

## Vatican Paper

# Czech Reds Violate Own Charter To Shackle Church

Vatican City (NC)—The Czechoslovak communist regime has violated its own constitution to shackle the Catholic Church in that country.

This answer was given by Observatore Romano, Vatican City daily, to a Prague broadcast asserting that the Church and the clergy enjoyed religious freedom in that communist-ruled land.

THE PRAGUE broadcast tried to prove its point by having a "patriotic priest" cite the fact that the regime pays a salary to the clergy.

The salaries do not constitute freedom, Observatore shot back. And they do not stem from any benevolence of the regime, but are rather "weapons of pressure and extortion."

The communist-adopted constitution of February 1948, Observatore recalled, states that the Church and state are separate. But the regime has violated its very own constitution by bringing the Church and the clergy under its domination.

THE VATICAN PAPER listed these violations:

—The regime issued a decree making all parish priests government employees.

—The regime set up a "government office for church affairs" as a supervisory body over all religious organizations.

—The regime placed government-appointed "commissioners" in all church offices, the administrative offices of the Bishops.

—The regime banned catechetical instructions to children in churches.

—The regime threw the country's religious into concentration camps.

—The regime closed all diocesan seminaries but two, which it placed under strict control.

—The regime is forcing the clergy to support the Communist economic program and political objectives through public demonstrations and even from the pulpit.

OBSERVATORE also mentioned the imprisonment of members of the Czechoslovak hierarchy, headed by Archbishop Josef Beran of Prague, returning to the question of the state salaries to the priests. Observatore noted that the regime paid these only after it had seized the churches through which the Church traditionally supported itself.

## 'Under God' Urged In Flag Pledge

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—Proposals to add the words "under God" to the pledge of allegiance to the flag received another boost here when Rep. Peter Rodino Jr. (D. N. J.) introduced a resolution in the House calling for the change.

In doing so, he paid tribute to Rep. Oliver Belmont (R. Ohio) who recently sponsored such a resolution, and buttressed it with a speech citing statements on belief in God expressed by Presidents from George Washington to Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"As a Democrat and a Catholic," Rep. Rodino said, "I am happy and eager to join with the gentlemen from Ohio and with others of various political beliefs and religious faiths in urging that the two words under God be necessary to complete the pledge of allegiance in its full meaning be inserted at the appropriate point."

Public hearings on the proposals in the near future have been promised by Rep. Edgar A. Jones (R. Ill.) of the House Judiciary Committee.

## Tokyo Parish Wins 1,000 Converts

Tokyo (NC)—Over 1,000 Japanese converts in seven years is the record growth of the young St. Anne's parish conducted here by three Benedictine monks from St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minn.

Father of St. Anne's, Father Hildebrand Yalser, O.S.B., reports that a highly successful avenue for their work is winning the friendship of the Japanese children. Father Hildebrand's lectures on the liturgy at St. John's University have attracted many educated people, it is reported.

## HELPS MARYKNOLL ORPHANS



Maryknoll, N. Y. — Miss Lillian Shapiro, Jewish advertising executive, presents a check to aid the Maryknoll Sisters Clinic in Pusan, Korea, to Sister Mary Annette, treasurer general of the order here. Miss Shapiro was moved to help after she had read a letter in the New York Times from ex-Ambassador William Bullitt, who praised the work of the Sisters. Miss Shapiro had visited in Korea. Miss Shapiro, assisted by the aid of her co-religionists as well as Catholics and Protestants, is financially assisting the work of the nuns. She and her friends also have "adopted" a Korean family of four and collect funds to maintain them. (RNS Photo)

## Catholic Schools Facing Big Financial Problems

Chicago (RNS)—Tremendous financial problems for Catholic schools were predicted by Sister Mary Josetta, R.S.M., dean of St. Xavier College here.

The burden will come when Catholic parishes in the United States find they have to add lay teachers, at regular teachers' salaries, to parish-school faculties, she said in an interview.

"SISTERS WHO teach in the city's Catholic schools receive \$50 to \$60 a month and their shelter," the nun-educator said. "Lay teachers will have to be paid about \$250 a month, and at that they are making a financial sacrifice, considering what public schools are paying."

Sister Mary Josetta is vice-chairman of an educational conference of the Sisters of Mercy of the Union, who met here concurrently with the annual sessions of the National Catholic Educational Association. The Sisters of Mercy, one of the largest teaching orders in the United States, operate 12 colleges, 134 secondary and 380 elementary schools. The present 30,000 teaching sisters in the U. S. cannot adequately meet the needs of the nation's Catholic schools, Sister Josetta said.

IT IS NOT that fewer women are entering religious vocations, but that we must draw from the generation when the birth rate was at its lowest to try to serve a peak birth rate," she said. "As a result, parish schools must use more lay teachers. But they find it hard to afford them."

One new Chicago school has six sister and four lay teachers on its faculty, she pointed out. The sisters cost the parish \$300 to \$360 a month, while the lay teachers cost \$1,000 a month.

