

# Movie Code Not Changed Radically

Albany, N. Y. — (NC) — The chairman of the U. S. bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures, said he believes that Hollywood's code of morals for movies was "not scrapped or changed radically" when it was revised.

Bishop William A. Scully of Albany declared that it is too soon after announcement of the new Motion Picture Production Code to comment fully on the new set of principles to guide the making of movies.

But he stated that he is aware of the pressure put on the committee revising the code to change it radically and is happy to see that this was not done.

**THE BISHOP** added that in those areas of interpretation in the new code in which its administrators must make the decision, he hopes they "will use discretion and good judgment according to accepted Christian standards of morality."

The Albany prelate stated that he is happy to see that the new code contains no prohibition against blasphemy on the screen.

Kenneth Clark, a vice president of the Motion Picture Association of America, of which the code administration office is a part, explained that MPPAA officials had long thought the code needed "a streamlining" and that actual work on the revision — first such comprehensive study of the code since its 1930 adoption — was begun a year ago.

Mr. Clark indicated that the major effects of the "streamlining" are to simplify the code's language, make its provisions more precise and put its content in a more logical order.

**BUT THERE** are changes in its provisions.

Subjects which were flatly forbidden in the old code, but now are permitted, with a number of specific qualifications, include: illicit narcotics practice, abortion, prostitution and kidnapping of children.

To give an indication of the qualifications of the treatment of these subjects, this is what the code says about abortion:

"The subject of abortion shall be discouraged, shall never be more than suggested, and when referred to shall be condemned. It must never be treated lightly or made the subject of comedy. Abortion shall never be shown explicitly or by inference, and a story must not indicate that an abortion has been performed. The word 'abortion' shall not be used.

In addition to a prohibition against blasphemy, the code also contains new bans against dealing with "mercy killing," ritual of divine as well as natural

# Court Upholds Sunday Ban On Car Sales

Trenton, N. J. — (NC) — A law banning Sunday automobile sales has been upheld unanimously by the New Jersey Supreme Court.

The court voted 6-0 to reverse decisions by Superior Court judges who had ruled the 1955 law unconstitutional.

**OPERATORS** of used cars in Delmar and South Hackensack challenged the validity of the Sunday automobile sales law by contending that it discriminated against car dealers because certain other businesses were allowed to operate on Sundays.

Chief Justice Arthur T. Vanderbilt, who wrote the Supreme Court's opinion, said that Sunday auto sales pose a threat to public health, safety, and welfare. He added:

"Individual inconveniences must be suffered as the price for living in a well-ordered society."

**THE OPINION** continued: "In the present state of Sunday activity in this automotive age, there are sections of our highways stretching for miles almost exclusively devoted to the sale of new and used cars, where the owners and employees, forced by unreasonable and competitive just of some of their neighbors in the trade, are compelled to maintain their business vigil every day of the week and for long hours; who can say that this is not inimical to the public good?"

Chief Justice Vanderbilt also said that "the state has an absolute right to enter here and force on all, and everyone so engaged, regulations for the benefit of the public."



For Care Of God's Poor

Steubenville, Ohio — (NC) — Mother Anna Engel, foundress and head of the Medical Mission Sisters, receives the Poverello Medal from College President Daniel W. Egan, T.O.R. She is the first woman to receive the Medal, given annually by the College of Steubenville, Ohio. Mother Engel's citation was "for outstanding love, for the work of providing professional and scientific aid to the sick in the missions."

# Holy Father Lauds Mothers Of Priests

Vatican City — (NS) — Pope Pius XII praised the mothers of priests as the "most exquisite and sensible collaborators in the Church's great apostolate" and said "all Catholics must be grateful to them."

He spoke at an audience to 51 new priests from 35 U. S. dioceses who had just been ordained at Rome. Accompanied by their parents and friends, numbering about 200, they were introduced to the Pontiff by Bishop Martin J. O'Connor, rector of the college.

**POPE PIUS** said the new priests constituted the largest single group ever ordained at the North American College, and he wished them years of fruitful work when they return to their dioceses at the end of next year.

Then, turning to the mothers present, the Pope hailed them and all other mothers through out the world who have given sons to the priesthood. He said they had followed the example of such mothers as St. Monica and Margherita Bosco, who are "glorified by the Church."

St. Monica was the mother of the celebrated St. Augustine, who was ordained a priest at Hippo in 333 and three years later was consecrated a bishop. Margherita Bosco was the mother of St. John Bosco, Italian peasant boy who became a priest in 1841 and won renown for his life-long work of educating boys.

