

Red Peace Prize Given French Priest, 'Rag Pickers' Apostle

(When press agencies reported that Charlie Chaplin would give part of the peace prize, awarded to him by the communist-sponsored World Peace Council, to Abbe Henri Pierre, France's "rag pickers' apostle" for his work with the poor, the Paris correspondent of N.C.W.C. News Service was instructed to "cover" the event. Abbe Pierre became widely known last winter when he launched a drive to provide clothing and shelter for the victims of the city's bitter cold wave.)

By M. MANSIANI (Radio, N.C.W.C. News Service)

Paris—On his arrival here from Lausanne (Switzerland), Charlie Chaplin confirmed previous reports that he planned to give two million francs (about \$6,000) to Abbe Pierre for his work with the homeless poor. I immediately contacted the headquarters of Father Pierre's apostolate asking whether it would be possible for me to attend the presentation of the check. It was told that Abbe Pierre and Chaplin had agreed to avoid all publicity and that the presentation would take place in complete privacy.

I learned, however, that Abbe Pierre would go to the Hotel Carlton, Chaplin's residence, to receive the check there privately. When I came to this hotel in the very heart of Paris, I found there a large crowd among which were countless newspapermen, photographers and newsreel camera operators.

It was impossible to get through the large crowd surrounding the hotel. The police held back men, women and children but those carrying motion picture equipment were allowed to go through the police lines. Camera men overran the stairs, corridors and elevators.

SPECIAL LIGHTING equipment had been installed everywhere. Men carrying portable microphones sought to approach Abbe Pierre and Chaplin to obtain statements from them. The intense police protection prevented me from hearing anything. Chaplin tried as hard as he could not to become separated from Abbe Pierre, who had arrived a few days before him.

Amidst the hubbub, a newspaperman claims to have heard Chaplin say this: "I think it is only right that money which I have received as a peace prize should be used to help the disinherited."

According to the same newspaperman whose height enabled him to get a better view, Abbe Pierre reacted substantially as follows: "I am particularly touched that this desirable picture has

been made by an artist who all his life has wished to incarnate the little man—the man without position, without money, and without learning. The help which Charlie Chaplin is extending by giving to one part of the world something he has received from another part is particularly significant.

"I have been asked if I would dare accept money which came from the communists. If I refused, if I could be reproached for sacrificing charity to politics, I cannot refuse it as long as so many unfortunate people are still in distress.

"I WISH THAT today would open a new era in which war is no longer waged by dropping bombs but by dropping checks."

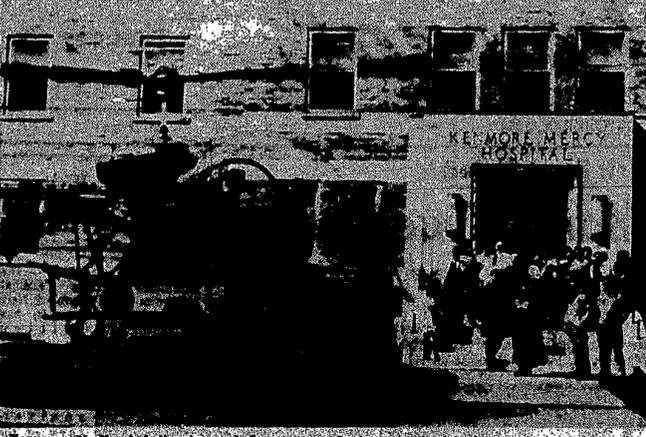
According to eye witnesses, Abbe Pierre and Chaplin embraced each other.

After this the crowd pressed in again with even greater force. Abbe Pierre and Chaplin disappeared in the confusion. I was told that Chaplin returned to his apartment under police protection and that Abbe Pierre left by a hidden door.

Mr. and Mrs. Chaplin have left Paris for London. Before his departure he said that he would present another check to a London charitable institution.