## 3,500 GI's Attend Korean Field Mass

With the 25th U. S. Division Korea (NC)—Some 3,500 American soldiers formed the outdoor congregation for a field Mass celebrated at the headquarters of this division on Easter Sunday forenoon.

It was the first field Mass that is Mass accompanied by full military ceremonial—in the forward area since the beginning of the Korean war.

Father (Colonel) John J. Ratter, Boise, Ida., was celebrant with Father (Captain) Owen Connaughton of Mobil as deacon and Father Patrick Dawson, Columbian missionary as sub-deacon.

Six four-man color guards, bearing the colors of the 14th Airborne Division, and other units including tanks and engineers of this division led the procession of vested priests and soldiers, mass servers from a hillside chapel on to the parade ground.

Behind the celebrant came a venerable but vigorous figure in purple vestments. It was 77-year-old Bishop Germain Mouette, retired, apostolic delegate of Tsingtau and now, superior of the Pacific foreign missionaries in Korea. He has spent 24 active years in Korea now and is the oldest foreign missionary in the country.

Spring sunshine lit up a brilliant scene. The altar and sanctuary were on a white platform surrounded by 250,000 soldiers of various arms, in front of it. On one side a long queue of soldiers waited to go to confession to white-robed Father (Major) Edward Doney, Dominican from Washington, D. C. An honor guard with gleaming helmets flanked the altar.

A choir of 35 voices, Korean Sisters and orphan girls from St. Paul's orphanage, Seoul, sang, accompanied by the 25th division band.

First U. S. Home.

Los Angeles (NC)—Accompanied by their Superior General, five Sisters of the Pious Schools have arrived here from Cuba, to establish the first community of The Sistershood in this country. They will join the administrative staff of the new Our Lady Queen of Angels Junior Seminary at San Fernando.

## NUNS VISIT U. S. CAPITOL



Washington, D. C. — Superiors of the Ursuline Nuns from various parts of the world are shown on the steps of the capitol during a visit here as guests of Rep. Herbert B. Warburton (R-Del.). The Sisters were in this country to attend the World Congress of Young Catholic Women at Manhattanville College, Purchase, N. Y. The delegation was headed by Mother Alfred Jombart and Mother Rafael Vurnick, Assistant Mothers-General of the order from Rome. Elizabeth Warburton, wife of the Congressman, a graduate of the Ursuline Academy, Wilmington, Del., served as hostess to the nuns during their tour of the city. (RNS Photo)

## Senate Gets Bill To Aid Card. Stepinac

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—A resolution calling upon President Eisenhower to intercede with the Yugoslav government for the release of Aloysius Cardinal Stepinac so that he may "go to the United States or elsewhere" for medical treatment was introduced in the Senate.

Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.), sponsor of the measure, told the Senate that the treatment of the ailing prelate, who is confined to his native village of Krasic after serving five of a 16-year prison sentence "on political charges," is and will continue to be detrimental to relations with the United States.

He recalled that the United States has given "extensive aid in food and military supplies" to Yugoslavia.

The Senator described as a "political move" the 1946 trial and sentencing of Cardinal Stepinac by a Yugoslav Communist court. The cardinal was released in 1951 after being confined to Krasic on condition that he did not carry out any Church administrative functions.

"I do not believe you can find a worse case of persecution, of abuse of principles of justice, of trumped-up charges, phony witnesses and denial of even a minimum of civil rights than that contained in the record of Cardinal Stepinac's trial," Sen. Douglas added.

## Cardinals Going To Rio Congress

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (NC)—Their Eminences Maurice Cardinal Keltin, Archbishop of Paris, and Teodosio Clemente Cardinal de Gouveia, Archbishop of Lourenco Marques, have announced that they will take part in the 36th International Eucharistic Congress to be held here in July, 1954.

## Chicago To Host Catholic Journalists

New York (NC)—A record-breaking attendance of some 400 delegates from all sections of the nation is expected at the 44th annual Catholic Press Association convention in Chicago, May 12 to 14. It was disclosed at CPA headquarters here.



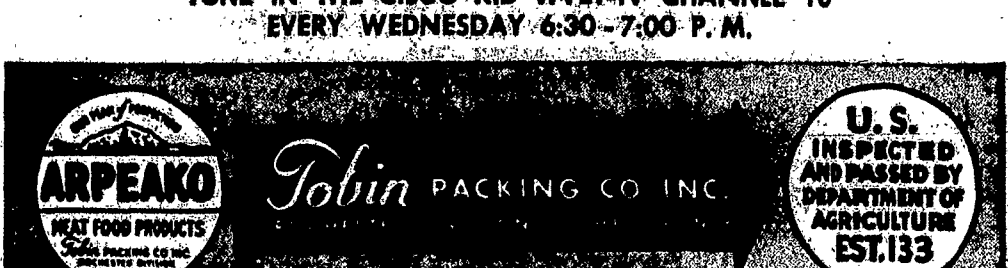
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