

Hold To Faith, Germans Told

Berlin — (RNS) — East Germany's Catholic bishops, in a Lenten pastoral letter read in all the Catholic churches in the Soviet zone, urged the faithful to remain steadfast and uncompromising in their resistance to the Communist regime's atheistic pressures.

Stressing that Communism has "an ideological basis irreconcilable with Christianity," the bishops said believers are every day subjected to "grave concretions of distress," but must stand up for the faith and justice wherever possible.

"THEY MUST PROVE FAITH TO CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH," they declared. "Faith is the best weapon against Communism's atheist ideology, and never less alien for fear of men. They must not participate in actions contrary to the Christian conscience."

In the case of difficult decisions which cannot be avoided, it is better to say free choices which cannot be avoided than the very beginning. "I am a Catholic, I cannot do that!"

In making this exhortation the bishops explained it was school law as violating religious freedom and the right of parents sometimes asked whether Christians, and as tightening the grip of youth."

Polish Prelate

Red Critic Takes Long, Long' Leave

Warsaw — (RNS) — Catholic Bishop Czeslaw Kacmarcik of Kielce, who has been known for his outspoken criticism of the Communist regime, according to informed sources here.

Local sources said the bishop left for a rest resort at Rymanow, in the Tatra Mountains, at the request of Stephan Cardinal Wyszyński, Primate of Poland. One source said the bishop was expected to be away for a long, long time.

THE INFORMANTS said they believed that Bishop Kacmarcik's departure was inspired upon by government agents.

Wojciech Gomulka, a peasant plotting to remove Bishop Kacmarcik from his diocese on the pretense that he was agitating against the state, creating discontent among peasants in the rural areas, and stirring up religious fanaticism and intolerance between the Church and the Warsaw regime.

They said Mr. Gomulka had insisted that as long as the bishop continued his "anti-government" efforts, there was no hope for improving relations between the Church and the Warsaw regime.

Two meetings have taken place recently between Mr. Gomulka and Cardinal Wyszyński to discuss problems—some of them the attitude of Bishop Kacmarcik—which have created increasing Church-State tension.

Chief among the other problems were the Church's stand against new government measures, promoting birth control and legalizing abortion, the Warsaw regime's strong support of the Secular Schools Society, which is opposed to religious instruction in the state schools, the taxation of church property, and the government's insistence on the right to install government in seminaries and to call up priests for military service.

Bishop Kacmarcik had long

Aid Asked For Austria Schools

Vienna — (RNS) — Dr. Alfonz Gorbitz, newly-elected leader of the Austrian People's Party (Roman Catholic), pledged that it will work "for justice for all religious schools throughout Austria."

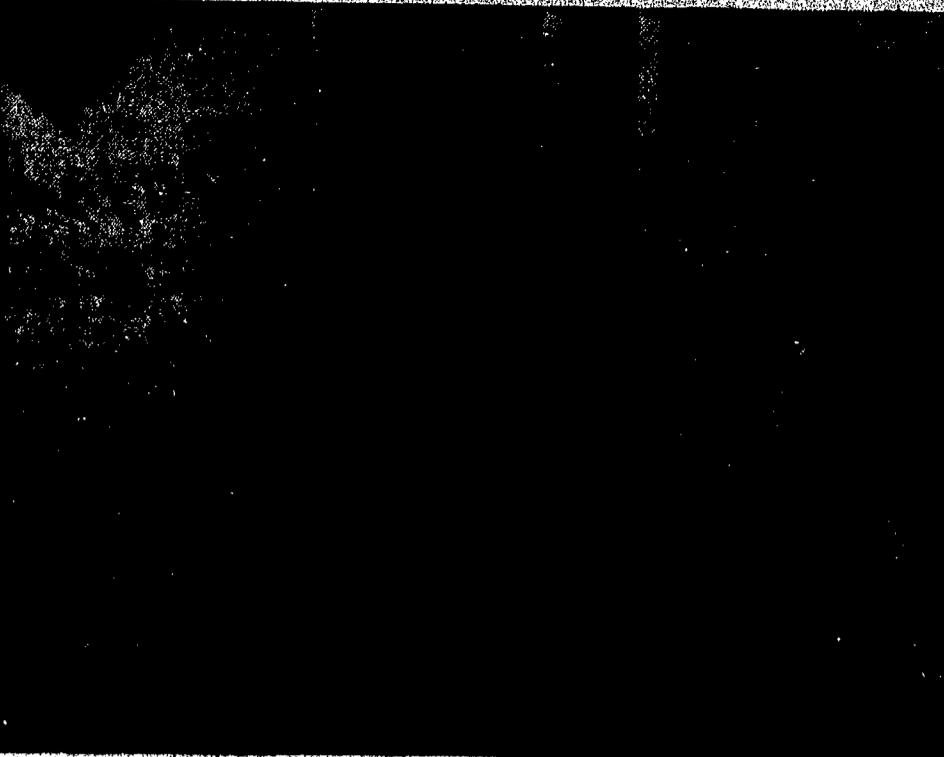
Dr. Gorbitz, who is the third national president of Parliament, spoke at a special convention of the party here.

