

# TV Station Upholds 'Luther' Film Ban

Chicago—(NC)—The general manager of station WGN-TV told a meeting of Protestant clergymen here that the station will not reschedule the film, "Martin Luther," which was cancelled during the Christmas holidays.

When the film was taken out of the station's broadcast schedule, several Protestant clergymen charged that the move was made in response to "pressures" mobilized by the "Roman Catholic Church."

However, Mr. Quaal, the general manager, stated that the film was canceled because "it became apparent that there was an emotional reaction" against the plan to show it.

BOTH MR. QUAAI and Mr. Edward M. Burke, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Chicago, said that the archdiocese took no official action to prevent the film.

Mr. Quaal explained that the "emotional reaction" he referred to took the form of telephone calls, letters and personal visits by individuals.

Announcing that the film will not be rescheduled, he said this action was taken "to prevent further misunderstandings, all will or controversies from being injected into the homes of the families we serve."

WHEN "MARTIN LUTHER" was released for presentation in movie theaters in 1953, the National Legion of Decency did not approve or disapprove it. The Legion put the movie in a separate classification which amounts to a warning against certain features other than moral aspect.

The Legion said that those who see the film, which is a sympathetic and approving representation of Luther's life, will find historical references and interpretations which are unacceptable to Catholics.

Protestants Ask Probe By FCC

Chicago—(RNS)—A Protestant "action committee" said here they will seek a full-fledged Federal Communications Commission investigation of WGN-TV's cancellation of a

scheduled showing of the "Martin Luther" film.

The committee, comprising seven clergymen and a layman, was named in December by 30 Protestant church leaders at a meeting called to denounce the station's change in plans.

An announcement by the committee said that Attorney Frank Ketcham of Washington, D. C., a specialist in FCC affairs, had been retained to press the protest.

Dr. John W. Harms, committee chairman and executive vice-president of the Church Federation of Greater Chicago, said the committee acted after a conference with WGN-TV officers who said the station "has no present intention of rescheduling" the film.

Dr. Harms added that the committee will explain its action in a letter to 1,600 Protestant churches in the Chicago area. He said many pastors would read the committee's statement at Sunday services.

## Pigeons Help Maryknoller Win Converts In Formosa

Taipei, Formosa—(NC)—Homing pigeons point the way in one town of central Formosa.

When the people of Yuan Lin see a pair of pigeons circling the town and striking the Catholic mission compound, they smile and remark: "The Father is visiting the outlying villages."

MARYKNOLL FATHER Joseph Cosgrove of Boston, the busy pastor of Yuan Lin was rather nonplussed the day someone presented him with a pair of homing pigeons.

Little did he think that one day the birds would become a feature of the town and a reminder to the people that the Catholic Father was on his tireless quest for souls.

THERE ARE now a dozen homing pigeons in Father Cosgrove's compound, and when the missionary makes one of his frequent trips to out-missions,



## Welcome, Little One

Pittsburgh—(NC)—Laszla Luckoff, two years old, rests at Mt. Mercy. In Pittsburgh, after travelling with her family for the past six weeks. The little tyke is one of 71 Hungarian refugees who will have new homes in Pittsburgh.



## Polio Lad Runs Apostolate

Buffalo—(NC)—Michael "Charity" Harrity, always has a smile from his bed at the polio respirator center at the University of Buffalo. While a seminarian at St. Mary's Minor Seminary in Baltimore, he was stricken with bulbar polio in 1953, and was completely paralyzed. Still dependent on a chest respirator, he is conducting a one-man conversion apostolate, which has brought the Faith to a nurse at the center, her five children, and one of the patients.

## Hungarian Regime Bans Processions

Vienna—(RNS)—Religious processions, and all other public gatherings, have again been banned by the Hungarian Communist authorities, a Budapest Radio broadcast disclosed.

It was believed here the government's action was prompted by new disturbances created by dissatisfied workers in various Budapest factories.

## Oldest Seminary 500 Years Old

Rome—(RNS)—Capranica College in Rome the oldest Roman Catholic seminary in the world and the first to be founded upon the prescriptions of the Council of Trent is celebrating its 500th anniversary this year.

Highlight of the celebration will be a Solemn Mass in the college scheduled to be attended by Pope Pius XII, a one-time student. The Mass will be celebrated on Jan. 21, the Feast of St. Agnes, Patroness of the institution.

## Chinese Priests Jailed By Reds

Hong Kong—(NC)—The Chinese communists have arrested Father Humilis Yang, O.F.M. superior of the Francis mission of Yutes, in Shansi province, it was reported here.

Another priest of the same province, Father John Baptist Ho, vicar general of the mission of Taiyuanfu, is understood to be also under arrest.

## If 'Cup Of Cheer' Dulls Mind Don't Drive Car

Boston—(RNS)—Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, in a letter read at all Masses in the archdiocese, reminded Roman Catholics of the moral responsibility involved in driving an automobile.

Warning against the dangers of driving while tired or under the influence of liquor.

"No one has any right to drive if he is suffering from excessive fatigue or, worse still, if the cup that cheers has dulled, even to a slight degree, his normal alertness to the multitudinous possibilities of collision," he said.

Citing the statistics on fatal accidents during the recent holiday season, the archbishop said:

THE DIVINE Law which forbids suicide and murder is violated by every autoist who deliberately and wantonly disregards the regulations which competent authorities have imposed as elementary and indispensable means of defense against accidents.

