

"Tutti Fratelli"

## Villagers' Mercy Prelude to Red Cross

By THOMAS KISSLING  
Washington — (NC) — A commemorative U.S. postage stamp, dedicated in ceremonies here (Oct. 30) marked the 100th anniversary of the founding of the International Red Cross in Geneva, General Alfred M. Gruenther, retiring president of the American Red Cross.

Those present at the ceremonies, in the State Department auditorium, heard Postmaster General John A. Gronouski trace the development of the Red Cross from a small organization that functioned only in wartime, to widely expanded humanitarian services in peacetime (after 1914) carried on by national Red Cross societies in 102 nations.

THE IDEA to establish national societies for the relief of the wounded is duly credited to Henri Dunant, Swiss banker and philanthropist.

While traveling in Italy in 1859 he witnessed the carnage and suffering which resulted from the bloody Battle of Solferino, June 24, between the Austrians and the Piedmontese, the latter aided by the French. Some 40,000 dead and wounded were left on the battlefield. Dunant pitched in to help the terrified peasants to bring first aid to the wounded on the field and to transport them to hospitals and churches in nearby Brescia and Castiglione.

Two years later Dunant published a small booklet in which he vividly described the scenes he witnessed there. In his "Memory of Solferino" he praised the women and girls of Castiglione for aiding the wounded of both sides. "Nothing could repel, tire or discourage them," as they went about their grim task with the cry: "Tutti fratelli" (We are all brothers).

Dunant's pamphlet and subsequent correspondence and lecturing to shock the world's conscience that the voluntary aid societies for which he appealed arose spontaneously in every European country.

Although he does not mention it in his pamphlet, Dun-

ant's idea to found local Red Cross societies was probably inspired by the work of a Catholic priest, Father Lorenzo Barziza of Castiglione delle Stiviere.

It was he who headed a civic committee of mercy, formed at the request of General Lavallette, in charge of the sanitary division of the victorious French-Piedmontese forces. For 20 days after the battle, the pastor and his flock labored tirelessly, turning homes into infirmaries for the wounded and improvising 12 hospitals for the seriously ill.

Trains of ox-carts formed a transportation system to carry others to hospitals in nearby cities. In 1860, Napoleon III, Emperor of France bestowed on Father Barziza the Legion of Honor award for his labors.

Jean Henri Dunant, who died in 1910 at the age of 82, was one of five Genevese citizens who met in the historic meeting of October 26-30, 1863, and decided to issue a call for an international convention to meet in Geneva in August, 1864. All nations were invited by the Swiss Government to send delegates. After a two-week conference the Geneva Convention (or Treaty) was signed. Twenty-six delegates representing 13 States were present.

President John sent two Americans after receiving a personal letter from Dunant. However, the United States did not sign the Red Cross Treaty until March 1, 1882, the 32nd nation to accept it.

Although the Vatican was not represented at the August, 1864, conference, the Papal States did accept the Geneva Convention five years later, the 23rd signatory.

The belated adherence to the Treaty by the United States government was due to the efforts of Clara Barton, who founded the national society of the American Red Cross in 1881 and served as its president until 1904. It was she who left her government job in 1881 to help the wounded during the

American Civil War and at the close set up a bureau for missing soldiers and helped to identify and mark the graves of thousands.

While in Switzerland when the Franco-Prussian War broke out in 1870, she went to the front to aid the wounded, organized military hospitals and directed the feeding of war refugees in Strasbourg and Paris.

Going with her to the front was a volunteer nurse, Swiss-born Antoinette Maffei, who called Miss Barton's invitation came to live with her in the United States in 1885. Miss Maffei, in the meantime, had embraced the Catholic Church and in the 1890's helped found St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Washington, D.C.

Another volunteer nurse who did much to aid the war-wounded, and established emergency service in the Crimean War, was the Englishwoman Florence Nightingale. (1820-1910). She had adopted nursing as her profession, and traveled throughout Europe inspecting nursing schools and hospitals, and was impressed by the work of the Catholic sisterhood there.

While visiting in Rome, she made the acquaintance of Henry Edward Manning, then an arch-deacon and leader in the High

Church party in England. In 1859, he broke off his relations with the Church of England and the following June was ordained a Roman Catholic priest.

After the war some of these Sister Nurses received letters of praise from Miss Nightingale. To Mother Francis Bridgman of Ireland's Kinsale Community of the Sisters of Mercy, she wrote: "You were far above your rank in the general superintendency, both in worldly talent and administration, and in the spiritual qualifications which God values in a superior." It was Miss Nightingale who later inspired some of her Sister Nurses who came to the United States and served in the Civil War.

