

### Vatican Newspaper

## Evanston Welcome To Pro-Red Prelate Scored As 'Applause To Persecutors'

Vatican City (NC) — The reception accorded Bishop Janos Peter of the Reformed Church in communist Hungary at the recent second assembly of the World Council of Churches was criticized here as "applause to persecutors" in the Iron Curtain countries.

Bishop Peter, a strong supporter of the Budapest government, was among the delegates from countries throughout the world who attended the two-week sessions which opened at Evanston, Illinois, in mid-August, under the sponsorship of the World Council, which is made up of 161 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches in 48 nations.

**IN A FRONT PAGE** article in *Osservatore Romano*, Federico Alessandrini, one of the editors of the Vatican City newspaper, declared that there were "certain manifestations" at the Evanston assembly, such as the reception accorded Bishop Peter, which "have only one inevitable consequence."

"This consequence, he said, was to sanction the oppression of religious faith and of Christians — both Catholic and Protestant — in Hungary and other countries linked to communism."

A report from Hungary quoted excerpts from a speech by Bishop Peter on his return from the United States. His speech was delivered before the Hungarian parliament of which he is a member.

**RECALLING THE** cautious attitude taken toward Bishop Peter by the U. S. State Department, which gave him only a limited visa, the *Osservatore* editor said that this did not prevent him from speaking with "a certain ease" during his American visit.

"Not," he added, "did it prevent the assembly from electing some delegates from beyond the Iron Curtain, among them two Hungarians, members of the World Council's central committee."

Mons. Alessandrini said it was a matter of record that Bishop Peter, now 64, of Evanston, "is indeed the government's favorite" from the "communist" of "reactionaries."

But he added, one thing which seemingly has not been mentioned is that the bishop was, according to reports, a member of the Iron Curtain countries.

what about Lutheran Bishop Lajos Ordass, who was condemned to two years in prison a month before the "trial" of Cardinal Mindszenty for having opposed the Budapest government's efforts to nationalize education.

The editor cited a bulletin in 1949 in which the Lutheran World Federation described Bishop Ordass as having "refused to yield to the demand to allow the (Lutheran) church's influence to be weakened, especially in the training of youth."

Signor Alessandrini said it was true that various reformed communities in Hungary and other Iron Curtain countries had been able to come to some agreement with the Red authorities, whereas the Catholics had continued to be oppressed by "judicial and administrative violence." "It is also true, however,"

he added, "that the Reformed churches lack well-defined doctrinal and moral principles, have no internal law, and, above all, lack that bond of universality which is proper to Catholicism."

**THE EDITOR** declared it was true also in Hungary and elsewhere behind the Iron Curtain that Protestant dignitaries must be acceptable to the state, which controls the religious affairs of all communists.

Signor Alessandrini said it has been pointed out that a man who comes and goes to and from Hungary with a regular passport can be nothing else but an agent of communism. It has also been said that Bishop Peter, who was secretary to former President Zoltan Tildy of Hungary, was responsible for the latter's weakness in the face of the communists, and that he was the only official to remain in office when Tildy resigned in 1948.

## Priest Launched Appeal Freeing U. S. Newsmen

Tokyo (NC) — Father Patrick O'Connor, Far Eastern correspondent of N.C.W.C. News Service, was credited with originating a move toward the liberation of two American newsmen from Chinese communist imprisonment.

The two newsmen, Richard Appleby, Hong Kong correspondent of the National Broadcasting Company, and Donald Dixon, International News Service, were held on charges of "violating Chinese law."

**ACCORDING TO** a letter to the editor of the *Nippon Times*, English language daily here, it was Father O'Connor who urged the Tokyo Correspondents Club to wire an appeal to former British Prime Minister Clement Attlee, who was then in Beijing, and ask him to intervene on behalf of the two imprisoned newsmen with the Communist Chinese Premier Chou En-lai.

The letter to the *Nippon Times* was signed by Tilden, correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* and president of the Tokyo Correspondents Club. Father O'Connor's appeal came from Saigon, Indo-China, where he is covering the present developments in that area.

In his letter, which was titled "Where God is Dead," Mr. Tilden referred to the fact that his name had been linked with reports of the alleged appeal to Mr. Attlee.