Archbishop Cushing made a special reference to the dangers

# Religion Question In '60 Census Still Undecided

By JOHN J. DALY, JR.

Washington—(NC)—If the Census Bureau should ask about religion in the 1960 population and housing census, it will probably ask only one question and that will ask information on church affiliation.

This is the thinking of most bureau officials at present, according to Dr. Conrad Taeuber, assistant director in charge of population and housing studies, who was interviewed at the bureau's headquarters in suburban Suitland, Md.

Questions such as "do you believe in God?" or "do you attend church or synagogue regularly?" have been pretty much put aside in the bureau's deliberations, he said.

BOTH QUESTIONS, suggested to the bureau by various groups, were deemed "improper" by census authorities.

Dr. Taeuber said he added that they were thought to "constitute an examination of religious belief, something prohibited by the First Amendment to the Constitution."

In addition, he stated, there would be "substantial technical difficulties" in asking such questions because of the problems of defining for statistical purposes what the word "God" and the phrase "regular attendance" mean.

"To some persons 'regular attendance' at church may mean once a year, to others once a month and to others once a day. By the same token, 'God' may mean a number of things to a number of people," Dr. Taeuber said.

ADVOCATES of a question on religious affiliation argue that a real down-to-earth count of church members is desperately needed, he said. They say figures presently compiled unofficially by various national church groups are constantly proving untrustworthy.

They argue that since the government asks about radio, television sets, furnaces, refrigerators and even kitchen sinks in the census, it would seem more than proper to use government money and manpower to determine the extent of church membership, Dr. Taeuber related.

## African Chief Visits Ailing Priest

Dublin—(RNS)—Parramatta Chief Obster Uduh traveled 4,000 miles from Port Jackson in North Rhodesia, Africa, to visit the Ailing priest.

The Ailing priest, Fr. John, who has been in the area for many years, is a well-known and respected figure.

## Cardinal Tours Refugee Center

Camp Kliner, N. J.—(NC)—Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, made a two-hour tour of the refugee reception center here.

## A HOLY LAND APPEAL

Our Holy Father received this plea from 1,500 Melkite Catholics, the poor peasants of the quiet town of Djoune, nestled in the mountains of Lebanon. Our Lord once visited the nearby city of Sidon. From Lebanon Solomon received sturdy cedars to support the roof of the great temple of Jerusalem. Today these people wish their chapel had had such sturdy supports. A few years ago we appealed for help to restore their old church. Grateful to God and to our benefactors, they were content with this simple chapel. Then, last March 16th Lebanon suffered one of the most severe earthquakes ever recorded there. This town was almost all ruined. The church was gravely damaged. Government engineers insist it be repaired or demolished to eliminate danger.

The peasant people have given almost \$1,000. They need \$3,500 more. Can you help with a mite?

HIS WILL IS YOUR SALVATION. YOUR WILL MAY BE THE SALVATION OF ONE OF HIS MISSIONS.

PETER OR JOSEPH Two lads, separated by thousands of miles, but very close in mind and heart—Peter, near Bethlehem, and Joseph (yes, another) in India—have never met, but their souls meet in the burning desire to serve forever as priests of God. Both have just begun the six year training. Both in areas where live priests are urgently needed. Both are of poor families. We must find \$100 each year to keep and train them. Won't you adopt one by sending this yearly sum in any payments?

When you remember with Masses your friends and relatives, remember our poor missionaries. Almost all are natives and have almost no other means of support but YOUR MASS OFFERINGS. Masses are said in a very short time.

SEARCHING FOR SUITABLE GIFTS?

WEDDINGS BIRTHDAYS GRADUATIONS BAPTISMS ORDINATIONS PROFESSIONS FEAST DAYS ANNIVERSARIES FIRST COMMUNIONS

ENROLL FRIEND OR RELATIVE for \$1 a year or \$20 forever; families \$5 and \$100. These gifts are priceless helps to our Holy Father to meet mission appeals. Living and deceased are enrolled and share in 15,000 Masses yearly and in the prayers and good works of thousands of Near East priests and sisters.

GIFT CARD SUGGESTIONS Our missionaries are most grateful for stored articles for chapel: Mass Bell \$ 5 Ciborium or Monstrance \$40 Altar Stone \$10 Crucifixes 25 Sanctuary Lamp 15 Picture 15 Altar 75 Candles, year's supply 20 Statues 25

CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE It commences January 18th, feast of St. Peter's Chair, to pray for union of all with Peter's successor, the Pope. While we pray a truly noble group of young women, LAY AUXILIARIES, work for it among the desert people in Jordan. There is no one but us to beg for them. No one is more worthy of your charity. Have you a mite for them during the Octave?

RAYMOND AND GENEROUS St. Raymond, whose feast comes this week, was generous with God. God will be generous with the kind friend who "adopts" SISTER RAYMOND, a novice with the Poor Clares at Palai, India. SISTER GENEROSA, also beginning her two years training with the same Sisters at Karuvannur, will be just plain generous with her prayers to one who "adopts" her. Won't you help one of these poor girls by sending us the \$150 we need each year for her training?

Near East Missions Friends: Cardinal Spellman, President; Msgr. Peter F. Touhy, Hon' Secy. Send all communications to: CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION 480 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York 17, N. Y.

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