

Scraped Diary Reveals

Cardinal Mindszenty Converted Red Prison Mates To Faith

Quincy, (NC) — Cardinal Mindszenty's presence in Red Hungary's Vác prison led to a remarkable revival of faith among its 2,000 inmates.

This was reported by one of the Cardinal's fellow prisoners, Dr. Laszlo Toth, Hungarian Catholic newspaperman who was tried and sentenced with the Cardinal.

Excerpts from a diary kept by Dr. Toth, who died earlier this year, have been published here in The Standard, Catholic weekly. Paris of the diary were smuggled out of Hungary following the journalist's death.

CARDINAL Mindszenty, whom the Hungarians claim to have released from jail, was an inmate at Vác from 1949 to 1953. Dr. Toth's diary describes the effects of his presence there as follows:

"When the Cardinal was transferred to Vác it was estimated that there were among the inmates many unbelievers, especially liberal Marxists who quarreled with the orthodox communists of Stalin's school.

"But the Cardinal's presence in the prison has had a tremendous influence on the revival of the faith among the 2,000 inmates. Religion has become in the cells of Vác prison a living spiritual force.

"I have witnessed many cases when the atheistic Marxists former avowed enemies of any religion... have rejected Marxist dialectical materialism and embraced the Catholic faith."

THE DIARY also reported on the Cardinal's heroic behavior while imprisoned. It told the following story:

"We are shivering in our cells both from hunger and from cold. The bread ration has been cut again. A moving scene occurred yesterday in the prison yard. A youth fainting and collapsed in the mud.

The Cardinal, who happened to be taking his daily walk, was the first to help him (the youth) to get up.

"I am hungry. I can't stand this any more," whispered the youth.

"Take this loaf of bread from me, please," the Cardinal insisted in spite of the fact that he

himself had not much to eat.

"The youth with tears in his eyes kissed the Cardinal's hand. When they parted the Cardinal told the youth, 'I shall pray for you.'

"For more than four weeks the Cardinal used to send his loaf of bread every second day to that youth."

AFTER CARDINAL Mindszenty was removed from the Vác prison in the spring of

1952, Dr. Toth wrote in his diary:

"The Cardinal has been removed from the general prison ward somewhere else. I am sorry that I won't see him any more during the walk in the prison yard. But he was carrying the burden of prison life with nobility and dignity.

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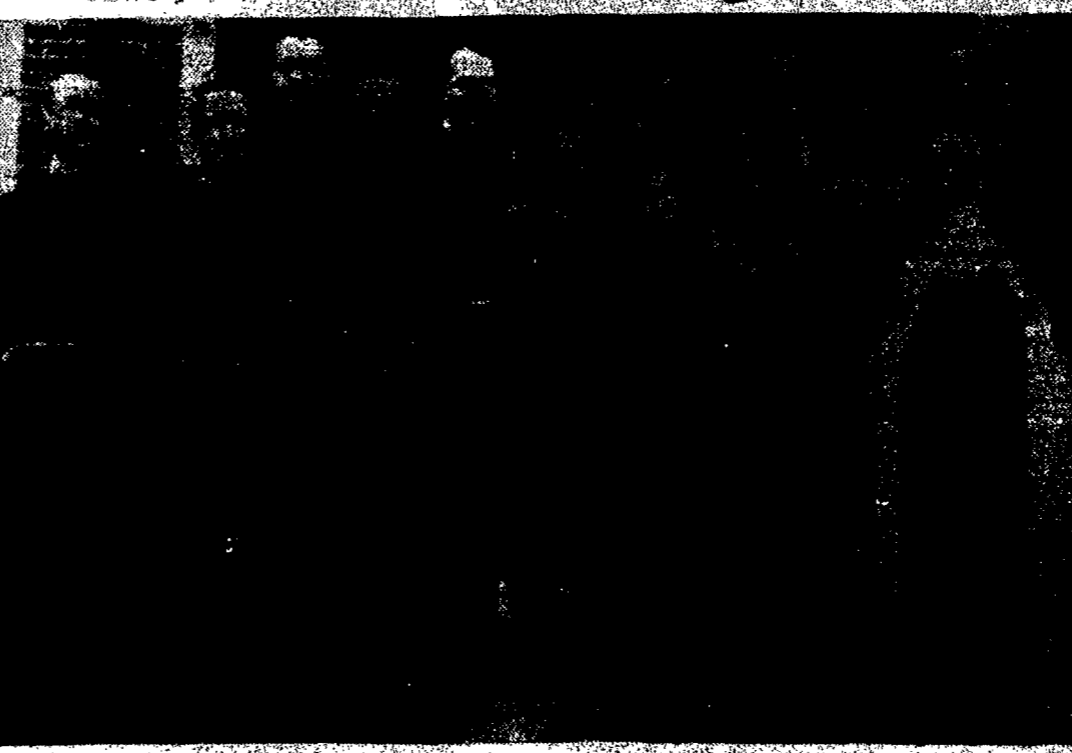
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Eleven Children In Religious Life