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Hospital To Get Helicopter Service



Kenmore, N. Y.—A helicopter ambulance comes in for a landing during a successful test outside Kenmore Mercy Hospital here. Made by Bell Aircraft Corporation in Niagara Falls, the helicopter will be placed into service by the hospital as soon as a landing field is completed nearby. It will be used only in cases not accessible to other means of transportation. The Catholic institution is one of the first hospitals to use a helicopter for the transport of patients. In front of hospital staff watching the landing is Sister Mary Joseph, administrator of the hospital. (RNS Photo)

Pope Talks Of 'Weeping Madonna' In Radio Message To Sicilians

By MGR. JOSEPH J. SULLIVAN (Radio, N.C.W.C. News Service)

Vatican City—His Holiness Pope Pius XII, has made a reference to the "Weeping Madonna of Syracuse," the year-old phenomenon to which miraculous qualities have been attributed.

In a radio message to the Sicilian Marian Congress the Holy Father refrained from either approving or disapproving the phenomenon, but his remarks contained nothing to discourage interest in, or devotion for, this alleged manifestation of Our Lady's interest. As a matter of fact, the Pope said tended more toward being on the encouraging side.

The "Weeping Madonna" is a terra cotta bust statue of the Blessed Virgin in the home of a humble couple, Angela and Antonia Giusto, from August 28 to Sept. 1, 1953, this statue is said to have shed tears which, on analysis, were found to be of the same composition and density as human tears. Last December, the Bishops of Sicily issued a formal statement saying that "the reality of the weeping cannot be held in doubt."

Large crowds of faithful are flocking to the site of the phenomenon and a number of miraculous cures have been claimed. THE POPE listed in his address a score of Marian shrines throughout Sicily. Referring to the Sicilian people's long history of devotion to the Blessed Mother, he continued: "Who could wonder that she—according to what your eminent prelates have reported to us—may have chosen one of your illustrious cities (Syracuse) for displaying outstanding graces in these recent times?"

"Certainly, this Apostolic See has not, up to this time, manifested its judgment in any way

regarding the tears which it was said had been shed from the image of Our Lady in a humble workwoman's home. Nevertheless, not without a deep impression did we receive the news of the unanimous declaration of the episcopate of Sicily on the reality of that event."

His Holiness continued, but she is not insensible to the plight of the human race to whom she was given as a Mother when she stood weeping beneath the Cross of her Son.

"Will men understand the hidden language of those tears?" the Pope asked. "Does Mary still weep for the wounds in His Mystical Body, or for those sons in whom error and faults have extinguished the life of grace? Or are they tears of waiting for the return of other children once faithful but now strayed among the enemies of God?"

Mary is eternally in Heaven.

Virgin Mary Holds General's Rank

By THOMAS F. DOYLE (Staff Writer, N.C.W.C. News Service)

No statue that comes to mind has ever portrayed the Virgin Mary in a military uniform. Yet, strange as it may seem to many, the Mother of God holds a general's commission not only in one, but in several armies.

The most recent bestowal of military rank on the Virgin occurred in Spain, where Generalissimo Franco, Chief of State, formally commissioned Our Lady of Dolores, patron of Granada, as Captain General of the Armies, with the right to all honors the rank involves.

THE EVENT TOOK place shortly prior to the solemn ceremonies at Zaragoza on October 12 during which the Chief of State, in the presence of His Eminence Enrique Cardinal Piatey Daniel, consecrated the Spanish nation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The date marked the feast of Our Lady of the Pillar, who, according to legend, appeared in the flesh to St. James the Apostle after he had come to Spain to spread the Gospel there.

Not only in Spain, but in various Latin American countries, the conferring of high military honors on the Blessed Mother has long been a token of the people's firm belief in Mary as a militant Queen joining her Son, Christ the King, in commanding forces arrayed against evil.

In the Book of Genesis, Mary is spoken of as a leader in the attack on Satan and his kingdom of sin, and in the Canticle of Canticles, which the Church applies to the Virgin in a figurative sense, she is referred to as "terrible as an army in battle array."