**FATHER O'CONNOR** was reported to have been in Beijing, China, in the past few days. He had been in Saigon, Indo-China, since his arrival there in March, 1964.

## Pope Better, Again Talks To Pilgrims

Castelgandolfo (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has greatly benefited from a few days of rest and medical treatment.

This became obvious to a large crowd of pilgrims gathered for the regular general audience on Sunday (Sept. 28) in the courtyard of the papal summer residence.

**THE POPE SPENT** 27 minutes with them and for most of this time he spoke to them in five different languages. It was evident that the Holy Father derived great pleasure from being with the pilgrims who cheered him loudly. He suffered no apparent fatigue, waved to them and imparted the Apostolic Blessing.

Later the Holy Father appeared again on a balcony overlooking the village square to greet and bless a large throng of pilgrims who could not find room in the inner courtyard.

**AT THE GENERAL** audiences a week ago and on Wednesday (Sept. 23) the Pope, at the advice of his doctor, spared himself the effort involved in addressing the crowd. However, on Friday (Sept. 24) the Pope gave an address of considerable length in the French language to delegates of an international scientific congress.

According to reports from usually reliable sources, a Swiss specialist, Dr. Paul Nishans, has returned to Rome and treated the Holy Father twice in recent days.

## Lisbon Bishop Confirms Americans

Lisbon (NC) — Thirty-two U. S. sailors were confirmed by Auxiliary Bishop Emanuel Dos Santos Rocha of Lisbon at the Irish Dominican Church here. They were from two ships of a U. S. fleet that is paying a courtesy visit to Portugal.

Most of the men were recent converts. Twenty-eight of them, from the aircraft carrier *Coral Sea*, were instructed by Navy chaplain, Father Richard Holmes of the Archdiocese of Newark. The other four, from the heavy cruiser *Grand Canyon*, were instructed by Father George F. Rosbach of the Archdiocese of New York, also a Navy chaplain.

## Belgian Socialist Minister Ousts Catholic Teachers

Brussels, Belgium (NC) — Belgium's Socialist Minister of Education has dismissed from State schools 110 teachers who received their degrees from Catholic universities.

The Minister, Leo Collard, became a cabinet member last April when the Socialists won the election and a coalition cabinet of Socialists and Liberals was formed.

**COMMENTING ON** the action of the Minister of Education, former Prime Minister Gaston Eyskens said it was the most serious attempt since the war to override the constitutional principle of non-discrimination appointments to public posts.

Most of those dismissed are graduates of Louvain, Belgium's famous Catholic university at which many American priests received training. There are 91 American seminarians at Louvain this year.

It is generally believed here that the reason for the dismissal is that anti-Catholic elements in the government are trying to deter parents from sending their children to Catholic colleges. The anti-Catholic elements reason that parents would not want to risk sending their children to Catholic colleges if it would mean the children couldn't get government jobs when they graduate.

**EX-MINISTER** of Education Leon Harmel said that such a moral pressure was a direct violation of the Constitution.

With protests coming from many quarters, Minister Collard proposed to withdraw nearly half the dismissals, but Catholic leaders insisted they could not accept the principle under which the other half were dismissed.

## Vatican Stamp Exhibit Opens

Philadelphia (RNS) — A rare collection of Vatican stamps was put on public exhibition at the National Philatelic Museum here as an international first.

Marking the Marian Year and the 25th anniversary of the postage stamps issued by the Vatican as an independent State, the collection has never been shown publicly until now, not even at the Vatican.

It will be displayed here daily and nightly through Nov. 5. **INCLUDED** in the exhibit is a similarly rare collection of stamps and coins assembled by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York. Many of these are set off in handsomely hand-illuminated designs and frames.

Cardinal Spellman, an enthusiastic collector, formally opened the exhibit. He was then treated to a dinner by Archbishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C. of Philadelphia that was attended by several hundred religious and civic leaders and prominent philatelists.

The Cardinal discussed some of the "choice" items of his collection which he has turned over permanently to Regina College at Weston, Mass., in memory of an aunt who was a nun.