When the Geneva Convention was promulgated in 1864, it had provided for a common symbol of workers on the battlefield. This a red cross on a white field, the reverse of the Swiss national flag. This was chosen out of compliment to the Swiss Republic.

Other working among the war-wounded and famine-plagued peoples in the Middle Ages, also wore a red cross on their habits — the Trinitarian Fathers, founded by St. John of Matha and St. Felix of Valois, in 1197, and the Order of St. Camillus de Lellis, in 1584.

from St. John of Matha, France, and Australia.

They reached Genoa in November, 1854, after the Battle of Balaklava, famous for the Charge of the Light Brigade, immortalized in Lord Tennyson's poem.

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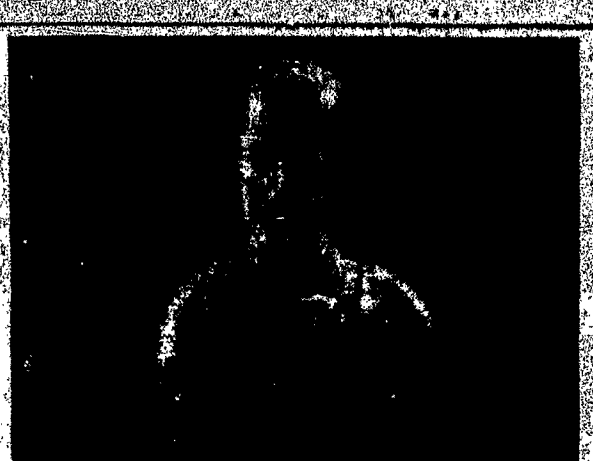
COURIER-JOURNAL  
Friday, Nov. 8, 1963

## Stalin Victim Dies In Poland

Valencia City — (AP) — A Roman Catholic bishop whose trial and imprisonment during the Stalinist regime in Poland for alleged anti-state activities was heralded by the U.S. State Department as "a mockery of justice" has died at 68, Vatican Radio reported.

He was Bishop Zdzislaw Kuzniarek of Kielce, long one of Poland's outstanding churchmen and for many years supervising editor of *Rzeczpospolita*, a journal to which the Polish clergy looked for guidance. Vatican Radio did not say where or under what circumstances he died.

The prelate was arrested in January, 1951, on charges of espionage and conducting hostile propaganda against the state. First bishop to be taken into custody since establishment of the Communist regime in 1945, he was not brought to trial, however, until 1953 when he was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment.



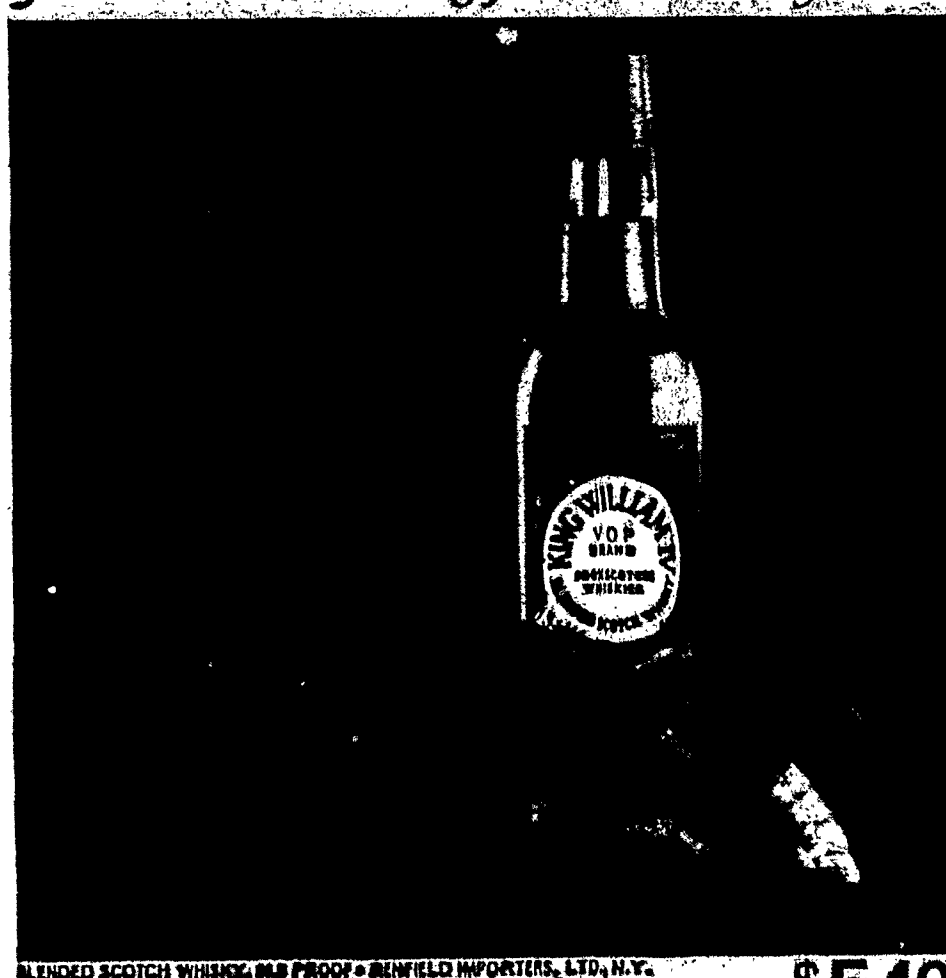
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**GOD LOVE YOU!**  
By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

