

Hungarian 'Freedom Fighters', Refugee Victims Arrive Here



"Good to be here," Mrs. Alfred Nuzny tells son Andre.

Rose Held, Adam Bardl — war halted wedding.

Judith, 8, and Joa, 2, made it to freedom.

'Freedom Fighters' recall Budapest struggle.

Red Role Exposed By Refugees Here From 'Iron Curtain'

By REV. HENRY ATWELL

The cruel realities of life behind the Iron Curtain were brought home to Rochesterians this week with the arrival here of 35 Hungarian refugees from war-blasted Budapest.

These young victims of Red Terror, many of them freedom fighters in the recent bloody uprising in Budapest, were brought to Rochester under the auspices of the Rochester Catholic Charities. They are housed presently in the Manger Rochester Hotel while they await location in area homes and seek jobs and a chance to begin life anew in free America.

CARRYING ONLY a handful of personal belongings — all they were able to take in their sudden flight from freedom from their terrified homeland — the newly arrived Hungarians still mirrored in their haunted eyes the memory

Standing in front of her was her brother Paul and next to him his life-long friend.

The hated security police opened fire on the unarmed crowd. Victims fell — and bullets ripped into the body of her brother's companion. He fell dead in front of their terrified eyes.

Neither Rose nor her husband-to-be had weapons so they could not join the freedom fighters but they watched the struggle as it raged back and forth for a week.

AT REPORTS came into the city that it was surrounded by Soviet tanks that Red reinforcements were pouring into the country from Russia. Adam and Rose decided their hopes were doomed. They rendezvoused near the border and slipped into Austria just before the Russians sealed it shut once again.

Here in America, they have only the clothes they wear, no job, no furniture — everything they had to leave behind, and they believe that by now it's destroyed or stolen.

"What's it like to live under the communists?" they were asked.

"Terrible. Just hopeless," they stated.

"MY FATHER was forced into slave labor in 1945 because he

Independent freedom fighter, Stephen Lajos, tells story in Father Atwell's account of his life under the heel of Soviet domination.

From the lips of this little band of refugees, came grim stories — mostly through later stories — of how the Hungarian freedom fighters made their brave but futile bid to throw off the yoke of Russian tyranny.

"I saw my brother's best friend shot dead right in front of me."

"We built a barricade in the street — until a Russian tank came at us and we had to scatter into the nearby buildings."

"I was fired from my job in Budapest because I wouldn't join the Communist Party."

Thus did the few fragments of families represented by the 35 Hungarians who seek to start a new life in Rochester dramatize their experiences of fear and heroism, of love and heartbreak.

One young couple — Adrián Bardl and Rose Held — await Rochester Charities clearance to go on with their wedding plans, a month and nearly ten thousand miles distant from their original dreams.

A November wedding in Budapest was all set when the late October fight for freedom erupted in their city and changed the whole shape of their lives.

MISS A. BEAMSTRESS, joined the Oct. 23 student demonstration in front of Radio Budapest to halt the new Polish regime. She wanted Hungary's national flag flown by the Red. "I shall see heaven in my days" and "I shall see hell in my days" were the slogans she held out. "We must die for freedom."

She was arrested and taken to the Rákosi prison. "I was in the window of ELAN, the Red's headquarters," she said. "I saw the Red flag flying from the window of ELAN."

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THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

68th Year ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1956 10 Cents

Bishop Expresses Thanks For Prayers

Bishop Kearney is "doing as well as can be expected" following a serious operation this past Tuesday at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, it was announced today.

He expressed his deep appreciation for the prayers offered for him this week by thousands throughout the Diocese. He requested that these prayers be continued.

Legal Loophole Seen Aiding 'Lust Peddlers'

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — Rep. John Dowdy (D-Tex.) chairman of the House Post Office Committee's subcommittee on postal operations, charged here that a flood of "pornographic slick-paper magazines" is pouring through the United States mails because of a legal loophole in legislation passed by Congress last year.

MR. DOWDY, who co-authored with Rep. Edward Rees (R-Kans.) the Dowdy-Rees bill giving the Postmaster General authority to impound mail of publishers violating postal regulations, said that a Senate amendment to the act has given these "peddlers of lust" a chance to flout the law.

