

Hong Kong

Church Aids Refugee Throngs

By GERMAINE SWAIN

Hong Kong — (NC) — Realistic expansion to meet the still challenging needs of Hong Kong's teeming refugee population continued to keynote the Church's work here during 1968.

Year-end statistics show that the Church's spiritual, educational, and social services now reach upward of one-third of more than 3.5 million people in this British colony on the south China coast.

The breadth and pace of the Church's network of activities as reported in the official 1968 Hong Kong Catholic Directory, published by the Catholic Truth Society, range from noodle making to navigation courses for fishermen and, with the growth of the lay apostolate, are beginning to include communications workshops and labor seminars for young workers.

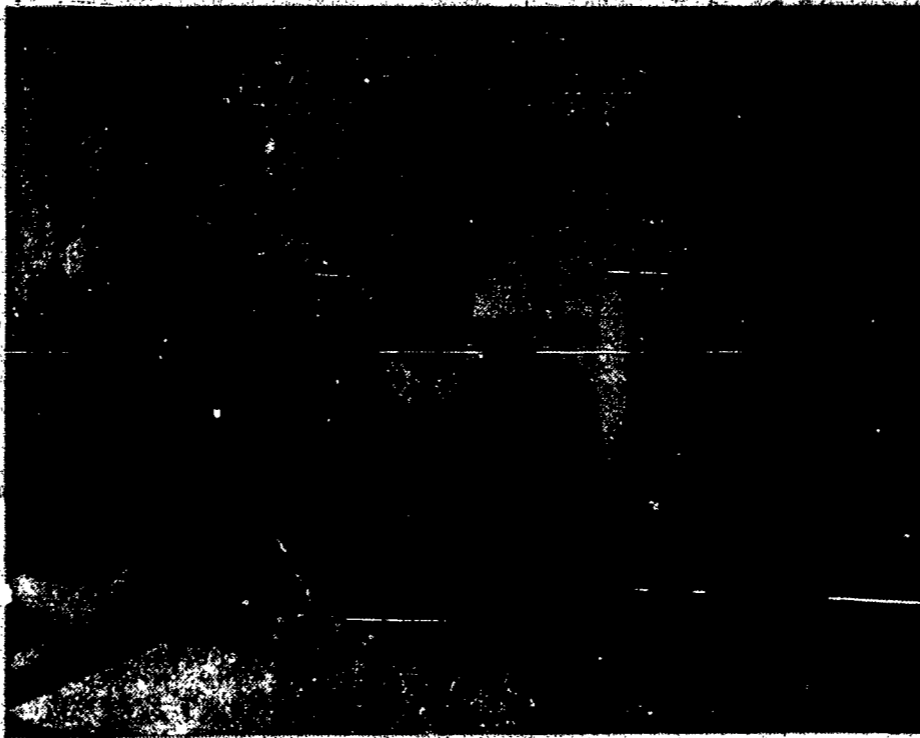
The directory reported a total of 319 priests of 18 different nationalities, including 27 Americans. Twenty-six are diocesan priests exiled from Red China. The 208 nondiocesan priests belong to 10 different religious congregations. There are 127 Brothers of 16 different nationalities and 688 Sisters of 17 nationalities belonging to 20 different congregations.

These figures include 167 Chinese priests and 338 Chinese Sisters.

The Catholic population of 208,603 adults and children are served by 71 church buildings. The total number of places with resident priests on Hong

Kong island and in Kowloon and the New Territories on the mainland are given as 44. Of these, 23 are urban parishes in Hong Kong and Kowloon; 13 are ecclesiastical districts in the New Territories; 8 are minor chapels. In the New Territories there are also 27 secondary mission stations without a resident priest, but visited regularly.

In education, the directory lists 199 preparatory, primary, secondary and middle, technical and trade, commercial, and evening schools with a total attendance of 128,890 students. This is more than 17 per cent of the colony's total school enrollment of 728,095 (exclusive of postsecondary schools and colleges). Attendance at Catholic schools continued to be two-thirds Non-Catholic.



