

# Cardinal Warns On Appeasement

New York — (RNS) — In one of his rare pulpit appearances, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, warned the American people of a "pattern of appeasement" and asked all Catholics in his See to pray for our beloved country on Sept. 14, the eve of Nikita S. Khrushchev's visit to this country.

Addressing some 3,000 worshippers at St. Patrick's Cathedral, the prelate cautioned his fellow countrymen "not to let apathy overcome alertness, nor appeasement conquer justice."

Asserting that "masters of propaganda threaten America," he declared: "We must guard against complacency weakening our defenses, permitting the enemy's promises of peaceful negotiations to blind us to the long and well-known fact that the Communist program is the conquest of the whole free world."

ASKED LATER if his address was inspired by the Soviet Premier's impending visit, Cardinal Spellman told newsmen: "The talk speaks for itself."

Mr. Khrushchev was not mentioned by name in the address, which was read at every Mass in all churches of the New York archdiocese, numbering "Our blessed America," the

# Vatican Asks Prayers For Race Crisis

Vatican City — (RNS) — Catholics throughout the world were urged by Vatican Radio to pray for a "just solution" to growing racial friction in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

"The complicated so-called racial problem in these countries," the broadcast said, "must be solved in a truly Christian way, with great care, justice and honesty." It suggested a "gradual granting of rights" to minority groups.

THE BROADCAST noted that most whites fear that if the natives are given equal rights the whites would be driven out and at the same time, it continued, many people believe that immature Negro rulers would expose their countries to spiritual and material dangers through lack of government experience.

In suggesting a gradual granting of rights to natives, the Vatican Radio said this should begin with allowance of "full basic human rights such as personal freedom, right to personal property, to choose one's own domicile, to marry, raise and educate children, and to join organizations."

Vatican Radio stressed the need for educational work among African natives and declared that "educated natives should enjoy the same rights as educated whites."

# Orthodox Meet Next Year

Vatican City — (RNS) — date for the meeting was disclosed. Vatican Radio reported that ten representatives of the Roman Catholic Church and an equal number from the Eastern Orthodox Churches will convene in Venice, Italy, next year for "theological discussions of interest to both Churches." No more than has ever occurred in the past. For this reason it deserves great mention.

The broadcast said the Orthodox delegation would include Dr. Hamilar Alivizatos, professor of theology at the University of Athens; Father Floreusky, a priest and doctor of theology in Paris; and Prof. Crystostomo Constantidis of Halki Seminary, Istanbul, Turkey.

Names of the Catholic representatives were not given by the Vatican station.

FIRST REPORTS of the theological conference between the Catholics and Orthodox came from Rhodes, Greece, during the annual meeting in August of the World Council of Churches' Central Committee. The reports resulted from informal talks held by Orthodox leaders and two Catholic journalists who were in Rhodes for the sessions.

The Radio quoted from a statement made recently by Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, Dean of the Sacred College of Cardinals, on the subject of church unity.

It stated the cardinal said then that "a great deal of work remains to be done to eliminate prejudices and misunderstandings."

THE STATION further quoted the prelate as saying: "This work will be accomplished best through friendly encounters and many contacts by collaboration in the social field without entering into dogmatic controversies."

"The members of the Orthodox Church would like them to capitulate or practically disappear. Nothing is further from the truth. The Catholic Church wants the Orthodox Church to preserve its ancient privileges and customs in so far as they are not in conflict with the dogma of the Church."

In August, Rome Radio quoted undisclosed "authoritative Vatican sources" as saying that Pope John XXIII would welcome a meeting between Catholic and Orthodox leaders to discuss the possibility of reunion. The Eastern Orthodox broke away from the Holy See in the schism of 1054.

# Church Rolls At All-Time High

New York — (RNS) — A record-breaking increase of 5,368,063 in 1958 has brought church membership in the United States to an all-time high of 109,557,741.

This represents 63 per cent of the country's estimated population of 173,374,000 — the highest ratio of church membership to the number of people in American history.

The 1958 gain was a rise of five per cent as compared to the population increase of 1.7 per cent. In 1957 church membership gained 964,724, or 0.9 per cent, with 61 out of every 100 Americans of all ages belonging to churches or synagogues. In 1956, the percentage of church affiliation was 62 out of every 100.

Of the 1958 grand total of church members, 61,504,669 are Protestants, 35,509,503 Roman Catholics, 5,500,000 Jews, and 2,545,318 Eastern Orthodox.