Succeeding Austria's Chancellor Julius Raab at the helm of the Conservatives, he charged the state with "discriminating against denominational schools by refusing to grant subsidies as long as the tradition is present." These schools, he argued, are currently saving the Austrian government a tremendous amount of money by educating children who otherwise would have to be absorbed by public institutions.

The 300 voting delegates at the meeting affirmed the basic belief of the Conservatives that religion has a fundamental importance not only for the individual, but is of the highest value for society. Therefore, every Austrian citizen must continue to enjoy freedom of belief and conscience according to the religion of his choice.

Atheist Heads Polish Schools

Warsaw — (RNS) — Polish Minister of Education Wacław Tułodziecki, who is known as a militant atheist, returned here from a visit to Moscow, where he spent some time familiarizing himself with the Soviet system of education.



College Students Want To Marry What Hazards Do They Face?

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

Do you think that college students should get married? Do you think your friends should? Do you know what the hazards of marriage are? Do you know what the love of marriage can do for the individual who gets married? But I think we can do more, however. If we try. You just don't realize how many students are getting married.

The attempt to combine marriage with college attendance is such a recent innovation that business many people don't realize how widespread it is.

Most undergraduate students in the past were single. Following World War II, however, the G.I. Bill set up financial assistance to war veterans attending college, and the pattern changed rapidly. By 1967, there were about 200,000 married persons mostly veterans, attending college.

Once the precedent was set, the idea spread to non-veterans, so that the proportion of married students has increased of late, and though adequate national statistics are lacking, there is considerable evidence that the percentage is increasing yearly.

It also appears that the proportion of married men students of two or three times greater than the proportion of married women on the campus.

Judging from the scant information available, the majority of married students seem reasonably satisfied with their situation, and there appears to be evidence that their grades have suffered. In a good percentage of the cases the wife works outside the home, while other couples either borrow, or are helped by their parents, or draw upon savings.

On the other hand, there is evidence that married students tend to avoid arduous and highly specialized careers since they are eager to leave the family period during which they must be supported by their wives and parents.

The rates of attrition among married students are high, and many drop out of college.

Indeed, even junior and senior high school marriages have become such a common problem that school superintendents have had to revise their traditional policy of dis-



tend to be in charge of family affairs, and this reversal of marital roles may create serious tensions, since your husband may resent his dependent position.

Finally, you may become pregnant—many young wives do, you know. When you give up your job, you will either have to borrow money or your husband will have to quit school. Yet you may even realize this unwanted pregnancy that has an inconsiderately timed all year plan.

Because you and Joe are in much in love, you may feel little inclined to face these unromantic aspects of marriage realistically. Remember that your decision to marry has far-reaching consequences with which you will have to live for the rest of your life.

Keep in mind that marriage while in college means more than having a congenial roommate. As Catholics you must realize that marriage primarily means bodies, and though having a baby may be an education in itself, it doesn't go well with classroom winners—you will necessarily

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