

Quake Torn Chile Rallies To Rosary

(The author of this story is the founder of the Family Rosary Crusade. In this account of his crusade in Chile he tells of the return to the Catholic Church of Gen. Carlos Ibáñez del Campo, president of Chile from 1927 to 1931 and from 1953 to 1958.)

By FATHER PATRICK PEYTON, C.S.C.

Santiago — (NC) — Experience in Family Rosary work over the past 17 years has filled me with the conviction that God in His great goodness does not assign a work to someone and then leave him to do it alone. He does the greater share Himself.

So it was in Santiago. We had scarcely arrived when a thousand doors opened wide to give the Family Rosary Crusade the welcome, prestige and power it needed to capture the love of an entire nation. There was the welcome of the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Opilio Rossi, and of the Apostolic Administrator of Santiago, Archbishop Emilio Tagle.

There was the cooperation of press and radio. And there was the extraordinary gift from the Chilean Ambassador to Peru, Eduardo Cruz Cordero, of his duplex apartment in the heart of downtown Santiago as headquarters of the crusade.

The first objective of the crusade was to reach thousands of impoverished and destitute people living in the great city's depressed areas.

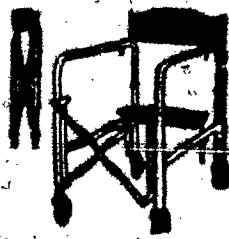
OUR BLESSED Mother reached out, through the Family Rosary Crusade, to dear mothers, fathers and children to fill their hearts and feed their minds upon the extraordinary truth that God loves them to such a degree that He became one of them.

This truth — the incarnation of Our God, the price He paid to redeem them and the destiny He purchased for them — was brought to these dear people during January, February and March in 15 color Rosary films with Spanish dialogue, each a half hour in duration.

To accomplish this task, friends gave money to put in motion 50 projectors, screens, transformers, 50 sets of the Rosary films, four jeeps and other necessary equipment.

How the Rosary films spoke to the hearts of the people is measured by their response. In each of the 150 areas of Santiago where the films were shown, only one of the 15 series would be shown at a time. To see the entire series a person would have to come 15 times. This is exactly what

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Chile Report On Quake Damage

New York — (RNS) — Bishop Raul Silva Henríquez (right) of Valparaíso, Chile, points to the sections of his country that were damaged by recent earthquakes while reporting on the devastation at the Catholic Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference headquarters here. Bishop Silva, who also is president of Caritas, Chile, the national Catholic charity organization in that country, was the first member of the Chilean hierarchy to arrive in the United States since the disaster. The bishop showed CBS officials a news-film indicating the extent of the damage.

held in San Felipe, for any purpose.

The next rally was at Valparaíso, second largest city of Chile, a seaport where communism is potentially strong among the very poor. Bishop Raul Silva Henríquez of Valparaíso said the crowd, estimated from 7,000 to 20,000, broke all past records of gatherings for any purpose.

The third rally was at Santiago, capital of Chile, on May 15. The site was the famous Parque Cousiño, an immense park where independent celebrations are held annually. That it might be filled and overflowing could not be imagined. Yet that day a flood of people inundated that park like the sea. The crowd was estimated at from 100,000 to 200,000. (This was reported to be the largest gathering in Chile's history.)

On May 22 — a day never to be forgotten in Chile because of the second of the two terrible earthquakes that brought disaster and death to many struck at 3 p.m. — a Rosary rally was held at Talca. While the people were gathered for the rally, the earth trembled and shook.

But they did not panic. The walked toward him joy spoke, out from his face. I knelt immediately by his bedside. He suggested me to read. Thanks be to God that I did not. There beside him I said the Hail Mary. With his voice he did not answer, but only God and Our Mother know how his soul and his heart responded.

I told him that I would give him my rosary. With great spontaneity and happiness he took it from my hands. Later I learned that he never wanted to be parted from it, and that the little container made of wood, for it so that he could always have it with him.

The visit lasted no more than five minutes. The next day Gen. Ibáñez sent for a priest. On April 28 he died, having received the last sacraments.

Just as Gen. Ibáñez reached out for the rosary and clung to it, so did the nation he had governed. Three days after his death, the Family Rosary rallies began in Chile.

The first Rosary rally took place May 1, the day of communist rallies. It was in the small country town of San Felipe. Fewer than 100 people were present at the communist rally in the forenoon. That afternoon 10,000 people crowded into the same place for the Family Rosary rally. It was the largest public gathering ever

held in San Felipe, for any purpose.

Then came rallies at Chillan and Linares. And so the crusade moves from city to city, from diocese to diocese. The next rallies were scheduled for Rancagua, Antofagasta, Copiapo, Arica, La Serena and Iquique. This will bring the crusade into the end of July. By that time we will know God's Will for the crusade regarding the cities of the south, where earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and floods have brought such disaster.

God is surely lavishing upon Chile and its people a great grace. And Chile and its people are responding as they rise up in multitudes unprecedented in city after city, undeterred by rain or cold or earthquakes, to shout in a thousand ways their belief that God is alive, that the family is His precious creation, and that the holy Rosary has the power to blind the members of the family together and the entire family to God.

Charity Ladies Unit To Meet
Members of the St. Louis de Millie committee at the Elmira Ladies of Charity will meet on Thursday, July 14 at 8 p.m. at 374 W. Church Street. Plans will be completed to hold a picnic supper on August 11.

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Warsaw Reds Blast Clergy

Warsaw — (RNS) — The Warsaw Radio, in one of its bitterest attacks on the Catholic clergy in Communist Poland, accused the majority of them of "extorting" gifts and money from the faithful and living in luxury on the proceeds.

The station said some priests adhere to the teachings of their religion, live in poverty and help others, but the majority do not.

IT CLAIMED that a great many priests charge exorbitant fees for performing marriage, burial and christening ceremonies and "conduct a hostile campaign against those who refuse to meet their demands."

The station said that clerical "extortioners" have accumulated so much money that they are now able to buy automobiles and motorcycles.

The Moscow Radio said the state authorities did not wish to intervene in the matter for fear of being accused of persecuting religion, but if conditions continue, they may be obliged to do so.

It concluded by saying that "we expect to receive a flood of letters from listeners after this broadcast accusing us of persecuting the clergy; but the

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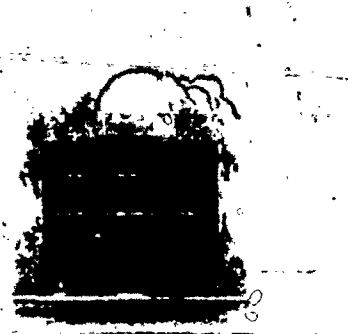
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State, County and Municipal Securities 6,724,876.61	Undivided Profits 1,578,779.94
Other Bonds and Investments 553,594.47	
Federal Reserve Bank Stock 120,000.00	\$ 5,571,779.94
Real Estate Mortgages 4,830,621.04	
Loans and Discounts 15,277,648.39	
Banking Houses and Equipment 522,664.39	Other Liabilities \$ 1,416,036.01
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