Olivia, Minn.—Mrs. G.A. Wisniewski and her five sons and six daughters, all members of Catholic religious orders, are shown together here where one of the sons, the Rev. Walter B. Wisniewski, said his first Solemn Mass in St. Agnes Catholic Church. His four brothers assisted in the rite while the mother and sisters observed from the congregation. The priest, left to right, all members of the Order of Friars Minor, are: the Rev. Raphael, Chicago; the Rev. Michael, Washington, D.C.; the Rev. Joe, Quincy, Ill.; the Rev. Apache, Cleveland, Ohio; and the Rev. Nestor, Teatopolla, Ill. The sisters are Sister M. Ocarla, Omaha, Neb.; Sister M. Luke, St. Louis, Mo.; Sister M. Bernard, Chicago; Sister Mary Rita, Greeley, Colo.; Sister Monica, Kearney, Neb.; and Sister M. Agenda, Sioux City, Ia. The sisters belong to six different religious communities. The father of the family died in 1948. (RNS Photo)

Refugee Couples Separated By Reds

Saigon — (NC) — The communist Vietminh, in hiding refugees from leaving North Vietnam during the past year, have forcibly separated more than 3,000 married couples.

This is the estimate of the the ensuing months despite Viet-Catholic Committee for Refugees presence of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in the north. Detained husbands and wives have been prevented from leaving.

THE VIETMINH have prevented at least 1,900 wives from joining their husbands who had gone ahead to prepare for the family. In at least half of these cases children are being held with the mothers.

More than 1100 husbands whose wives have reached the south have been prevented from leaving the north.

Vietminh tactics have made it difficult and sometimes impossible for families to leave together. The majority of refugees have not succeeded in getting Vietminh permits to depart to escape they had to break up their families into small groups. Some were arrested and imprisoned on route. Others were dragged from boats or halted on the roads and forced to return.

When families obtained permits, Vietminh officials along the way would find a pretext for detaining some members, claiming that the permit was out of date or otherwise invalid.

THE COMMITTEES survey was made rapidly in refugee villages with an estimated total population of 88,000 from seven areas in the north. It showed 280 husbands whose wives have been prevented from following them, and 166 wives whose husbands have been held. That means an average of five such persons in every 100,000 refugees. Non-French civilian refugees are estimated to total 80,000.

It is believed that the heavy inquiry failed to reveal all cases of couples separated by Vietminh violations of the Geneva agreements.

The report shows some families forcibly separated as early as August 1954 within the first days after the armistice. Throughout

President Signs Bill On Church Mailings

Washington — (NC) — President Eisenhower has signed a bill allowing churches and church organizations to mail their publications at second-class rates without maintaining subscription lists separate from membership lists.

Under the old law, churches were required to get a signed statement from members of the church which said part of their member's contribution to the subscription to church publications.

Often however a member failed to sign the statement and while not on the subscription list, the new legislation makes it possible for churches to send publications to all members at second-class rates by satisfying the postal regulations with a simple resolution by church governing boards.

Coadjutor Named
Valdosta, Ga. — (NC) — Auxiliary Bishop Percival Caza of Valdosta, Ga., has been named Coadjutor Bishop of that diocese with right of succession.