Round and Square Dance Planned

HOLY GHOST Home-School Assn. will hold its annual round and square dance Feb. 8 at Doud Post from 9:30 p.m. till 1:30 a.m. Plans are being made here by from left, Mrs. Michael DeStefano, Mrs. Henry Smalle and Mrs. Lawrence Delsing, chairman.

Rome Allows 'Common' Bible in Swahili

Vatican City — (NC) — The Holy See has given permission for publication of a common Catholic-Protestant Bible in Swahili, the language used by some eight million East Africans.

The permission was given by the Congregation of the Holy

Office. Officials noted the difficulties that the Catholics in Swahili-speaking areas, with limited facilities, would have in producing an independent translation.

The Holy Office maintained the traditional stipulation that for Catholic readers the new version must be provided with

notes explaining difficult passages according to traditional Catholic teaching. The Catholic version must include those Old Testament books held to be canonical by the ecumenical councils but generally held among the Apocrypha by Protestants—such as Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Baruch and I and II Maccabees.

Council, Theme For Women

Washington — (NC) — "Vatican Council II—And You" has been selected as the theme for the 1964 National Council of Catholic Women convention, here from Nov. 11 to 14.

The theme was selected at a three-day meeting (Jan. 14 to 18) of the 27-member NCCW board of directors. The board also adopted a resolution of support of President Johnson and commended him for his strong leadership in the transition following the assassination of President Kennedy, and sent greetings to Pope Paul VI, expressing confidence in the climate created by his recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. Joseph McCarthy of San Francisco, NCCW president, and board members visited the grave of President Kennedy in nearby Arlington National Cemetery and placed a floral tribute there. Auxiliary Bishop Stephen A. Leven of San Antonio led a brief prayer at the grave.

'Disturbed' Catholics Told Be Confident

London — (RNS) — Catholics who profess to be "disturbed" at changes in the liturgy promulgated after the Second Vatican Council endorsement were reassured here by Archbishop John C. Heenan, Archbishop of Westminster.

The British prelate, writing in the Westminster Cathedral Chronicle, said: "You may be sure that your bishops would not have voted to take away anything precious in your spiritual heritage."

"Make no judgements yet, but confidently await the new form of the ceremonies."

When you see for yourselves what shape the Mass will take and experience the benefit of greater use of the mother tongue (English) in the Sacraments, you will realize that the Church has indeed been guided by the Holy Spirit."

Archbishop Heenan said that "you will thank God that the Church, without sacrificing the truth of God, has been able to give its message with fresh fragrance."

New Almanac Published

New York — (NC) — Dotted with up-to-the-minute chapters on such controversial issues as racial relations and birth control, the 50th edition of the National Catholic Almanac has been published. (It is available in local Catholic book stores.)

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COURIER-JOURNAL
Friday, Jan. 24, 1964

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More People, More Prosperity

Washington — (NC) — The administrator of the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency said here it is population growth that guarantees the future prosperity of the nation.

"Some people fear population growth," said Robert C. Weaver. "Nothing to my mind, could be a greater distortion of the truth."

"They conjure up a specter of natural resources being divided into smaller and smaller portions among more and more people. And then they equate this to increasing poverty," he told a Catholic University of America audience.

But, he added, "it is population growth that guarantees the future prosperity of our nation. And without it, our economy would tend to stabilize."

"Production would be primarily for the replacement of what has worn out. There would be little impetus to expand productive capacity or improve its efficiency. Savings and investment would stagnate," he said.

But he said with "the certainty of population growth, we know that the demand for food, clothing, housing and other material goods will be constantly increasing in the years ahead."

"And it is this certainty of increasing demand that provides the incentive and justification for constantly expanding our productive capacity."

His remarks came in the course of an address on the agency's future plans for housing and urban renewal programs to meet an anticipated population of 250 million by 1980.



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