The statistics are from the 1960 Yearbook of American Churches, published by the National Council of Churches. They are based on official reports by 251 church bodies in 49 states, including Alaska for the first time, and the District of Columbia.

There are 260 religious bodies listed in the Yearbook.

The one notable body not reporting was the Church of Christ, Scientist. A regulation of this church forbids the numbering of people and reporting such statistics for publication.

LARGEST PROTESTANT denomination is The Methodist Church with 20,403,351 members among different church bodies.

In major Protestant "family" groups, Baptists lead with 20,403,351 among different church bodies.

The total number of Protestants represents 35.3 per cent of this country's population, and that of the Catholics 22.9 per cent.

(The Catholic Church considers all persons who are baptized, including infants, to be church members. Most Protestant groups count only those young people and adults who have attained full membership, all but a small minority of these being over 13 years of age. The two major exceptions are the Lutheran bodies and the Protestant Episcopal Church, which report all baptized persons.)

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# Cage Wild Animals

New York — (RNS) — A stern-faced priest, his voice choked with emotion, unleashed a bitter denunciation against the "coddling" attitude towards juvenile delinquents and called for a policy of meeting "force with force" to stop an outbreak of gang killings in New York City.

Msgr. Joseph A. McCaffrey, a former police chaplain for 30 years, told some 500 mourners at a Solemn Requiem Mass for one of the young victims that "what we should do is pass a law by which all known members of gangs are arrested and sent to jail."

The angry prelate assailed "the professional mobsters, over-sympathetic youth board consultants, and professional degenerates" who seem "obsessed with the senseless theory that there is no such thing as a bad boy." This, he said, is like having a theory that "there are no mad dogs."

Msgr. McCaffrey told the congregation: "It is not the custom of the Catholic Church to proceed with long sermons or comments during a funeral Mass, but in view of what has happened I think it is right and proper that something be said and done."

"The only thing these juvenile gangs understand is force," he said. "Let us meet force with force. We have had too much coddling of these gangs and marauders."

"Then," he said, "the members could be arrested and sent to jail. If there is not enough room in the jails, let us build more if necessary. After all, we are afraid they might destroy or maim us."

# Opus Dei Leader Visits London

London — (RNS) — Msgr. Jose Maria Escriva de Balaguer, founder of the Opus Dei (Work of God) movement, arrived here from Spain to inspect installations in this country of the International Roman Catholic secular institute.

Opus Dei has more than 200 houses all over the world, including several branches in the United States. Designed to promote personal sanctification among all sections of society, especially in the intellectual sphere, its membership includes both priests and lay people.

Established in 1928, Opus Dei was one of several secular institutes approved by the late Pope Pius XII.

# Alcohol Claims Victims Daily

Washington — (RNS) — Alcoholics are being produced in the United States at the rate of more than 1,000 a day — over 50 an hour around the clock — a noted authority on alcoholism warned here.

Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, chairman of the department of clinical sciences, University of Illinois, told the fourth annual Institute of Scientific Studies for Prevention of Alcoholism that "alcoholism is now the nation's number three health problem from the standpoint of incidence, liver, and people disabled."

He said that it ranks immediately behind heart disease and cancer in its toll in American society.

Cardinal Recovering Rome — (NC) — Federico Cardinal Tedeschini, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for St. Peter's basilica, is recovering in a Rome hospital after undergoing an operation.

# To Meet In U.S.

Washington — (NC) — The top-level coordinating body for international Catholic lay organizations hopes to hold its 1961 general assembly in the United States, it was disclosed here.

The body is the Conference of International Catholic Organizations, charged by the Holy See to promote cooperation among Catholic groups on the international level, it is the common meeting point for such farflung federations as the close to 20,000 conferences of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul throughout the world, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, and the International Young Christian Workers' Organization.

FIRST ORGANIZED in 1927, it has had general assemblies annually except during World War II.



# Beacon Of Faith

Portage Des Sioux — (RNS) — Believed to be the first shrine of its kind in the world is the 25-foot fiberglass statue of the Virgin Mary, which stands on a pedestal in the Mississippi River 550 feet from Portage Des Sioux, Missouri. Citizens of this little French river community built the statue in gratitude to the Virgin after their village was spared by a flood. Although made of fiberglass the 3,300-pound statue is as durable as steel. It is lighted at night to serve as a beacon for river navigators and airplane pilots.

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