

Czech Reds Hold Church In Iron Grip

By FATHER PLACID JORDAN

Frankfort, Germany — (NC) — Czechoslovak Reds tried by every possible means to get priests recently released from jail to promise Mass, according to "Expulsus," information bulletin issued by the Catholic refugee center of Koenigstein near here.

The information came from a recent escapee from Czechoslovakia. He also reported that Archbishop Josef Beran of Prague is being moved from one jail to another. The prelate is now said to be in the neighborhood of Kolin.

AUXILIARY BISHOP Anton Eitenschner of Prague still manages to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Stephan Trochta of Leitmeritz is gravely ill. He, too, is reported to be jailed in the neighborhood of Kolin.

Bishop Josef Hloucek of Budweis was released from jail, the informant says, but is not permitted to function in any capacity, except to say Mass privately. In Moravia, Archbishop Josef Malácha of Olmütz, also is completely cut off from all contacts with both clergy and people. Bishop Karl Skoupy of Brno is kept in custody.

ALL CLERGY and faithful are forbidden contact with the Holy See, under the most severe penalties.

A large number of the clergy are still in jail. All monasteries and convents — some 700 in all — were closed down. Very few Sisters engaged in hospital work are allowed to carry on their work. The majority of them must do forced labor in factories, coal mines and various state-controlled institutions.

The laity is deprived of all their former religious associations, all Catholic societies having been suppressed. The faithful are constantly spied upon and harassed.

THE YOUNG generation is exposed to a relentless stream of atheistic propaganda. Religious instruction in the schools is practically impossible.

There is not a single church paper, except for "Katolické Noviny" which is pro-communist. Despite all repressive measures, services in the churches are well attended.

NEW JESUIT EDITOR



New York — The Rev. Thurston N. Davis, S.J., associate editor of America, Jesuit weekly published here, has been named its editor-in-chief. The 41-year-old priest succeeds the Rev. Robert C. Hartnett, S.J., who held the post since 1948. Father Davis joined the American staff two years ago, after teaching for two years in the graduate school of Fordham University and serving for four years as dean of Fordham College. (RNS Photo)

Catholic Schools In N. Y. Enroll 195,000 Pupils

New York — (NC) — Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the Archdiocese of New York anticipate an enrollment of 195,000 pupils this Fall, according to Msgr. John Paul Haverty, superintendent of schools. This figure, Monsignor Haverty points out, exceeds the combined total public elementary and secondary school enrollment of each of 14 states.

OF THE TOTAL 195,000 pupils, 156,000 will be registered in elementary schools and 39,000 in the archdiocesan high schools. There are 410 Catholic elementary and high schools in the archdiocese. The students enrolled in the New York archdiocese schools plus the students enrolled in the Diocese of Brooklyn, will total an estimated 312,000 children enrolled in Catholic Schools in New York City alone for the 1955-56 school year.

Prelate Scorns Peron Bid To Fix Churches

Buenos Aires — (NC) — "We do not wish to see profane hands touch these wounds of the Church."

With these ringing words, one of Argentina's most respected prelates has told why ecclesiastical authorities have rejected the offer of the Peron regime to restore churches burned and looted by peronist mobs during the June 16 revolt.

"These semidemolished walls, these accumulated ashes, these images brutally profaned, these missals and books destroyed are sacred to us," declared Msgr. Gustavo J. Franceschi in Critterio, the Catholic magazine of which he is editor. "We alone have the right to staunch the blood of these wounds."

THE MONSIGNOR, who was himself seized and jailed overnight by the peronist police, went on to ask: "Why should the state take upon itself this task? Was it by chance, because the state itself had burned, directly or indirectly, these buildings, these archives, these robes, these books of the Cardinal of Buenos Aires and of his priests?" Monsignor Franceschi said that "if the old union of Church and state had been maintained, it might have been proper and logical for the state to repair the damage to the churches."

"However," he added, "both chambers of the Congress have adopted legal measures to sever the bonds which united these two institutions, and the executive power has sanctioned them. The Church, insulted more than once in speeches made in parliament, and accused of avarice, among other things, could not do less than spurn the money offered to her. This is something that even a pagan can understand."

