

Red Poland Tour Shocks British MP

London, (NC)—Roy Mason, Labor Party member of Parliament, said he saw no priests and was refused information about the visit of Cardinal Wyszyński during a recent visit to Poland as member of a British parliamentary delegation.

Addressing members of the Catholic Young Men's Society at Barnsley, Yorkshire, Mr. Mason, a non-Catholic, said he returned from the tour depressed and despairing.

ALTHOUGH THE arranged tours were carefully conducted and the delegates were shown an impressive facade of reconstruction and churches packed with worshippers, he sensed cruel persecution, the Labor representative declared.

He said that every railway depot, ship and industrial plant was patrolled by armed guards. Every club, cafe and hotel had its spies and informers. Everywhere the citizens appeared cowed.

MR. MASON described the Polish parliament as a "rubber stamp" assembly meeting only twice a year to "approve" the decrees of the ruling Communist praesidium.

He said he saw no schools, but was taken instead to admire a "palace of culture" where the privileged children of privileged workers receive supplementary courses. He stated he was shown also the concentration camp at Oswiecim which is preserved as a "museum," but was taken to none of the concentration camps used for suspected opponents of the present Red regime.

Cardinal Mooney Blesses Chapel

Baltimore, Md., (NC)—The oldest seminary chapel in the United States has been blessed by a new, one-million-dollar edifice.

It is the chapel of St. Mary's Seminary in this city, the nation's first seminary, established about 1792. The new chapel was blessed by His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, with some 30 Bishops and more than 200 priests in attendance, many of them alumni of the seminary.

Abp. Alter: McCollum Ruling Needs Revision

Springfield, O., (RNS)—Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati urged here that public opinion be mobilized to bring about a revision of the United States Supreme Court's decision in the celebrated McCollum case.

(In 1948 the court ruled in a case initiated by Mrs. Vashti McCollum of Champaign, Ill., that released-time religious education classes held on public school property are unconstitutional.)

Archbishop Alter pointed out, in contrast to that, that chaplains in Congress and in the armed forces are paid by the government and that chapels at military posts and hospitals are maintained at public expense.

Stressing that he favored no change in the First Amendment itself, the Archbishop charged that Thomas Jefferson's phrase about a "wall of separation between Church and State" is being used as a "foolish shibboleth" by some persons who are unable to define its meaning. He pointed out that Jefferson himself asked that religion be held in a favored position at the University of Virginia, which the third President founded.

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3,000 Renew Marriage Vows



Chicago, Ill.—Led by Rev. John J. Egan, director of the Casm Conference of Chicago, nearly 3,000 Catholic couples renew their marriage vows during a two-hour celebration of the Conference's 10th anniversary. The movement, which started here 10 years ago and has since spread to all parts of the country and abroad, insists Catholic heads of marriage in married and engaged couples through conferences and discussions held throughout the year. (RNS Photo)

Women's Modern Dress Called 'Shocking, Immoral'

Chicago, (NC)—A lack of modesty in the modern dress of women has been denounced as "shocking and immoral" by His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, in a pastoral letter here.

In a message to the more than 1,800,000 Catholics of this archdiocese, the Cardinal exhorted them to follow the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CARDINAL STRITCH declared that "modesty is that virtue which stands guard over the path which may lead to a violation of chastity."

Saying that the fashions and manners of dress today reflect the denial of the "God-given function of sex and its moral responsibilities," the Cardinal added:

"In our streets, in our public places as well as in social gatherings and even in the home, manners of dress are seen which are shocking and immoral. There is a want of modesty in dress. We must keep in mind the dictates of the moral law and foster the virtue of modesty."

He added that "very many of the safeguards which the Church threw around young girls and matrons have disappeared in our society. There has been unconventional comradeship between the sexes in our youth which has brought about dangers which must be recognized and avoided."

Outdoor Masses Stated in Capital

Washington, D.C., (NC)—Six outdoor Masses will be the Catholic highlights of the three-week Christmas Pageant of Peace here on the Ellipse grounds between the Washington Monument and the White House.

The program will replace the traditional Christmas Tree on the White House grounds. But, President Eisenhower will open the pageant on December 17 by lighting a 70-foot Christmas tree on the Ellipse.

The plans call for a lifetime Nativity scene and a Children's Corner—with live reindeer in a candy-stick pen.

"There will also be a stage for religious ceremonies. Mass will be offered here at 12:15 p.m. on December 18, 21, 24, 27, 30 and January 3. Protestant services will be conducted by co-operating denominations."

California D.A.

Names More Nuns In Lottery Charges

Merced, Cal., (NC)—District Attorney Don C. Mayes filed lottery charges against three more Sisters and a 12-year-old student of Our Lady of Mercy School here—and then quickly had the charges dismissed.

The complaints against the nuns—alleging violations of the State's lottery laws and contributing to the delinquency of a minor—were virtually identical with those filed against the principal of the school—Sister Mary Peter.

THE SUBSEQUENT dismissal of the charges was interpreted as a move on Mr. Mayes' part to try to force the three religious to testify in the case against Sister Peter. At a preliminary hearing in the case, the three Sisters had refused to testify, invoking the Fifth Amendment which provides that no one may be compelled to be a witness against himself.

Observers said the District Attorney may have acted on the theory that since they had been accused once and the charges dismissed the "double jeopardy" guarantee would bar their being accused again on the same charges; thus they could no longer invoke the Fifth Amendment for immunity. Legal experts said however that mere charges would not constitute putting the Sisters in "jeopardy" that the case would have to come to trial for the argument to be valid.

THE MERCED Justice Court has thrown out for lack of evidence, Mr. Mayes' charges that Sister Mary Peter, the principal, contributed to the delinquency of a minor.

The District Attorney has filed a notice of his intention to appeal the dismissal to the Superior Court. He said the Judge erred in rulings.

The nuns newly named in the case are: Sisters John Michael, Mary Lorraine and Mary Edward. The boy is Billy Guedet, a student at the school.

MR. MAYES started his court action, he said, after being approached by the boy selling tickets on a building fund for the construction of La Casa de Maria Southwest and West.

Chicago Financier Gives \$100,000 To Home Missions

Chicago, Ill., (NC)—A Catholic philanthropist has given his fifth annual gift of \$100,000 to the Catholic Church Extension Society to be used for the home missions.

The donation was presented to the organization at its annual meeting here by Frank J. Lewis, a Chicago financier, who was recently honored by the Holy See and given the title of Papal Count.

Another gift of the same amount was reported from the estate of Mrs. Katherine Fries of Greenwich, Conn.

The Society announced that Mr. Lewis' gift will be used to erect ten chapels for mission congregations. His donation of last year was used for the same purpose.

In the last fiscal year, Archbishop William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary of Chicago and president of the Society, reported, the organization spent nearly two million dollars to build chapels and churches in dioceses in the South.

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Little Jell's robe in maize, copen, white, sizes 2, 4, 6 and 6X . . . 4.95

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