitted voters to decide whether they wanted to amend the state constitution so as to permit charity bingo and raffles apparently has been sidetracked in the Senate.

The Senate Judiciary Committee passed up consideration of the resolution by a 15 to 11 vote. That is cleared the committee, the resolution would have required 22 votes in the Senate and 67 in the House. Observers said that many votes were just not in sight at any time.

## Bingo Bills Killed In N. Y. Legislature

Albany, N. Y. — (RNS) — Eighteen bills designed to legalize bingo games conducted by religious, fraternal, veterans and other non-profit groups have been killed in committee of the New York legislature.

Most of the measures — ten were introduced in the Assembly and eight in the Senate — sought a constitutional amendment that would have to be approved by two different legislatures and the state's voters.

Political observers attributed the death of the bills to strong opposition by Protestants and to the harness race track scandal that has rocked the state administration.

Legislators were said to feel that in view of the racing scandal it would not be wise to press for the legalization of other forms of gambling at this time.

When the measures were introduced, Senator Seymour Hilpern and Assemblyman Fred W. Preller, Queens, Republicans, pointed out that New York state allows legalized million-dollar race track wagering while outlawing bingo.

"It's high time this hypocrisy should be ended," they said in asking that "honest, duly recognized groups, under careful supervision, be allowed to sponsor bingo games."

Strongest opposition to legalizing bingo has come from the New York State Council (Protestant) of Churches. The council's legislative committee, headed by the Rev. Wallace T. Viete, pastor of Calvary Methodist church here, said it opposed any change in the law which would allow "bingo, or any other game of chance, by whatever name, under any auspices."

"The alleged good which comes from money-raising activities based on petty gambling cannot possibly counteract the evil done to society as a whole," the committee said.



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