ROME — As one sits in Council and looks out over the 2,500 bishops, one sees many ways in which they may be divided — by color, by race, by nation. But if one views them through the prism of poverty in the world, they fall into two classes: the bishops who have "drives" and the bishops who are "beggars."

The first group of bishops, when it wants to build a three-million-dollar cathedral or a four-million-dollar high school, sets the machinery of a drive in motion and let the goal is oversubscribed. The other bishops, from mission lands, are the "beggars." Though shepherds, they have no sheep to be sheared. Though pastors, they are without rich parishes. Their hands are mostly open in benediction but rarely closed in possession. They are "the thin-cup episcopate" who are driven by poverty to beg from those who have overcome poverty with a drive.

The Holy Spirit of love has its own sweet way of drawing both together. When a bishop from the United States sits alongside a bishop who has 7,500 Catholics in a population of ten million, the former feels like Zachaeus, who sees he must share his wealth, and the other feels like the Samaritan leper, who rejoices in thanks for the blessings received from his neighbor.

There will be a new spirit in the Church of the United States after this Council. We from the land of drives daily look on our brothers in Christ who have nothing. We see ourselves like other Simons of Cyrene, who are compelled to carry the Cross of Christ. The Council is laying on us the burden of the African world, the cross of Asia, the poverty of Latin America, the hunger of hundreds of millions. Where the Gospel says "Simon was compelled," one might also say "Simon was driven." So we, who can satisfy our wants so readily with drives, are now driven by the Spirit to help carry the burden of the Mystical Christ in the Church.

You good people in the United States, who have been so generous in drives for millions in our rich country, will now be invited to give us less on condition you give the Poor Christ more. "Caritas Christi urget nos" — "The Charity of Christ drives us." What a great Church we will be in the future through this sharing with the poor! You can practice this new Spirit now by helping these poor bishops who hold out empty hands daily at the Council. Send your sacrifices to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

**GOD LOVE YOU TO C.G. for \$500.** "I have just sold my house without the aid of a realtor, so I can send this amount to the poor of the world." ... to Mrs. L.H.M. for \$10. "Half of this is from what the men called a 'cuss pot' from poker games while on a fishing trip. The rest is my own donation." ... to M.N.H. for \$10 "I won a pool on the World Series; enclosed is a share for the Missions."

"May We Be GLUTTED When They Are GUTTED?" Learn the answer by reading the special November-December issue of *MISSION*. Let us know if you wish to be put on our mailing list for this bimonthly magazine containing articles, anecdotes, cartoons and pictures. A subscription is only one dollar.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 368 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10001, or your Diocesan Director, Rev. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut Street Rochester, N.Y. 14604.



**Yule Sale in Livonia Center**  
Livonia Center — Hand-made Christmas gifts, ornaments and fancy gift boxes, pictured above, are among the items ready for the annual Christmas Sale to be held at St. Michael's Church hall Saturday, Nov. 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mrs. Mina Pilzinski, (left), chairman, shows one of the many ornaments she has made to Mrs. Norbert Fink, a member of the Rosary and Altar Society, the group sponsoring the sale.

**Race Justice For Tertiaries**  
Chicago — (NC) — The Thirdling a "point of no return." Order of St. Francis has called it reminded Third Order on its 130,000 U.S. members to members of "their obligation to act 'quickly, effectively and decisively' for racial justice and peace." It urged tertiaries to take part in civil rights demonstrations "with the specific goal of here of the North American Federation of the Third Order preventing the demonstrations from straying from the non-violent ends."

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