

New Persecution Drive On Church Feared In Yugoslavia

(N.C.W. News Service)

After a period of comparative quiet, the regime in Yugoslavia is reported ready to launch a new campaign against bishops, priests and faithful aimed at "crippling the church forever."

At the same time, there are reports that an imprisoned, gravely ill bishop has been denied an opportunity to receive the last sacraments and that the bishops of Yugoslavia are pleading with communist authorities to let him free.

Another light was thrown on the religious situation in Yugoslavia by the statement of a communist official that, despite the release of 101 imprisoned clergymen last year, another 158 among them 124 Catholic priests, are still serving prison sentences. The actual figure of imprisoned priests is believed to be even higher.

Cripple Church Forever Seen Aim

Trieste (NC) — A new drive on the church in Yugoslavia is spearheaded by the communist in Slovenia and has met with the support of the communists in Croatia, according to reports received here. The drive is said to be scheduled for early April in an effort to interfere with the celebration of Easter by the "Catholic Slovenes and Croat people."

At the recent communist party congress in Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia, the first leader, Mila Markin, is said to have called for "effective measures to 'cripple the church forever' and to eliminate God, Christ and the Virgin Mary from the minds of the Slovene people in the countryside." Communists, which apparently have been advised by reports that the number of those regularly attending Mass in some parts of Slovenia has increased to nearly 75 per cent.

Sacraments Denied To Bishop Cule

Trieste (NC) — Bishop Cule of Gorizia in Italy, who is a Yugoslav citizen and a priest has been refused permission to bring him the last sacraments, reports The Standard, a Catholic weekly.

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According to The Standard

recently released prisoner described the bishop as being in an unimpaired condition, suffering "terrible pains" from his wounds which were "bloody" this winter by the frost.

FROM FAR-OFF INDONESIA



A MARK used by Indonesian natives during their tribal feasts is being studied by Brother Michael, S.V.D., and Brother Stanislaus, S.V.D., of St. Michael's House, Conesus. The Society of the Divine Word conducts missions in Indonesia.

Indonesia, Mission Progress Reported At St. Michael's

Indonesia where Divine Word Missionaries are working has been noted as one of the most successful missions in recent years, according to reports from the Rome headquarters to St. Michael's Mission House, Conesus.

The year 1953, the Very Rev. Casimir F. Murawski, S.V.D., St. Michael's Mission House rector said marked the 40th anniversary of the Divine Word Missionaries going to Timor and the establishment of the independent mission of the Little Sunda Isles.

DURING THE four decades the 29,000 Catholics of the Indonesia Mission increased to 583,000 and this in spite of setbacks of the world wars. The upward-swing continues steadily, the report said. This last year, 8,253 adults were received into the Church, while the total increase of Catholics reached 23,000.

The report continues: "The 269 Divine Word Missionary Priests and Brothers direct more than 800 mission stations in this fertile vineyard of the ministry."

Post-War Church Built In Korea

Seok Cho, Korea (NC) — A gleaming granite church now rears its tower over this difficult harbor, 30 miles north of the 38th Parallel and the supply port for the eastern end of the front line. It is, perhaps, the most significant landmark on the coast.

As a spiritual landmark, however, the church is really unique. It is the first to be built in what was once Communist North Korea.

Except for the churches built in Spain after the civil war, it is the first Catholic church in the world to be erected in territory won back from the Reds.

Papal Mission Gives Food To Refugees

Amman, Jordan (NC) — The Pontifical Mission for Palestine here has begun the free distribution of some 4,000 boxes of cheese and 2,000 barrels of powdered milk to Arab refugees in the eastern and western parts of Jordan.

The Mission for Palestine was established by His Holiness Pope Pius XII in April, 1949, for assistance to Arabs exiled from their homes in the Holy Land during the Arab-Jewish conflict. The president of the group is Magr. Thomas J. McMahon, general secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Conference whose headquarters are in New York.

Some idea of the amount of food involved in the relief distribution is gained from the fact that the milk weighs 300 tons and is valued as more than \$76,000, while the cheese weighs 161 tons and is worth \$128,000.

THE SUPPLIES are being transported to various towns and villages without charge by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, whose cars also brought the large consignment from Beirut, Lebanon, without cost to the Pontifical Mission. The distribution centers will be churches and various welfare organizations, both Catholic and non-Catholic.

While the purpose of the Pontifical Mission is primarily the relief of refugees, other deserving poor people are not refused aid. In the same manner, while the donations of clothing, food, medicine, etc., are given by the Catholics of the United States and other countries for Catholic aid projects, the distributions are by no means restricted to Catholics but go also to non-Catholic Christians and to Moslems.

Lord, There are also scores of schools for the training of priests, brothers and catechists. His Excellency the Most Rev. Bishop Gabriel Manek, a native son, is a member of the Society of the Divine Word.

Thirty-eight native Indonesian priests conduct parishes and missionary activities in the same territory. There is bright hope of many more native clergy as there are 621 seminarians in the major and minor seminaries preparing themselves for the spiritual ministry."

Cardinal Newman Didn't Like Cats

London, England (NC) — Cardinal Newman did not like cats. Cats, in fact, were his pet aversion.