Marian Rally Expects Crowd Of 100,000

Washington—(NC)—An expected 100,000 persons will gather on October 24 for the Archdiocese of Washington Marian Year Rally.

An temporary open-air platform with an altar and seating capacity for some 225 persons is now being constructed on the grounds at the foot of the Washington Monument for the rally. His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, will offer a special afternoon Mass at the altar, to ask God's blessings upon the United States and its people, as the principal feature of the rally.

ARCHBISHOP Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, will preside, and the sermon will be preached by Auxiliary Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of New York. A choir of 1,000 grade school children will sing before and after the Mass and several other choirs also will be heard. In connection with the rally, committees organized in every parish have been visiting Catholic homes securing renewals of pledges for the recitation of the daily family Rosary.

Broadway Lights Will Dim Lewd Outdoor Advertising

New York—(NC)—Complaints against indecent and immoral outdoor advertising along New York's famous gay white way may result in a code to govern displays in jobbies, theater marquees and similar places.

Preliminary discussion regarding a set of rules and regulations for such advertising already have been held between exhibitors and religious, civic and business leaders with City License Commissioner Edward T. McCaffrey.

For some time, religious, business and civic leaders have made public complaints against indecent and immoral advertising, especially in the Times Square district. Commissioner McCaffrey, after the preliminary meeting, said that the discussions had exonerated completely 12 theaters in the Broadway area of all such charges.

ME. McCAFFREY said that at the get-together there was discussion of a plan whereby all theaters in New York City would conform with an "exterior advertising code." He said this would involve a system of regulations for theater, jobbies and marquees and added his opinion that such a code would be "very effective." The Commissioner said further discussions had been scheduled over the next few weeks.

Coexistence With Reds Called 'Snare' By Prelate

Cincinnati—(NC)—Cincinnati Archbishop Karl J. Alter characterized the co-existence theory, that naively assumes communism is nothing more than a different political and economic system, as a "snare of the unwary and a concealed trap for the innocent."

Addressing a crowd of 25,000 persons at a Holy Name rally in Crosley Field, home of the Cincinnati Redlegs baseball team, after a parade in which 50,000 men marched, the Archbishop declared:

"Co-existence can never imply reciprocity with aggressive, atheistic communism, nor confidence in a government which repudiates its obligations and deals in fraud and deceit as a means of world conquest."

"Co-existence with evil must never be made synonymous with cooperation with evil, and communism is intrinsically evil."

The Archbishop made it clear that "the Christian Church stands for peace—but not for peace at any price."

"A CHRISTIAN society," he went on, "can live at peace with any nation or any state, no matter what its form of government or economic organization, provided there is respect for natural rights and no recourse to willful aggression. In that sense there can always be a truce among nations."

Chicago Cardinal Urges Campaign On Vile Literature

Memphis—(NC)—It is "foolish" to talk idealistically and "say we must have no censorship or legislation" against objectionable printed matter, His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, said here.

Cardinal Stritch was visiting a family of old friends in this city after dedicating churches in Covington and Ripley.

The Cardinal said the answer to the problem of vile literature is a courageous public campaign to inform the people of the evils of the situation.

"SOME OF THEM are informed," he said, "that will come that great force of public conscience against this thing, and quite naturally, we'll get the right sort of legislation."

"We have legislation against the sale of narcotics and we have statutes and laws against public obscenity," he reminded.

"The Cardinal said that some years ago he was forced to take action against objectionable literature in the Chicago archdiocese.

Saying that too many good, fine adults just don't know what is going on and are unaware of the degree and extent of vile literature, the Cardinal recalled that he called in half a dozen leaders in the community and asked them to cooperate with him in the drive.

"DURING OUR conversation it was evident that the men thought I was overstating the facts. However, they agreed at their expense to engage an investigator."

"When this expert investigator made his report, the men were horrified and frankly said I had understood the facts."

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