

### Says Atheists' Campaign Breeds Liars, Hypocrites

Warsaw—(RNS)—Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński, Primate of Poland, attacked a campaign of organized atheism in the country and warned that it bred "liars, hypocrites and nihilists."

In a sermon at a Franciscan monastery, the cardinal said that "programs aimed at depriving believers of their faith are a grave sin against the Holy Spirit."

He said that such programs are particularly intense at present because the Polish Atheist Societies established in 1957 are observing their 10th anniversary.

His campaigns are directed at schools, places of work and the streets," he said.

"In a Catholic nation, it is difficult to understand a prepared plan which tries to replace religious ceremonies of Catholics with some sort of secular baptism, secular confirma-

tion, secular weddings or other purely civil celebrations where God is not mentioned," he said.

Apparently, the campaign is an attempt to force a man to go against his convictions and give the impression that he is rejecting his Catholic faith for fear of losing his bread," he said. "Who profits from such a situation—the nation, the state, the family?"

Through such campaigns, he said, "there is created a certain category of people who are lying—people who pretend that they do not believe. . . ."

"In a word, artificiality, lying—social hypocrisy as it is sometimes called today.

"If this hypocrisy becomes a social phenomenon, this creates hypocrites and such people cannot be believed by anyone—not by their families, wives, children, husbands, nor the nation nor the state."

## Cardinal Leger Reaches Africa for Leper Work

New York — (RNS) — Montreal's cardinal, Paul Emile Leger, has arrived in Africa to work among the lepers, "the most miserable men on earth."

He will spend six months in Senegal, Dahomey, Togo and Cameroon, preparing to be an ordinary chaplain, he told newsmen here last week.

The Canadian prelate, whose resignation as the Archbishop of Montreal was announced on Nov. 9, was interviewed at John F. Kennedy International Airport during a short stopover. His destination in Africa was Dakar, Senegal. He said he would spend Christmas in Dahomey, visiting the Sisters of St. Joseph who maintain a hospital there. The order of nuns was founded in Montreal in the 17th century. His ultimate destination will be a French-speaking country in Africa. He said he was "too old to learn another language."

French and English, the prelate replied to this question: Are you still a prince of the Church?

"A cardinal," he said, "is essentially a priest of the Diocese of Rome."

He said he would remain in charge of his titular church in Rome, St. Mary of the Angels, but did not expect to participate in meetings of the Synod of Bishops.

"I will be just a plain and ordinary chaplain in some place where a bishop will accept me," Cardinal Leger said. "I hope my mission will be a symbol to others to exhibit charity and hope for these poorest men in the world."

"Imagine what it must be to be a leper and starving to death. That really is the end of the world. In our technological civilization, they have no means to do anything for themselves."



CARDINAL LEGER

"At the moment when you are preparing to leave your episcopal see and your native land," the Pope said, "it is our heartfelt need to write to you to say just how we feel and just how fully we associate ourselves with the grave and noble step you have taken."

"You have decided to make yourself poor among the poor, weak among the weak and a fellow-sufferer among the afflicted," the Pope said.

"These are the most precious children of the Father in heaven and the most privileged members of the Church."

Stressing that the people of North America live in a very affluent civilization, the prelate urged Americans to begin to think about the underdeveloped

three men in the world are starving," he said. "It is a matter of organization. If the world reorganizes to feed only that one man out of every three, then we have failed."

"The Christian is called to build a more just world with charity that will impel men to work for their fellow men."

Cardinal Leger said he hoped "many young people, full of life, will come to build a better world. If I can do it at 63, they can do it at 23."

Earlier, during a farewell appearance on television in Montreal, the cardinal said his decision to work with lepers was a reply to a call from God.

He traced the call to a sleepless night when he found solace in a magazine.

"On the bottom of the page there was a little notice saying: 'We ask alms for lepers dying of hunger.'"

Cardinal Leger also listed the following reasons for his decision: the sufferings of the underdeveloped countries, the bewilderment of the younger generation, the crisis in the world and the Church, the collapse of faith, and the need for deeds rather than words.

"I promoted the missions in Montreal and founded an association to raise funds for the lepers in Africa," he said.

This unit, called Fame Perce ("I'm Dying of Hunger") was founded after a trip the prelate made to Africa at the end of 1963. It assists 25 leper centers throughout Africa.

Of the lepers he visited during the 1963 tour, Cardinal Leger told the television audience: "They cannot work because they are weak; they are weak because they cannot eat; they cannot eat because they cannot work . . ."

Conducting the interview in

Pope Paul VI, in a personal

letter, praised Cardinal Leger for his contributions to the work of Vatican II and the Bishops' Synod. The letter was made public at Vatican City while the cardinal was en route to Dakar.

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