The amendment provides that the Dowdy-Rees act "shall not apply to mail addressed to publishers or distributors of publications which have entry as second class matter under the Act of March 3, 1879, or to publishers or distributors of copyrighted books and other publications to whom a certificate of registration of copyright has been issued under the copyright laws."

Mr. Dowdy explained that this amendment was "designed to protect legitimate publishers of standard books and established magazines from legislation that was aimed at dealers in smut."

NOW, HOWEVER, publishers of racy "men's magazines" are rushing to Washington to register the contents of their magazines for copyright and are going through the form of applying for a second class mail permit.

Mr. Dowdy said his subcommittee is receiving "complaints from every section of the nation." He said that shortly after Congress reconvenes in January he intends to introduce legislation to close the loophole.



Negro Athletes In News

Star outfielder of the Cincinnati Redlegs and National League Rookie of the Year, "Frankie" Robinson (photo left) talks with teacher at Jesuit's Xavier University in Cincinnati where he has enrolled for special classes. In photo right, new heavyweight boxing champ, Floyd Patterson lights vigil light in thanks at Brooklyn church after win over Archie Moore (NC Photos).

Poland Promises Church Freedom

The following dispatch from Warsaw was written by a veteran German newsmen covering the religious situation in Poland in a joint assignment for the N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE and KNA, the German Catholic news agency. Applying for ad-

By ARTHUR JANSEN

Warsaw, Poland — (NC) — The new communist regime in Poland has guaranteed full religious freedom and expressed its willingness to remove all obstacles erected against the Church in recent years.

At the same time, Poland's Catholic Bishops have declared that they are willing to cooperate in the reconstruction of the country's political life, presuming that "as a consequence of changes in public life," right is observed, justice granted, the morality of the people raised, and restitution made to the Church for damages.

IN A COMMUNIQUE issued by the joint commission appointed by the government of communist leader Wladyslaw Gomulka and by the hierarchy, it was revealed that religious education would be restored to the schools, and that the regime would abandon interference in Church appointments.

Representatives of the Polish episcopate confirmed that Church and State authorities would be given full support in fulfilling their tasks under the conditions of the new agreement by both the hierarchy and the clergy.

The six-point communique provides:

• To bring about good relations between the State and the Church, the commission will propose abolition by the government intrusion in the filling of ecclesiastical posts. A new agreement to be formulated will assure the government some limited influence concerning the appointment of archbishops and diocesan bishops, deans and parishes (assistant deans). The right of ecclesiastical jurisdiction must not be infringed on.

• The following principles are accepted to solve the problem of religious instruction:

Voluntary religious instruction is guaranteed in elementary and "middle" schools for children whose parents desire it.

While religious instruction is not an obligatory subject in the schools, school officials are obliged to make it possible and must work out specific time schedules.

Religious teachers are to be proposed by the Church, appointed by the school authorities, and paid by the state.

The program of instruction and the necessary books are to be agreed upon by both authorities.

Participation of the children

• Shopping days till Christmas! See us for last minute gift suggestions. Still a good selection of watches, pens, radios and jewelry at Wm. S. Thorne, Jeweler, 31 Main Street East, RA 4-5481. "Budget Terms Arranged" — Ad.

High Court Kills Move To Tax Church Schools

By JOHN J. DALY, JR.
NCWC News Service Staff Writer

The U. S. Supreme Court's refusal to review a California case challenging that state's property tax exemption for private grade and high schools is the second highly important court action in the area of church-state relationships in recent weeks.

The court's move followed by about a month a decision of Pennsylvania's highest court which upheld payment of public funds for care of dependent children placed in denominational institutions by civic authorities.

BOTH CASES had far-reaching implications. If the decisions had gone the other way, the rulings undoubtedly would have seriously impeded two important phases — education and social work — of the efforts of U. S. church groups.

If the nation's highest court had accepted jurisdiction and found the tax exemption unconstitutional, it would have piled another terrific financial burden on private, non-profit schools, already heavily weighed down by new facilities needed in most areas trying to meet increasing enrollments.

