

Red China Paper Bares Laity's Fight To Free Clergy

Hong Kong — (NC) — A Shanghai communist newspaper has denounced a group of Catholics for their attempts to win freedom for Bishop Ignatius Kung of Shanghai and 35 imprisoned priests.

The paper, Wen Hui Pao, demands that these Catholics not be allowed to escape unscathed from two alleged attempts to obtain the Bishop's release from a Shanghai prison.

According to the newspaper's story, Chu Kung-chia, a prominent Catholic layman, told the Shanghai Political Consultative Congress that grave mistakes had been made in the 1955 campaign to suppress "counterrevolutionaries."

Bishop Kung and said that the government, by jailing the head of the diocese had created an obstacle to unity between Church and government.

Later, at the meeting of the Patriotic Association of Chinese Catholics at Peking in July, Mr. Chu said:

BISHOP KUNG opposed the government. But his stand and his motives were sound. If Bishop Kung is not released, not only will the unity between Chinese Catholics and the government be affected, but foreigners abroad will also conceive doubts concerning new China.

Ku Shou-hai, a noted Catholic lawyer in Shanghai, also protested the Bishop's imprisonment. According to the Wen Hui Pao account, "Mr. Ku said openly that counter-revolutionaries under arrest should be punished if they were guilty, and released if they were guiltless."

Mr. Ku said that Shanghai Catholics were indignant that their priests have been under arrest for two years—some as long as five years—without having been brought to trial for sentence or acquittal.

A CATHOLIC laywoman at the Peking meeting, according to Wen Hui Pao, "not only demanded rehabilitation for 'counter-revolutionaries' in the church, but she also asked that a review be made of the cases of some 'filial' counter-revolutionaries

who had been expelled from China.

This woman, Madame Tung Kuei-min, said the Red newspaper, "had the audacity to ask the government to submit to review, the case alleging infanticide committed by 'imperialists' of the Holy Souls society, and even frantically demanded the destruction of grave monuments constructed by various public groups to commemorate the deaths of these infants."

THE ARTICLE charged that Madame Tung had protested the columnists and injustices perpetrated by communist authorities against Catholics nuns who had spent their lives serving Chinese children in orphanages.

Mr. Chu, says Wen Hui Pao, "spread far and wide the report that the Pope in Rome is the head of Catholics all over the world, whom we must obey unconditionally."

At other times during the Peking meeting, Mr. Chu defended the need of financial transactions between the Church in China and the Holy See and the acceptance of subsidies from the Holy See for mission work as "family business within the Church which the government should approve."

VATICAN CENSURES against schismatic clergy or laity, he told the "patriotic association," are "the internal affair of the Church, and should be carried out strictly."



African Girl Becomes Nun

Moshi, Tanganyika, East Africa — (NC) — Sister Anna smiles with joy as she shows her father the ring she received when she made her perpetual vows. The ceremony took place here at the Novitiate of Our Lady of Killimanjaro, where 127 African Sisters have already been professed. These African Sisters teach school and care for the sick.

Early Christians Wrote 'X' For Christ

Catholic Editor Defends Headlines Writers Who Use 'Xmas' Instead Of Christmas

Washington, D.C. — (NC) — There is nothing wrong or offensive about the custom of writing "Xmas" for Christmas, according to an article in Catholic Men, publication of the National Council of Catholic Men.

"Instead of rashly judging those who use it," the article states, "let's admit that maybe they know more about it than we. Instead of condemning it as a pagan custom, let's baptize it—or rather confirm it, because it was baptized long ago."

THE ARTICLE written by John G. Bowen, magazine editor, states that those who use "Xmas," wittingly or unwittingly, are paying tribute to an

old Catholic custom, testifying to the venerable age of the Church and "her" influence throughout the centuries.

The editor points out that the way the ancient Greeks wrote the word "Christos," the initial letter "chi" looks like our "X" translated into English as "Ch" and pronounced "Ki." The early Christians used "X" to represent Christ.

"To those who know these things," according to Dr. Bowen, "even if only by a sort of Catholic intuition, 'Xmas' recalls, not only Our Lord and His Mass but also the rough days of the early Church, of catacombs, or persecutions and martyrs, of staunch men and

women who died for the Faith."

Dr. Bowen acknowledged that his research into the custom was prompted by a letter from a veteran Washington newspaperman, a Catholic, who used the word "Xmas" in a headline and received a strongly worded letter from a reader denouncing the practice.

DEFENDING HEADLINE writers who use "Xmas," Dr. Bowen states: "Just get your pastor or some other priest to write you a little personal note. There's a good chance that he will sign it, as thousands of priests and many other religious minded folks do. Sincerely yours in Xto, Father Smith."

Mother-in-Law Moved In On Us What Can I Do About It?

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J.
Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Louis University

We have been married six years and everything was going well until his mother came for a visit and just stayed on. She's a widow and claims she has no money. Her daughter will have nothing to do with her.

I don't mind having her here but lately she has been making insinuating remarks about my family background, my housekeeping, and even my friendliness with the neighbors. I don't want my children listening to such remarks. My husband is afraid of her.

What can I do?

I fear your guest has already tarried too long. Marge. You are not going to gain very much by allowing the situation to continue longer.

When two women are in competition for the control of one defenseless male the situation can get pretty rough. Once the battle starts, no holds are barred.