Stamp



Fernando Poe, Spanish Catholic. A new postage stamp issued here to mark the 100th anniversary of his death. Above is a portrait of the saint. Below is a portrait of a young boy who was baptized into the Catholic faith. (RNS Photo)

Church Stand On Divorce Seen Strict, But Based On Law Of Common Good

New York — (NC) — The "strict and crystal-clear" stand of the Church on divorce works hardship in many individual cases, but this stand is based on a law which recognizes that the real purpose of marriage is associated with the welfare of the species and only secondarily with the happiness of individuals, a Jesuit priest said in a broadcast originating here.

SPEAKING on the "Christian in Action" radio program produced by the National Council of Catholic Men over the American Broadcasting System, Father Lawrence C. McHugh, S.J., said the "sufficient, although emotionally unsatisfying answer" to cases of hardship is that "the welfare of the race cannot be subordinated to that of the individual."

The good of the individual must bow to the interests of the whole group, of the end-product is chaos, the priest, an ethics instructor at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., declared.

"We have no difficulty in seeing the wisdom of this principle in most matters of law," he said, giving as one example the young man who has his educational program upset when he is drafted into the Army.

"THE COMMON good is loftier and more sacred than private good in matters of State law, the principle is no less valid in matters of natural or divine law."

"The law of indissolubility in marriage is one that aims at the wellbeing of the whole race. It is a law which recognizes that the real purpose of marriage is the welfare of the species and only secondarily with the happiness of the individuals. We may not reverse the order of nature, much less the explicit command of God, and turn the marriage contract into an instrument of human passion and self-interest," Father McHugh said.

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"I also stated that if an exception is granted to a universal law meant to protect an essential human good, human example and the drive of passion lead to disorderly with the happiness of the individuals. We may not reverse the order of nature, much less the explicit command of God, and turn the marriage contract into an instrument of human passion and self-interest," Father McHugh said.

Latin American Bishops Seek Clergy

Rio de Janeiro — (RNS) — Bishops of Latin American countries meeting here, acted to implement a plea by Pope Pius XII that steps be taken to combat a serious clergy shortage in Latin America.

The Pontiff's request, made in an apostolic letter to the bishop's conference, called "the lack of priests in Latin America Roman Catholicism's gravest problem here."

The bishops gave special attention to the Pope's recommendation that priests from other areas be used to help solve the problem.

They noted that the Holy See has under its auspices many organizations which will attempt the urgent need for priests in the hemisphere.

The bishops stressed that they must take advantage of such cooperation to aid the spiritual development of their nations.

As another means of combatting the shortage, the bishops agreed that the Church must open more seminaries in Latin America and modernize existing ones.

'Mercy Death' Physician Named To Hospital Staff

Quincy, (NC) — Dr. Herman Sander, who was acquitted on a murder charge at a Manchester jury death trial five years ago which attracted worldwide attention, has been named a member of the Exeter Hospital staff.

This is the first time since Dr. Sander's trial in connection with the death of a woman cancer patient that he has been accorded hospital privileges. He is still under a lifetime ban at the Catholic hospitals in Manchester, where he maintains his office.

SEVERAL MONTHS ago, Dr. Sander was admitted to membership in the Rockingham County Medical Society. He reportedly has been denied re-admission in the Hillsborough County Medical Society with the accompanying staff privileges at non-Catholic Manchester hospitals. His Catholic home is in Rockingham County while his Manchester office is in Hillsborough County.

Trustees of Exeter Hospital reported that Dr. Sander had been given membership on the hospital staff on recommendation of the hospital staff.

Pilgrim Taxes Proposed In India

New Delhi, India — (NC) — A government bill proposing levy of a pilgrim tax at all pilgrimages centers in India will be introduced in the forthcoming session of the national parliament.

It is pointed out in justification of the bill that municipalities are obliged to spend huge amounts to provide amenities for visiting populations at pilgrim centers. The proposed tax, it was said, is an attempt to obtain some contribution from the pilgrims towards reimbursement of this expense.

Thousands of Catholics visiting such famed pilgrimage centers as Velanganj, Dornahill and Malayator will be affected by the bill.

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