**CARDINAL SPELLMAN** dwelt especially on the recently issued United States "In God We Trust" eight and thirteen-cent stamps, noting that they are the first regular issues to contain the religious motto. "The eight-cent issue, used generally for overseas mail, he said, will go around the world and proclaim our declaration of faith in every nation."

The Cardinal revealed that he had personally interceded with President Eisenhower to have these stamps printed after some opposition had been expressed on the ground that they would be "controversial." "I told the President," Car-



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The New York prelate, who visited the island shortly afterwards, has on this block the postmark of the military post office there; and autographs of the photographer, Joe Rosenthal; several of the marines who led the assault; the late Secretary of War, James Forrestal, General Douglas MacArthur, and President Eisenhower.

**"I KNOW MY FATE BUT I'M STAYING"** — A French Bishop faces life under the reds in North Vietnam.

## French Bishop Faces Life Under Reds To Stay With Flock In North Vietnam

Paris (NC) — Standing in a poor hut he calls his quarters, a French Bishop whose vicariate is now deep in the Communist zone of North Vietnam told a reporter he had no illusions about the fate awaiting him. "But I'm staying."

"Staying" means that he would continue to live in his little hut near his church in Son Tay which the French had evacuated, and where the red flag of the Vietnam Communists were already appearing.

**THE BISHOP** Jean-Marie Maza, Vicar Apostolic of Hanoi, told this to Jean Larteguy, whose report of the interview appeared here in the *Paris-Press* Intransigent.

The French reporter described the Bishop as being about 60 years old, with a sun-burned face and energetic features. He has been in Indo-China for the past 25 years. The only sign of uneasiness the reporter saw was the cigarettes he smoked "one after another."

"My priests and I are staying... there are 20,000 Christians left here. The question of leaving doesn't even come up now," he told M. Larteguy.

**SWIFT NO** illusions about his fate, Bishop Maza said: "The beginning of Vietnam occupation will be bearable. Tomorrow a political commissary will call on me. He will congratulate me for staying and will tell me I have full liberty to follow my apostolate. Ten or six months or a year. If they apply their program and I do not see any reason why they would not — they

## Nuns Deported To Siberian Labor Camps

Munich, Germany (RNS) — Hundreds of Catholic nuns from Soviet satellite nations have been deported to Siberian labor camps, Radio Free Europe said here.

The station said its information was obtained from refugee sources and letters sent out of Communist-dominated countries to friends and relatives in the West.

It quoted a Hungarian woman recently repatriated after eight years in a Siberian camp as saying that more than 100 Polish, Hungarian, and Slovak nuns are being forced labor in camps near Irkutsk, Siberia.

She also was quoted as saying that 50 Polish sisters and 20 from Hungary are being held in another Siberian camp and that others have died from starvation and overwork while felling trees.

The station had earlier reported the deportation of Polish nuns to Siberia but said at the time that no information had been received as to the number sent into slavery.

## Jesuit College In Alabama Enrolls Negroes

Spring Hill, Ala. (NC) — The Jesuit Fathers have admitted Negroes to Spring Hill College.

Asked by the secular press at the opening of the Fall term whether there were Colored undergraduates in the day school at Spring Hill, Father Andrew C. Smith, S.J., college president, said yes. But he was unable to say how many.

"**WE HAVE NEVER** asked them if they were white or Negro," he said. "We are not making an issue of it." He said, however, that Negro students had been admitted to night classes for the last few years.

It was reliably reported later that there are 11 Negroes in the student body of about 750. Spring Hill, founded in 1830, is the first Alabama school for laymen to break the solid color front; Holy Trinity Seminary, at Holy Trinity, Ala., has admitted Negro candidates for the priesthood for a decade.

**THE SPRING HILL** policy is in line with comments made by Father Smith last May following the ruling of the Supreme Court that public school segregation is unconstitutional.

"It is clearly the duty of educators, public and private, to halt the decision of May 17, 1954, as a forward step toward bringing our Constitution, its interpretation and practice of it into line with the Declaration of Independence," the college president said at the time.

**MARIAN CONGRESS** — A Marian exhibition which will depict the Blessed Virgin in the universal Church and in India will be a feature of the Indian National Marian Congress next December.

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