It will be of little avail for you to submit meekly or to strive for peaceful co-existence. Your mother-in-law is evidently out to strengthen her position and weaken yours. She is not likely to be discouraged by what she will interpret as weakness on your part.

I MUST confess, Marge, I'm a little hesitant to take up a problem dealing with mother-in-law. Sad experience has taught me that every attempt to do so rouses a hue and cry right across the country. Evidently, mother-in-law are on the defensive and are in no mood to be studied.

I had best make my position clear from the start! Frankly, I feel that mother-in-law are just like any other mothers—no better and no worse. The only difference is that the in-law situation offers more frequent opportunities to show up their good points and their bad.

If they are really good mothers, they will become good in-laws. If they have weaknesses,



certain in-law situations will bring them out clearly.

Some parents thoughtlessly settle on one child for emotional or financial support. This is unjust and can have serious consequences for that child's later life.

Second, it is easy to understand that your husband feels he is in a difficult position. He recognizes his obligations to you, yet he fears to offend his mother who probably has a sharper tongue and has the benefit of long years of experience in learning how to deal with him.

Caught in this situation, most men tend to do nothing. In the vain hope that things will turn out all right in the end, they try to placate both sides.

Third, it follows that you must take the initiative. In a sense, you will have to give your husband an ultimatum: does he want you or his mother?

THE HEAD of the family must act. When it is put squarely to them in this way, husbands realize that they can avoid the issue no longer.

In dealing with similar cases, Marge, I have found it is always better for the wife to put her cards on the table. Otherwise she runs the risk of losing the respect of her husband and children and may be tempted to retaliate by becoming as vicious as the one she is fighting. I think you had best make your position clear right now.

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THURSDAY
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BOOK SHELF

For someone clearly loved their pleasantly departed Knox, the story THE WINDOW I Reflection on the 1st.

These are your Christ talks, a sort of biography through the war brief, but it is straight out of their start warmitude and devotion.

"HE COMES" priest's hands a Bethlehem; the like rain into a the Psalm tells u you went to Co were the dispos heart as the bet sanctuary."

"Were you w like the shepherd were you keeping thoughts, as th flocks, so that for his coming?"

"Or was your wayside inn, to guests to give a miraculous birt should be a sile night in our life.

THE PARAG review of a ree of the Month, THE CAT ISLAND, Jerome Hawes, a Kenedy book c of high adventure able zeal of Joseph over the w souls to help a always to earth the sketching of churches, and beautiful with love he put into

Pulitzer Prize Award Paul H OF ANGELS i finely photogr member Jubilee a book research fo

FARRA STRAU latest, a novel Californians OF GIVE ME POSS a new Paul Hor of RIO GRAN

HOMELESS IN THE HOLY LAND!

There are now 931,584 Arab refugees in the Holy Land—victims of the tragic Arab-Israeli war of 1948. Many of them are still begging food rations for themselves and their children. They look to our Holy Father for help in their misery. Help us to help them. Your \$10 gift for a food package will feed a whole family for a week. In gratitude we will send you a Rosary of olive seeds from the Holy Land. Your stringless gifts will help everyone.

DON'T FAIL TO REMEMBER GOD AND HIS NEAR EAST MISSIONS IN YOUR WILL. GIVE GOD HIS WORTHY SHARE.

THOMAS, XAVIER AND NABIL ARE SEMINARIANS starting their studies for the Priesthood. The first two lads are in India and Nabil is studying in Lebanon. They are praying daily that they might be blessed by a benefactor that could adopt them and help them reach the altar of God. They only need \$100 for each year of their six year's training—\$600 in all. This sum can be paid in any installments. For \$600 you can give to God a perfectly trained native priest to labor among his own people. He will be YOUR PRIESTLY SON FOR ALL ETERNITY.

MEMORIALS FOR A LOVED ONE AT CHRISTMAS We are constantly in need of the following articles to furnish many of our MISSION CHAPELS. Perhaps you would like to donate an article in memory of a departed and beloved soul—or for a favor received from Almighty God.

Altar \$75 Chalice \$40 Altar-stone \$10
Mass bell 5 Picture 15 Monstrance 40
Status 30 Mass book 25 Sanctuary lamp 15
Pyx 15 Vestments 50 Tabernacle 25

CLARIST SISTERS LIVING IN A TENT!! In response to a plea from the Archbishop of Chandernagery, India, Clarist Sisters have gone to the remote village of KOTTAKAD to teach the children the three R's—especially Religion. These good Nuns badly need a little home and a modest Chapel for the faithful. If we can raise \$2,500 we can make their dream a reality. The natives will do the work. Can you help these gallant Clarist Sisters as they labor for the Lord? Any little gift is precious to us!

WHO GIVES TO THE POOR MAKES A LOAN TO GOD.

NOVICES IN NEED. SISTERS RITA-MARIE, MAURICE, CANDIDA, LEOPOLD, PAVILA AND VICTORIA are novices in Lebanon, Egypt and India. As future missionaries of God they pray ardently that some good benefactor might help them with the \$150 they need for each of their two years of training. Will it be your privilege to boast that you have an adopted daughter laboring for God? Many blessings will be yours.

FOR YOUR FRIENDS AT CHRISTMAS Are you thinking of a proper gift on the Lord's Birthday for a friend or relative? Why not send our GIFT CARD saying Mass has been offered for them at Bethlehem. Or you may wish to say that you have given a sacred article to a Near-East Chapel in their name. Write for our pamphlet "HOW CAN I HELP?" God will bless you for your charity.

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