The nation's Catholic school system, which accounts for roughly 90 per cent of the students not in tax-supported schools, would have been the hardest hit.

Some attorneys claimed that an adverse decision would not only have affected schools, but would have had a strong impact on all tax exemptions granted churches and religious organizations generally.

If the Pennsylvania court had ruled that public funds could not be used for the care of children placed in church-operated institutions, churches would have been forced to close many of their child-caring institutions in that state.

The ruling also would have been a strong precedent for similar court decisions in other states — also with the resultant closings.

THE INSTITUTIONS would have been placed in the position of no longer being able to offer their services to state or local governments, and yet not being able to survive without state

financial help to care for the children.

Another result would have been to hand to the state, with its inability to give adequate attention to the religious needs of children, the responsibility of caring for virtually all dependent youngsters.

Curiously, both principles at stake in the two cases have been an accepted part of the practices of most American communities for decades. Every state and territory grants property tax exemptions. Most state and municipal authorities work with the private welfare organizations.

THEN WHY the sudden hacking away at these long-accepted practices?

In the past 15 years or so, small, highly vocal organizations have initiated legal suits to determine by law the strictest possible relationship church and state should be forced to assume in different areas, such as education and social work.

The issue generally centers around that part of the Federal constitution's first amendment, which reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

This has been labeled the "separation of church and state" clause. It was not until 1946 that the U. S. Supreme Court had its first request to apply a definite interpretation of this part of the constitution to state action.

Organizations behind the legal actions involving the first amendment believe in absolute separation of church and state — even to the extent of denying the two authorities a nod in recognition of each other.

DEFENDERS of the principles involved in cases such as the tax exemption and child-caring suits maintain that church and state must be separate, but

(Continued on Page 5)

Newspaper Rebukes 'Baby Doll' Producer

Hollywood, Calif. — (NC) — Elia Kazan, producer of the condemned movie "Baby Doll," has shown that "he misunderstands the mission" of the National Legion of Decency and "is taking a short view of the producer's moral obligations."

This view was taken by the Hollywood Citizen News, daily newspaper of the movie capital, which commended the legion for performing a public service and said that the legion does not "pressure" any producer.

THE KAZAN production, released by Warner Brothers, was placed in Class C, condemned by the legion "as being morally repellent in both theme and treatment," the newspaper pointed out. It said that public media rightfully are subject to criticism and that includes the film producer's product.

The Citizen News observed that Mr. Kazan in replying to the legion's criticism, said that he was not trying to be "moral or immoral, only truthful, and that he believed people in a free country should judge for themselves."

"Kazan seems to forget that those who produce informative or entertaining material which may influence people for good or bad have a public responsibility to exercise," the paper commented. "They should not try to shift their responsibility to the police."

"In this the film producer is no different than the newspaper publisher, the magazine editor or the owner of a radio or television station."

"In Kazan's reply to the Legion of Decency he stated that he has 'no intention of being pressured.' This remark shows he misunderstands the mission of the Legion. It performs a public service. It does not 'pressure' any producer. People of many religious faiths find its service helpful."

Refugee Fund Nears Zero Mark, Donations Needed

A new appeal for donations to provide temporary care of 35 Hungarian refugees newly arrived in Rochester, was voiced today by Monsignor Arthur R. Baskin, director of Catholic Charities, sponsoring agency of the homeless victims of Communist oppression.

An appeal two weeks ago brought in a little over \$1,000, Monsignor Baskin reported, but "that's not enough to take care of 35 people for very long," he said. "Our present funds are nearing the zero mark."

As soon as the refugees can find employment, they will be sent to the care of Rochester area homes. It is the time wait-

ing for a job that creates the problem," he explained.

He stated that an additional 25 or 30 Hungarian families are expected to arrive in Rochester as soon as government authorities can arrange their entrance into this country.

"These people have fled to our country for freedom. They have given up their homes, their jobs, everything — and we must aid them in their need," the charities director emphasized.

He appealed for contributions large or small, and said he would call on his office in the Tolson Building, 55 Chestnut St., Rochester.

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