# Cardinal Calls New Kazan Film 'Sinful'

New York — Cardinal Spellman warned the faithful entrusted to his care to avoid seeing the "Baby Doll" motion picture "under pain of sin."

The Cardinal gave his warning Sunday from the pulpit in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

**UPON HIS** return from the Orient, the Cardinal said he was "astounded" to learn of the forthcoming movie. He said the "rotting theme" of the picture and the brazen advertising campaign accompanying it are "a contemptuous defiance of the natural law."

He said that he condemned the film in fulfilling his duties as Archbishop of New York and as a loyal citizen. "The conscienceless venal attitude of the sponsors of the movie and of all immoral pictures" constitutes a "definite corruptive moral influence" on the American public, he charged.

**THE MOVIE** produced by Eliza Kazan and released by Warner Brothers has been given the production code seal of approval but has been evaluated in Class C — condemned by the National Legion of Decency. The Cardinal said it "is astonishing and deplorable that such an immoral motion picture" received the production code seal.

The Legion condemned the film as "morally repellent both in theme and treatment" and said "Baby Doll," which had its premiere in New York City on December 18, is due to open in several other major cities on December 29.

The story is set in a depressing background. It tells of the marriage of an immature teenager to a middle-aged cotton gin owner. The marriage is shattered by the husband who goes berserk when he suspects his wife is guilty of adultery.

# Prayer Day Slated For Persecuted

A call has gone out to Catholics throughout all the United States to join in a Day of Prayer for the Persecuted.

Sunday, December 30, has been fixed as that day.

**ALL MEN** of good will have been asked to join in this observance.

The Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference adopted a resolution urging the day of prayer, and the action was approved by the general body of the American Bishops.

While the Hungarian tragedy has given fresh and great impetus to this nation-wide day of petition to God, the prayers that will be offered will be for all the persecuted round the world.

Archbishop Francis E. Keogh of Baltimore, chairman of the N.C.W.C. Administrative Board, made it plain.

**HE RECALLED** that for 40 years now, members of the Church of Silence have suffered under "the evil and inhuman rule" of atheistic communism.

Despite their long sufferings, the Archbishop added, a large body of Christians have had their faith "deepened by trials," and he expressed confidence that "they will endure steadfast and will bear to the Church of Christ fruit a hundredfold."

# SAY IT ISN'T SO!

# President To Invite Red Dictator Tito

Washington — (NC) — President Eisenhower is considering extending a formal invitation to Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia to visit the White House. Secretary of State Dulles said here. The Secretary emphasized that no decision has been reached, but there was a strong indication that the invitation will be given soon.

The Yugoslav dictator has long sought a meeting with President Eisenhower. Until now, the President has discouraged such a meeting, saying it would serve no good purpose.

It has been said here that the President was partly influenced in his stand by the fact that it is uncertain what kind of public reception Tito will get in this country.

There are indications that the administration is prepared now to risk anti-Tito demonstrations in order to capitalize on whatever division between Belgrade and Moscow may have been caused by recent Soviet attacks on Tito.

# Cistercians Greet Hungarian Refugees

Dallas, Tex. (RNS) — Eighty six Hungarian refugees were greeted here by Dallas 11 Cistercian Fathers, all of whom were born and educated in Hungary.

The Roman Catholic priests acted as interpreters and interviewers for the refugees.

The Cistercians teach at the University of Dallas, newly-opened Catholic school. They plan to give the refugees instruction in basic English.

# French Churches To Read Vernacular Epistle, Gospel

Paris — (NC) — Pope Pius XII has given permission to all churches in France to have the Epistle and Gospel of every Mass read or sung in the vernacular immediately after it has been read or sung in Latin.

The permission was granted after Archbishop Joseph-Marie Martin of Rouen sent a petition for the approval of such a practice to the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office in Rome in the name of the Archbishops and Bishops of France.

The new practice brings the reading of the Epistle and Gospel in the vernacular within the liturgical celebration of the Mass proper instead of relegating them to the position between the Gospel and Credo which is set aside for the sermon and announcements.

The Sacred Congregation ruled that the reading or chanting of Epistle and Gospel in Latin is still obligatory.

# Polish Bishop Died In Red Siberia

Vatican City — (NC) — The Sacred Congregation for the Oriental Church has officially confirmed the death of Auxiliary Bishop Niceta Budka of Lviv, now in the Soviet Union. The Bishop died in the Karaganda (Siberia) forced-labor camp on October 6, 1949.

In April, 1945, after the incorporation of the area into the Soviet Union, Bishop Budka was arrested with all other bishops of the Oriental Rite living in the Halye-Lwow province. He was sentenced to eight years of hard labor and sent to Siberia.

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