

Catholics Total 484 Millions

Cincinnati — (NC) — The Catholic population of the world now totals 484,077,000, or 18.3 percent of the global total of 2,644,611,000.

This is indicated on the 1956 edition of the CSAC World Mission Map, just published by the national center of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade here.

ACCORDING TO Dr. Harold J. Spaeth, editor of the map, the annual Catholic increase averages 1.5 per cent, whereas the total population of the world is increasing at the annual rate of 1.4 per cent.

The tiny European country of Andorra still leads with the highest Catholic percentage, the only one listed at 100 percent. All of her 5564 inhabitants are Catholics.

Next to Andorra are the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon near Newfoundland, only French possessions in North America, and the Wallis and Futuna Islands in Oceania, each with 99.9 percent. Spain and Italy are the next in order, with 99.7 and 99.5 percent, respectively.

Other countries 95 percent or more Catholic are El Salvador, Liechtenstein, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Marquesas Islands in Oceania, Cape Verde Islands in West Africa, Reunion Island (Africa), Colombia, Belgium, Luxembourg, Malta, and Costa Rica.

PERCENTAGE-wise, Scotland has more than twice as many Catholics as England, (14.1 percent against 7 percent). The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, with a total population of 200,200,000 has a Catholic population of 5 percent. Some 29 countries are listed with a Catholic population of less than one percent.

In absolute numbers of Catholics, Brazil stands first with 53,139,500, followed by Italy with 47,426,600, and France and the United States with 35 and 33 millions, respectively. Next in millions of Catholics are: Spain, 28; Mexico, 27; West Germany, 23; Poland, 21; Argentina, 17; Philippines, 16; Colombia, 12.

Six countries — Greenland, Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldiva Islands, Mongolian Peoples Republic and Tibet — are without any discernible number of Catholics.

Fordham Gets Federal Loan

Washington — (NC) — Fordham University in New York City has obtained approval for a \$1,800,000 loan to construct a student union building, the community facilities Administration of the Federal Housing and Home Agency announced here.



Italian Statesman Honored

Washington, D. C. — (NC) — Amatore Fanfani (right) secretary general of the Italian Christian Democratic Party and former Premier of Italy, receives a bronze seal of Georgetown University from university president, Very Rev. Edward W. Bunn, S. J. Mr. Fanfani was guest of honor at a reception in Georgetown's Hall of Cardinals during his visit.

Has Kremlin Become 'Tourist-Happy'?

U.S. Priest Spends Six Days In Russia, Visits Key Cities Of Moscow, Leningrad

By JOHN J. DALY, JR. (Staff Writer, N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)

Washington, — (NC) — Has Russia become tourist-happy? Perhaps the Iron Curtain isn't down completely, but it would seem some parts of it have been replaced with patches of steel mesh.

This new arrangement keeps some persons out, but permits many others to penetrate and see the "new Russia," a land of showplaces and courteous people... Just like the travel folder says. Such speculation is based on the experience of Father James A. Magner, procurator of the Catholic University of America here, who recently spent six days as a tourist in Russia.

FATHER MAGNER, who has traveled extensively in Africa, Europe and South America, led a group of ten teachers who entered the Soviet Union after visiting Scandinavia. They left Russia through visas to visit Leningrad and Moscow.

He said here his visit was not unlike tours he had made in other countries. The group had little difficulty in getting entrance and lodgings were satisfactory. "It was well managed. The food the guides were courteous and helpful and we were given considerable freedom to our own, he explained in his office here.

The priest said he did not wear his clerical garb-touring, nor did he offer Mass in the country. But from his passport and other papers, the Russians must have known he was a priest, he said. Father Magner said he asked his guides to show him Catholic churches, but they produced only the church of St. Louisa of the French in Moscow.

"It was closed and surrounded by a high-iron fence, with the gates heavily padlocked," Father Magner said. "The neighborhood 488 pupils attended archdiocesan priest celebrates Mass once a week. I assumed this meant Sunday."

He said that when he first asked to see Catholic churches, the Russians offered to take him to Baptist churches, explaining that many visiting Americans frequently went to Baptist services.

The priest said he toured the University of Moscow and there made inquiries about freedom of religion. Both students and teachers, he said, told him there was "complete freedom" in Russia, but that "nobody believed in those religious myths anymore" with the result that there were only a few churches.

Father Magner said that during his trip tourist, the official Soviet touring agency, allowed his group great freedom. "I walked the sidewalks, visited stores and showplaces and took about 3,100 feet of film, meeting nothing but courtesy from Russian officials and people."

WHAT'S BEHIND the new "welcome tourists" approach of the Reds?

Father Magner speculated that the communists feel they have established themselves so firmly in Russia they now can open up some sections of the country and show themselves off.

"Both cities we visited were in grand shape," he said. "The Russians had rebuilt most of the famous landmarks and obviously were eager to show them off."

"I had the feeling that the whole approach was being managed by some public relations men, who were familiar with techniques developed in some Western countries for putting up a good front. And they did."

Father Magner visited Stalin and Lenin's tomb. "Every day there were lines of people, that sometimes extended four blocks, waiting to get in," he stated. He saw numerous pictures and statues of Stalin.

