







# English Section

## World Peace Seen Depending Not Only On Russia Giving Its Word, But Keeping It

By J. J. GILBERT

WASHINGTON.—The struggle of the Western Powers to remain in Berlin has brought under scrutiny the whole question of relations with Russia, and on the evidence adduced political observers do not regard the prospects as encouraging.

Probably the safest policy, it seems to be agreed, is to continue to "try to get along" with Russia, and hope for a "break." Just what this break would be, it is hard to say, but it certainly seems too much to look for any great change in the Soviet Union, as some people wistfully hope for. An alternative might be a United Nations with more power and authority. As William Philip Simms, foreign editor of the Scripps-Howard newspapers and one of the Capital's keenest students of international affairs, has said: "Until there is a powerful United Nations strong enough to enforce international commitments—or a drastic change in Moscow policy—world peace will continue to rest on the whim of the Kremlin."

Mr. Simms was speaking in connection with Soviet Russia's reputation for broken pledges to other nations. He itemized an impressive number of Soviet Russian pledges in one column, and the violation of these undertakings in a parallel column. He said his tabulation shows Russia has a "long record of broken promises," but that he has not undertaken to give all the violations. He charges that "to date, Russia has failed to honor a single important pledge." That's why he says the UN, to be effective, must be strong enough to enforce international commitments.

Reviewing the Russian situation as focalized in the struggle in Berlin, some observers have pointed out that the three Western Powers are in Berlin at the insistence of Russia. That is, they went there in the first place because Russia insisted that they share the city. These observers say the United States wanted to minimize as much as possible the importance of Berlin—because Berlin was so much a symbol of the German Empire—and suggested that the Big Four council meet in some smaller German city.

But Russia insisted, the Western Powers took up sectors in Berlin, and the Allied Control Council established its headquarters there. Things didn't go too badly until the German elections, which were free because the Western Powers had representatives at the polls, and the Communists suffered a very bad defeat. That, observers agree, is when Moscow really decided to force the Western Allies out of the old German Capital.

The squeeze has been on ever since, and while the Western Powers have been able to hang on thus far, there

are some who doubt that we can feed ourselves and the 2,000,000 Germans in Berlin's western sectors throughout the winter, and provide them with fuel, if the Russians do not relax in their blockade.

There are not too many possible solutions for the crisis the Russians have created. One outcome could be a shooting war, but the prospect is so horrible that virtually everybody hopes that this solution is never again resorted to in any international dispute. France and England are thought to be even more opposed than we are to taking such a way out, because they would be "right under the guns if anything happened. Another possible solution is to keep on doing what we have been doing, supplying the western zones of Berlin by "airlift," or any other possible means, in the hope of eventually convincing Russia that its blockade is a waste of time.

There is third possible solution. That is a new four-power conference to review the whole question of Germany, including Berlin. That is where Mr. Simms' tabulation in the Scripps-Howard newspapers has particular bearing. He insists that, in the light of what he reveals, a new promise on the part of Russia ought not to be taken seriously, unless there is a "drastic change" in Moscow Policy.

Mr. Simms itemizes nearly two-score instances where he says Soviet Russia has given its solemn pledge to another nation, or to other nations, and has subsequently violated that promise. He gives four examples of violations of the pact signed November 16, 1933, by which Soviet Russia has gained recognition from the United States. The first instance he cites is Russia's pledge "to respect scrupulously the indisputable rights of the United States to order its own life within its own jurisdiction in its own way and to refrain from interfering in any manner in the internal affairs of the U.S., its territories or possessions." Nevertheless, Mr. Simms says, "within 18 months (summer of 1935), the State Department was compelled to protest over a Comintern meeting in Moscow attended by American Communists at which was discussed ways and means of undermining the U.S. system of government. Secretary Hull charged direct violation of the 1933 agreement. Cynically, Litvinov claimed the Soviet Government had no jurisdiction over the Comintern."

