

Italy

Baptist Church Ban Grows From Parish Rift With Bishop

By FATHER JAMES I. TUČEK

Veroli — (NC) — Conflict between civil authorities and Protestants in regard to the latter's evangelization efforts in Italy has broken out again in the nearby village of Sant'Angelo in Villa, about 40 miles south of Rome.

Municipal authorities in Veroli have stopped construction work on a Baptist church there. The point of the dispute was the lack of a proper building permit from the municipal building commission.

AS IN MANY similar disputes in recent years between Protestant bodies and Italian municipal authorities, a history of conflict has preceded the incident, revealing more than the simple black and white picture presented in the first news reports. In the background too, as always, have been the higher authorities of the Protestant group and the Catholic Church.

In this instance the disputing parties are the Baptist community of Sant'Angelo in Villa and the municipal authorities of Veroli. The organizations behind these are the Evangelical Baptist Union of Italy and the Diocese of Veroli-Frosinone, with their respective leaders, Pastor Manfredi Ronchi and Bishop Carlo Livraghi.

According to Pastor Ronchi, the story began in November, 1937, when Graziano Camillo filed for a building permit with the provincial building commission of Frosinone.

The permit was granted in March, 1938, and construction work begun. The following April 30 Veroli authorities ordered the work stopped, saying that, although a permit had been granted by the provincial authorities, the necessary permit from the municipality was lacking.

After a brief halt, work was resumed. There was a second order to halt construction and a second refusal to recognize the order. The third order came on August 26.

Pastor Ronchi says that the re-

quirement of a municipal permit is something new and that freedom of worship has been violated. He maintains further that the Baptist congregation of Sant'Angelo numbers about 300 and is more numerous than the Catholic community.

DIOCESAN authorities maintain that the real trouble began much earlier than November, 1937. It began, they say, several years ago when the two small neighboring communities of Sant'Angelo and Il Giglio began disputing over which one would get the single priest available to serve them.

The Bishop told the people of Sant'Angelo that he would have to send the priest as pastor to Il Giglio and asked them to use the church there about a ten-minute walk away to fulfill their religious obligations.

In an act of rebellion, a certain group of Sant'Angelo citizens joined the Baptist church as an act of defiance against the Bishop. With funds from U.S. Baptists they began building their church.

Diocesan authorities do not consider the incident as being one involving freedom of worship. They say there is no evidence of conversion. In fact there is evidence in a number of letters sent to diocesan offices to prove that Catholics and are attempting to pressure the Bishop into giving them a pastor of their own.

TAKE ONE SHED, ADD ONE APOSTLE...

and you have laid the foundation for a flourishing missionary parish. This may not always be the case, but it certainly is the story of the rapidly growing parish of The Holy Father's Missions in the East. The number of faithful coming to Mass has increased to about 150. The priest who cares for them must come from Faravoor, and the only home the Lord knows among His own is a rough shed. These people are so anxious to have a resident priest and a fitting home for Our Lord that they have contributed labor, money and materials. Even with their best efforts they are \$3000 short of their goal. Can you help them—will you help them? They are struggling to have a home for the Divine Child—Christmas—will you pray for their intention today and perhaps send financial aid?

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WAR... BLOODSHED... POVERTY... SICKNESS come and go throughout the world—but they seem to live permanently in the lands of the Near East. The number of REFUGEES constantly increases and their needs grow more acute with the passage of time. The only hope of these poor people is the Christ-like love of the Holy Father for them. To Him they turn for spiritual consolation and material aid—and Pope Pius XII looks to you for prayers and financial assistance. Hunger is the main problem now. \$10 will feed a refugee family for a week. Can you find it in your heart to refuse such a simple request for the necessities of life?

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HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF JOINING A MISSIONS CLUB... THE DUES ARE PRAYERS FOR THE MISSIONS AND ONE DOLLAR A MONTH... JOIN TODAY...

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Mary Reed Newland, Massachusetts housewife and mother of seven, has written her third book, a "do-it-yourself" guide for parents who want to bring up children with strong faith and a realization that saints are "real" people. She will be guest speaker at the Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's banquet, Tuesday, October 21.

BOOK SHELF

Saints and Children

By Sister Margaret Teresa, Nazareth College
The Saints and Our Children, by Mary Reed Newland. Kennedy \$3. 218 pp.

Lucky are the children whose parents make use of Mary Reed Newland's books.

This one on the saints capitalizes on the same important fact as the earlier volumes do ("We and Our Children," "The Year and Our Children"): A little child imitates, frankly admires, desperately desires to share in his parents' life.

Parents take delight in this "frail" respond to it with amused affection—and often let it go at that; yet they can use it to teach, and to teach for eternity. They can travel very far toward God themselves, and as they do, impart their gains to the youngsters.

A child's mind is wide open to their least suggestion, and wide open to God. Later on, the uneducated child is harder to reach; he may never find it easy to know, love, and serve God.

MRS. NEWLAND not only tells the story of the saints (Part I gives the lives of Abraham, Don Bosco, Dominic Savio, Maria Goretti, Bernadette Therese, and the Holy Family—an exquisite chapter) in a highly delightful manner, but she tells each one to parents and for particular reasons, stopping to explain in detail what a child likes best in it, what he can learn from it, what follow-up to make in developing character.

Mrs. Newland talks not as if she were addressing a meeting, but as if she were at your own fireside, turning the story inside out, answering your every question, stocking you up with just those tidbits that no child can forget (how Don Bosco learned circus tricks, what Therese said about goldfish, how Dominic umpired his friends' fights) and showing you just how to control and shape your children's advancement by these reminders.

Daily Mass Calendar

- Sunday, Sept. 7 — Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (green), Gloria, Creed, Trinity Preface.
- Monday, Sept. 8 — Birthday of Our Lady (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer* of St. Eudraim, Creed, Preface of Our Lady.
- Tuesday, Sept. 9 — St. Peter Chaver (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer* of St. Gorgonius.
- Wednesday, Sept. 10 — St. Nicholas of Tolentino (white), Gloria.
- Thursday, Sept. 11 — Mass as Sunday (green) except no Gloria, 2nd prayer* of St. Protus and St. Hyacinth, no Creed, common preface, or Mass of the martyrs (red); VR.
- Friday, Sept. 12 — Holy Name of Mary (white), Gloria, Creed, Preface of Our Lady.

'Cosmas Kim' Solves Problem

Tan Yang, Korea — Picking a baptismal name in Korea is a problem because of the number of identical family names.

"Approximately 50 per cent of the Koreans are called Kim, 25 per cent are Pak and the remainder are known by a small number of other names," explained Father John R. Heisse, Maryknoll Missioner at Chicago, Ill.

"For baptism we suggested that the people choose names other than the too-popular John, Peter, Paul, Joseph and Mary—because of the duplication already in the parish.

"My catechist solved the problem by discovering an old booklet entitled: Latin Baptismal Names. It certainly is a tribute to the faith and loyalty of these fledgling Catholics as they submit to names like Leonitus, Rogatianus, Pontianus, and Cosmas."

Dutch Doctors Plan Mission

Heeswijk (NC) — Two priest-physicians of the Premonstratensian abbey here and a lay Catholic doctor and his wife will leave next month to set up a new hospital in the jungle district of Mandala in central India. Fathers J. van Schlingel and L. Oomen and Dr. and Mrs. Gerard Heussen will be founding the first hospital in an area as big as the Netherlands with a population of about 600,000 people.

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Button-down collar, regular cuff

Button-down collar, French cuff

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