DURING HIS "sidewalk tours," Father Magner was struck by the grimness of the people. "The streets are extremely wide — some ten or 12 lanes — but there were few cars or busses, everybody walked," he explained. "The people were dressed in gray or black. There is nowhere a feeling of gaiety. Everybody seemed very intent on his business, as if either coming from or going to work in a great hurry."

Archdiocese Opens 16 New Schools
Los Angeles — (NC) — Nearly 3000 teachers opened classroom doors to 125,000 pupils in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for the new school term. Fourteen new parochial schools and two new high schools were scheduled to open this year. There are 100 more classrooms in the old schools. All told, 268 schools are open. Enrollment here has increased threefold since 1946 when 47,000 pupils attended archdiocesan schools.

Reds Exploit Visits Behind Iron Curtain

Lucerne, Switzerland — (RNS) — A warning that visits behind the Iron Curtain by well-known Swiss Catholics are being exploited by Communist propagandists was sounded here at a conference of lay leaders of Catholic youth organizations in Switzerland's German-speaking areas.

Noting that Swiss Catholics have gone to the satellite countries as members of delegations or as delegate to various meetings, the conference said, in a resolution, that such visits "serve the propaganda of the Soviet embassy in Switzerland" and are used in the interests of general Communist propaganda.

THE RESOLUTION, recalling the 1937 encyclical of Pope Pius XI on atheistic Communism, said: "After thorough discussion, it was decided to draw the attention of the appropriate circles to the fact that, as Catholics and as Swiss, we must oppose all Communist propaganda, just as we opposed Nazi and Fascist propaganda 20 years ago."

Communist propaganda is being intensified in Switzerland, the resolution charged, and "enjoys effective support on the part of non-Catholic circles."

Enough Food For All

Scientists Reject Birth Control



Refugee Arrives in U.S.

New York — (NC) — Little Julius Caesar Dibey just missed being born in Bethlehem, Jordan, by three days, arriving here instead on the Italian liner "Giulio Cesare," enroute to America. Pictured are Mitsadeh Dibey, mother of the child, and Francis Dibey, the father. Coming to the U. S. under auspices of Catholic Relief Services, National Catholic Welfare Conference, they will settle in Houston, Texas.

London — (NC) — Birth control devotees got little satisfaction from two scientists who talked on population problems at the annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. C. B. Goodhart, assistant curator of Cambridge Zoology Museum, offered biological reasons why the 19th century economist Malthus was wrong in predicting that the growth of the human population must eventually outstrip any possible increase in food supplies.

ANOTHER scientist rejected the Malthusian theory on agricultural grounds. Dr. G. V. Jacks, in an address to the association's agricultural section, said the world 100 years from now would be able to feed its probable population of 3 billion people. Soil fertility could be maintained and enough food provided for any increase in population if the cities produce enough wealth to pay for it. Dr. Jacks maintained.

Dr. Goodhart said he does not agree with the assumption that human fecundity has a constant value that could be altered only by artificial means.

The fecundity of women, said Dr. Goodhart, is determined by social, economic and physiological factors. In western countries these factors have made low fecundity advantageous. He pointed out that populations in the west started declining before the use of contraceptives became general.

IN DISEASE-stricken areas, large families are still prevalent and are necessary for race survival, he said, adding that improved medical services and economic prosperity decrease the average fecundity.

Wichita Bishop Cautions Collegians On Courses

Wichita, Kan. — (NC) — Boys or girls 17 or 18 years old cannot be expected to cope with college professors who are out to sabotage the principles on which these young persons base their lives. Bishop Mark K. Carroll of Wichita said here.

BECAUSE OF this, he stated in an interview, he has forbidden some undergraduate students in his diocese to take some of the courses offered there by secular colleges and universities, particularly in psychology and philosophy as well as sociology, history and economics. Certain of these courses undermine a student's faith in his Church and loyalty to his country, he said.

The Bishop pointed out that he has been concerned over the problem of slanted teaching by some secular college professors, which is carried on without the approval of administrative officials. This has led him to issue several pastorals in past years, and most recently in May, last, asking Catholic students to check their educational plans with pastors or in some instances, with him.

OBSERVING THAT some students enter secular schools filled with sound ideals and sincere religious convictions, but after exposure to certain courses leave these principles behind, he said: "I am in basketball for Langston University and the Harlem Globetrotters in the 1940's. His twin brother, Lawrence, played on the same teams with him."

Top Negro Athlete Named School Coach

Oklahoma City — (NC) — A top Negro athlete in this state has been named football and basketball coach at Mount St. Mary's school here, making him Oklahoma's first known Negro coach of a predominantly white high school team. He is Lance Cudjoe who starred in basketball for Langston University and the Harlem Globetrotters in the 1940's. His twin brother, Lawrence, played on the same teams with him.

SCHOOL AGAIN!

We wonder whether our good benefactors will donate a nice pair of work clothes for the children of the village of ELIZAVILA, India. They have a primary school operating in this village but no place to live. Then they walk an extremely long distance morning and afternoon to educate the children. During the rainy season the walking from the village to school becomes almost impossible. For \$400 we can help them build a little convent near the school. This is truly a worthy work and a great help to these wonderful children. Dollar added to dollar will make this really a really and please the Holy Family. Can you make a little sacrifice for this holy work?

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