Mr. Simms set forth instances to show that Russia violated the covenant of the League of Nations, which it joined on September 18, 1934; the Kellogg Pact, renouncing war, which it signed on August 27, 1928; the Treaty of Peace and Friendship with Estonia, which it signed on February 2, 1920; the Treaty of Peace and Friendship with Lithuania, which it signed on July 12, 1920; the Treaty of Peace and Friendship, which it signed on August 11, 1920; the Treaty of Non-Aggression and Amicable Settlement with Finland, which it signed on January 31, 1932; the Atlantic Charter, which it adhered to at the White House in Washington on January 1, 1942; the Treaty of Alliance with Britain, which it signed on May 26, 1942; a treaty signed with France on December 10, 1944; a Treaty of Mutual Assistance signed with France on May 2, 1935, and many other agreements including some relating to Poland, China and the present "satellite" countries of Eastern Europe.

"The basic cause of the world's continuing crises and tension," Mr. Simms declared, "is Russia's refusal to live up to her word. The problem of the western democracies in their current effort to settle the Berlin dispute without war is not only to obtain a new agreement with Stalin but to get him to keep it."

## TWO GREAT DEFENDERS WROTE JUST ONE CENTURY AGO

By PAUL H. HALLETT

Eighteen forty-eight, the revolution-torn year that marked the appearance of Communism, also saw the deaths, only five days apart, of two great apologists, whose thought met powerfully the errors from which civilization is breaking up, Rene de Chateaubriand and Jaime Balmes.

Chateaubriand French scholar and statesman, was infected in his youth by the anti-Christianity fashionable among the upper classes of his day, but he turned with remorse to the Church when his mother and sister died under the strain of the French Revolution. In 1802 appeared the greatest book of his long life of scholarship, "The Genius of Christianity."

The "Genius" has not its fellow in the whole field of apologetical literature. A

prose poem from beginning to end, it is addressed not primarily to the reason but to the emotions, upon which it plays every note. Chateaubriand knew that the conventional apologetics had no chance of succeeding among the French deists and materialists for whom it was written. What he did was to show the superiority of the Christian religion by going straight to the heart, by appealing to the sentiments of liberty, humanity, love of beauty, pride in culture—all that the new school of naturalists had claimed to be introduced by them. All that is best and finest in Western culture, Chateaubriand shows in example after unwearying example is due to the Church. Although the book has no scholarship in the perverted meaning of being an array of spiritless facts, it has few false approaches, and to read the "Genius" is to realize how little the basic arguments

against the Church have changed 150 years. But much more thoroughly at grips with the modern mind is Jaime Balmes, the young Spanish priest whose amazingly fertile brain collapsed from overwork in his 38th year.

Balmes is the author of two great works, "Criteria," which has been translated into English as "The Art of Thinking," and "Protetantism and Catholicity Compared in Their Effects on European Civilization." The "Criteria," a guide to the attainment of truth, reveals Balmes in his capacity of psychologist, in which he surpasses even Newman.

In "Protetantism and Catholicity Compared," written in answer to the historian Guizot, Balmes might have been writing for our times and nation, so well did he explode misconceptions against Catholicism so unscrupulously exploited today. Patiently and courteously, he drew upon his immense knowledge of European history to prove that civilization owes to Protestantism nothing of liberty or progress, that "Protetantism perverted the course of civilization. The progress which has been made not by it but in spite of it."

Balmes showed that the Thomistic teachings concerning natural rights and liberties were an indispensable foundation for free government, that the middle ages were vastly superior in this respect to most of the states since the Reformation, that Spain, as long as its government was Catholic, granted its citizens a freedom of speech unknown in Protestant lands of the time.

Above all, Balmes exposed the destroying weakness of Protestantism, lack of criterion of truth: "Truth has lost its value; its intrinsic worth is no longer what it was in the eyes of man; and too many consider themselves exempt from attempting to attain it—a deplorable condition of mind, which is one of the greatest evils afflicting society." He ended his great work with the words: "I have only consulted history, and I have taken extreme care not to pervert it. The documents to which I refer are there; they are to be found in all libraries; read them and judge for yourselves."

## Soviets Making Publicity For American Film

The Soviet ambassador in Stockholm has lodged a protest against the American film "The Iron Curtain," which is at present running in one of Stockholm's larger cinemas. The only effect of this protest, says "Aftonbladet," is, of course, that the public will rush to see the film despite its bad reviews. The Swedish has no authority to stop a film approved by the public censor. And the censor is not entitled to be guided in his activities by any opportunist political considerations. Consequently the Foreign Office can do no more for the Soviet ambassador than register his protest.