Living at Barrow-in-Furness in Lancashire is a widowed old age pensioner who recalls that the great English churchman could not bear to have a cat anywhere near him.

So is Frederick Arundel, who professes that Cardinal Newman abhorred a feline visitor to his wife's home where her maternal grandmother lay bed-ridden for more than five years.

"Always when he came to visit," Mr. Arundel revealed, "the Cardinal would be preceded into the house by his secretary, Father Neville, who would make sure that the cat was turned out."

Press Conventions — Chicago (NC) — Cardinal Strich will be the principal speaker at the annual dinner during the 44th annual Catholic Press Association convention at the Palmer House here from May 12 to 14.

Nurse Caps Conferred On 18 At St. James Mercy

Normal—Eighteen students of St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, received their caps at significant ceremonies Sunday in St. Ignatius Loyola Church here.

The church was filled to the doors with relatives and friends of the students. The girls who officially completed their seven-month probationary period, passing "the first milestone in the nursing profession" are: Ann Aldrich, Dolores Goth, Evelyn Ivey, Jean Philbrick, Mary Seaman and Mary Jane Wilcox of Normal; Beverly Whitney, Angeline Therese Blanzuzo, Belmont; Mary Kathleen O'Brien and Helena Will, Canisteo; Margaret deCooq, Clyde; Mary Ann Reitz, Cuba; Noreen Gessner, Danville; Catherine Horton, Berlin; Carol Ann Gish, Cochrans Fork; Phyllis Lewis, Roxville; Mary Schickler and Kathleen Flynn, Rochester.

The Rev. James F. Slattery, assistant pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church, in Coaling and former assistant at St. Ignatius, spoke.

"To be a nurse is to walk with God," Father Slattery told the group. Christ when He walked the earth had special compassion on the sick, and called those "blessed" who cared for them, he added.

He likened the day of capping to "a day of dedication when the young nursing student comes to the temple of the Living God and in His presence offers heart, talent and being to serving mankind."

NOBLE ASPIRATIONS are not enough for themselves to produce a nurse. Weeks of hard work and sacrifice lie ahead, the priest cautioned. He suggested the student adopt as a motto the words of David:

"Teach me discipline, goodness and knowledge." "The life of a nurse must abound in goodness with a full measure of self-sacrifice, patience and a burning charity, discipline with a sense of order and mastery of emotions and knowledge for a sound foundation."

"To be a nurse is to walk with God and even more," the priest concluded, "is to walk toward God. May Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted, His sweet mother who first nursed Him, be your model in all things."

Rev. Leo E. Lynch, chaplain of St. James Mercy Hospital, presented the class. As each student's name was called, she approached the sanctuary where she was capped by Sister Mary Valerian, director of nurses, assisted by Sister Mary Andre of the school of nursing faculty.

Sister Mary Elizabeth Anne with a large Nightingale lamp, lighted the candles in the miniature lamps carried by the students. She led them in the Florence Nightingale Pledge to "maintain and elevate the high standard" of the profession.

Music for the ceremonies was by St. Ignatius Loyola Male Choir with James P. Clancy, director, at the organ.

SERVICES CLOSED with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Father Lynch was celebrant; the Rev. John D. Malley, of Roxville, deacon, and the Rev. Joseph M. McDonnell, pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola Church, sub-deacon.

In the sanctuary, in addition to the above priests, were the Rev. Robert MacNamara, assistant pastor of St. Ann's, and the Rev. Norbert Nolan, assistant pastor of St. Ignatius.

Students, newly capped, led the solemn recession from the church. They were accompanied by Sisters of Mercy; blue and white-uniformed second year students; white-uniformed graduates and blue-capped alumni, General Missionary Sisters of the Society of the Divine Child from the Belmont convent were present.

A reception for the candidates, their parents and friends was held in the hospital. Tea was served. Sister Mary Thomas was in charge of arrangements. The Misses Kathryn Egan and Patricia O'Hearn presided. The committee included the Misses Mary Rees, Mary Shea, Jean Quartz, Louise North and Patricia Haley.

Priest Scores New York Dock Strike

Philadelphia (NC) — Father Dennis J. Conroy, S.J., Philadelphia port arbitrator, has criticized Philadelphia longshoremen unions for supporting the "wildcat" New York dock strike. He said the support came with "no attention to soundly official principles."

"The New York strike," Father Conroy said, "must be judged as unethical, unjustified, unworthy of men who uphold standards of good unionism. Unhappily, this is the strike to which our Philadelphia waterfront unions have given their sympathetic support."

FATHER CONROY analyzed the port situation in a pamphlet issued to students of the St. Joseph's College institute of industrial relations of which he is director.

Leaders of Philadelphia's units of the Independent International Longshoremen's Association called a one-day "sympathy" work stoppage and announced that cargo diverted here from New York would not be worked. Regarding this stoppage, Father Conroy said any justification for it "must be borrowed from the justice of the ILLA position in New York."

"THE REAL aim of the New York strike," Father Conroy said, "is to pressure the National Labor Relations Board, an agency of our Federal government." He added that ILLA officials in New York at the outset of the strike had publicly asked the men to return to work and a Federal court has enjoined the strike, but all this had been disregarded.

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