Prelature Nullius Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Plus XII has named Italian-born Father Diego Parodi as Apostolic Administrator of the newly-established Prelature Nullius of San Antonio de Balsas in Brazil.

Louisiana

School Board Restores Bus Service For 382 Parochial School Students

New Orleans — (NC) — Reversing its previous decision, the Orleans Parish (county) School Board has decided against curtailing the number of parochial school students to be transported on public school buses during the 1955-56 school year.

SOME WEEKS ago, the board ruled that 382 of 538 parochial school students who were transported on the public school buses last year would not be accommodated in the coming year. The board said, at that time, there was to be a rerouting of the buses and if the 382 parochial school students were to be transported, it would require the purchase of four new buses and the hiring of four more drivers.

The board's ruling brought protests from Msgr. Henry C. Bezou, superintendent of schools of the New Orleans archdiocese, from Knights of Columbus and Holy Name Society groups, and State Senator Harry H. Howard.

Monsignor Bezou told the board that the decision to curtail bus service to the 382 students might cause an increase rather than a decrease in expense. He cited the possibility that many, or all, of the 382 might register in public school and demand transportation. He also pointed out that if the 382 did enroll in public schools, the board would be forced to provide additional teachers as well as additional classrooms.

Louisiana public school policy regarding school bus transportation is that public school buses must transport parochial and private school students whose schools are on the bus routes, providing there is room in the buses.

IN ITS DECISION to continue the service given parochial school students last year, the board said that a readjustment of bus schedules had been worked out which would eliminate the need for four new buses. The board explained that some buses will have to begin making trips to school as early as 7 and 7:30 a.m., and make the return trips as late as 4:45 and 5 p.m.

Senator Howard, in protesting against the board's order to curtail the service, pointed out that the board's appropriation from the State is based on per capita expense of each educable child, regardless of what school the child attends. On this basis, the Senator insisted that the parochial school students were entitled to the school bus transportation.

Arab League Plans Delegation To Pope

Cairo — (RNS) — An unofficial delegation from the eight countries belonging to the Arab League will go to the Vatican shortly to thank Pope Plus XII for "the sympathy expressed in recent papal declarations" on the Arab refugee situation.

This was announced here by the league's secretariat which noted that the organization's secretary general, Abdel Khalek Hassouna, had previously expressed similar sentiments in a personal letter to the Pontiff.

DEPARTURE FOR MEDICAL NUNS



Philadelphia — Archbishop Lawrence Graner, C.S.S.P., of Dacca, Pakistan, conducted a departure ceremony for eight nuns of the Medical Mission Sisters at the order's motherhouse here. Shown with him are three of the nuns who were assigned to the newly-built Holy Family Hospital in Dacca. They are left to right: Sister Mary Ligouri of Philadelphia, an X-ray technician; Sister Mary Angelina of Cebu City, the Philippines, a pharmacist. The remaining five will work at the Our Lady of Coronado Hospital in Maracibo, Venezuela. Archbishop Graner, a native of Franklin, Pa., is making his first visit here. (RNS Photo)



SHOP AND SAVE AT SIBLEY'S BUDGET BASEMENT

MEN'S ALL WOOL SLACKS

Worsted gabardines and wool flannels

only 7.88

Men! Here's one bargain you can't afford to miss! It's a price for rayon slacks, but these are all better quality 100% wools! Hurry in now and buy your new wool slacks at terrific dollar savings. Choose wool flannels in med. grey, charcoal grey, dk. brown. Worsted gabardines in tan, brown, lt. blue, dark blue, grey, green, charcoal. Waist sizes 29 to 42.

MEN'S DEPARTMENT, SIBLEY'S BASEMENT



MEN'S FAMOUS-NAME SHOES

only 6.94 pair

Now buy top quality famous-name shoes for dollars less than you would usually pay elsewhere! There's loafer type and regular oxford styles, moccasin toes, straight tips, wing tips in black, brown, blue, two-tones and suede. Not all sizes in every style and color. Sizes 6 1/2-12.

SHOE DEPARTMENT, SIBLEY'S BASEMENT

WRITE OR PHONE HAMILTON 4000 (IN ROCHESTER) OR ENTERPRISE 9021 (IN SURROUNDING TOWNS) . . . SIBLEY, LINDSAY & CURR CO.