## The Lithuanian Bishops

CIP Correspondence for July 17, 1948, lists other victims of Soviet persecution. Among them are Bishop Matulionis of Kalsedorys and Bishop Borisevicius of Telsiai of the Baltic States, whose deaths in a Soviet prison have been confirmed by the Vatican. From Lithuania Archbishop M. Reinsys of Vilnius has been deported to Russia, while Archbishops G. Skvireckas of Kaunas and R. Jalbrykowskii of Vilnius and Bishop Brizgis are in exile.

## SAINT ON CELLULOID

LISBON.—The film company, Cinelandia, Ltd., is completing plans for the production of a film on the life of St. Anthony of Padua. The Franciscan saint was born in Portugal. Ordained as a canon regular at the Coimbra Cathedral, he died at Padua, Italy, after spending years preaching in that country.

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## Priests Call DP's Willing Workers

ROME.—Displaced persons are for the most part good, sound people, the kind who can well be used in America. This is the verdict of the National Catholic Resettlement Council's delegation given here after visiting DP installations throughout the American zones in Germany and Austria and Italy.

The Resettlement Council mission is sponsored by War Relief Services - National Catholic Welfare Conference for the purpose of gathering first-hand information which will facilitate the resettlement of DP's within the framework of recently enacted U. S. legislation.

The outstanding impression reported by the priest-investigators is their amazement at the sturdy character and determination manifested by displaced persons despite sufferings, losses, makeshift conditions of life in their camps and indefinite prospects for the future.

According to the priests, 50 per cent of the DP's are agricultural people acquainted with hard work and more than willing to perform manual labor. Many of them, they say, can teach Americans about the mechanics of farming. The others are busy at their trade or learning a new one, as is evidenced by the frequency of vocational schools within the camps, the priests said.

The moral and religious character of the DP's was of particular interest to the priests who noted

that in every camp there was a chapel and in practically every room a shrine. In the words of one priest, in practically every case the first things these refugees took in leaving their homes were their statues and religious objects.

To the objection that other countries had already taken the "cream of the crop" of DP's the priests answered that the alleged "cream" was taken in the form of men without families. Monsignor Ligutti and his associates consider that the men who stayed with their families to care for them at all costs rather than run the risk of protracted and indefinite separation, offer the best prospects as responsible, worthy citizens.

Monsignor Ligutti confessed he has been completely disabused of a prejudice which he began his investigation. Expecting to find technically-trained men such as agronomists, engineers, etc., more or less resting on their laurels and waiting for a made-to-order opportunity, he found them in all cases doing the actual work of farming, learning trades, developing manual skills, and expressing their willingness to do anything if given the opportunity.

## THE CHRISTIAN AND THE COMMUNITY

Fulton Oursler, senior editor of the "Reader's Digest" and convert to the Church, set forth some very valuable advice in a recent radio broadcast. He outlined the chief duties of a Christian in community life today as follows:

- 1.—Set a good example.
  - 2.—Keep well-informed by reading Catholic newspapers and magazines, as well as the secular press.
  - 3.—Participate in the government of the community affairs through regular voting and expression of opinion to public representatives.
- "All that I have suggested," Mr. Ouster said, "may sound like a strenuous program for an individual to follow. Yet a Communist who did for his party no more than I am here suggesting for ourselves, might be disciplined for lack of interest in the Red cause."
- "There is no place today for a comfortable Christian. It was the false, snug comfort that so many of us allowed ourselves in days gone by that helped to bring us to our present pass of danger. Now we must make amends, we must work doubly hard, if we are to serve effectively in the fight for the survival of all that we hold dear."

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2:00 P. M. — Sv. Antano Vienuolyno ir Koplyčios pašventinimas. Pašventinimo apeigas atliks Portlando vyskupas J. E. Juozapas E. McCarthy, D.D. dalyvaujant Vysk. Daniel Feeney, D. D., Kinijos Pranciškonui Vysk. Louis P. Durand, O.F.M., kunigams, vienuoliams ir svečiams iš visos Amerikos.  
3:00 P.M. — Lietuvių Dienos programa: žymių kalbėtojų kalbos; lietuviškos dainos, kurias padainuos Brooklyn Apreiškimo parapijos choras; tautiniai šokiai vadovaujant O. Ivaškienei iš Boston, Mass.; jvairūs laimėjimai.  
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