REAL CONDITIONS IN RUSSIA

By Capt. Francis McCullagh

Warsaw, Saturday,

a For the last two months, I have been investigating the religious situation in Russia. There religion is closely allied to politics, and the keenest foreign diplomatists in Moscow are keeping a sharp eye on the religious barometer. The Bolsheviks are keeping a sharp eye on it too. There is nothing they are more afraid of than a religious revival of any kind in Russia, and they vival of any kind in Russia, and they have made preparations against it. By the decree of January 21, 1921, they strictly forbid the giving of religious instruction to any one under eighteen years of age. By Articles 63 and 119 of their Criminal Code they inflict the punishment of death on any one who "utilizes the re-ligious prejudices of the masses" against the Soviet Government. By Article 65 of the Constitution they disfranchise all ministers of religion, Orthodox, Catholic, Pro-

UNWILLING TO TALK THROUGH FEAR OF ADDED PERSECUTION

The Orthodox tried to hide from me the internal troubles in their church. The Roman Catholics, the Evargelicals, the Methodists and which are at work in Russia were very unwilling to give me any in-formation at all owing to the fear formation at all owing to the fear that, if published at the present juncture, it would do them no good with the Bolsheviks. They were unwilling even to speak of the per-secution to which they are being subjected by the Reds lest that per-secution should be redoubled in violence.

In the second place I had to avoid, as far as possible, offending the susceptibilities of any religious body, and especially of the Russians, who are morbidly sensitive not only to any criticism of their persecuted church, but even to the most re-strained and sympathetic statement f that church's present position. They see a great church, persecuted but impregnable, besieged by infidels and schismatics but sup-ported by the unwavering faith of the muzhik and certain to emerge from the fiery furnace stronger and holier and greater than ever. "Why write about that dreadful Red Church and those unhappy divisions?" they cry. "Remain silent, and the whole thing will right

This is a typically Russian appeal, but I fail to see anything in it. In 1916 these same *emigres* would have regarded it as absolutely unthinkable that the peasants would ever permit the "Little Father" to be dethroned and murdered, and would cheerfully divide up the estates, not only of the landowners but also

Russia, resembles the cone crater in active eruption and hidden by dense clouds of smoke. Where there are depressions today there may be protuberances tomorrow; where there are lava peaks today there may be deep crevices tomorrow. alike there always hangs a cloud of blinding and suffocating vapors which deceive the eye, affect the nerves and consequently disturb the judgment.

To apply this comparison to the Orthodox Church, nobody can say toward Canterbury, or toward Methodism, but in any case this problem is the most important problem in Russia today. It is more important than the political question or the economic question. everything else will settle itself.

BOLSHEVIKI HAVE DREAD THAT THEY WILL UNITE CHRISTIANS

To look at the matter in a more cheerful light, the difficulties and the sufferings of the Russian Church may bring all the Christian churches together and thus heal the deepest and oldest wound in the whole of Christian history.

Christendom together. In an article headed "The approaching Union of the Black Internationals" the Bezbozhnik (Atheist), a Moscow newspaper supported by the Soviet Government, fears that Bolshevism Government, fears that Bolshevisin will, without intending it, accomplish what no other movement has ever done, namely, the restoration of Christian unity. "The religious differences which exist among these abburghes take a secondary place," in say the British mission, Mr. R.

Dr. Walsh, to listen at keynoles, to stead documents and to report every day to the G. P. U. No foreign mission in Russia in order to succor the naked and famished victims of Bolshevik misgovern ment. Even this relief mission had in say the British mission, Mr. R. will withdraw, however, unless had been a secondary place,"

And, most dreadful shock of all, it is America, the Land of the Dollar, the country of rank materialism (in the opinion of the Reds), which is most active for Christian unity and which is playing far the greatest part in the religious awakening which is going on in Russia to day. The Bolshevik explanation is that America is the only country in the world which has got any money; but on the question of how it comes to pass that America is so full of religious zeal the Bolsheviks offer no explanation. They are simply "flabbergasted."

Behind every religious revival which is taking place in Russia you will always find American dollars American religious energy. Methodist organizations in The Methodist organizations in Russia are all American. The Russian Missionary Society, which is operating from London, is largely supported by American evangelicals. Rome itself was represented in Moscow by an American clergyman and the Papal Relief Fund is largely subscribed by citizens of the U. S. A. The Redshave been investigating religious have been investigating religious movements; and whenever they ask in wrath, "Who is behind this?" the answer is always "America."

With the approach of Christmas the diabolical hatred of the Russian Reds for everything Christian had got the upper hand again, despite the fact that their own interests counsel moderation.

The Patriarch Tikhon again is under house arrest in the Dorskoy monastery. The Reds had become monastery. The Reds had become alarmed at the popularity which he had acquired in Moscow, where the incumbents of half the Orthodox churches declared themselves on his gide and the control of the contr side, and the recent visit to Moscow of the Anglican Bishop Bury raised this alarm to fever pitch. Or, to be more accurate, the ignorant and ferociously anti-Christian force whereon the whole Bolshevik Government is founded and when the side of t ernment is founded and whereby it is maintained in power took alarm at the freedom permitted to the Orthodox during Bishop Bury's visit to Tchitcherin, Litvinov and other atheist leaders of the Reds who are more far sighted (and therefore more dangerous) than their humbler followers: hence the present arrests of priests and bishops and the recrudescence of persecution.

BREAKS CONTRACT WITH HEAD OF PAPAL RELIEF MISSION

Methodists, Baptists and all Protestant bodies are suffering equally with the Orthodox, but the Roman Catholics, and especially that branch of the Roman Catholics which calls itself the Uniat Church, are suffering most of all. The Uniat Church has, indeed, been completely wiped out, inasmuch as all its priests have been arrested, all its churches closed, and its one convent broken up. Dr. Edmund J. Walsh, the head of the Papal Relief Mission, has been forced to leave not only of the landowners but also of the church. Now they hug another illusion, namely, that the muzhik will by some miracle remain Christian.

Religious Russia, like irreligious Russia, resembles the cope of a

In the first place it must be remembered that the Papal Relief Mission is a relief mission and not a diplomatic mission. It gives food and clothing to an enormous number of Russians whom the Soviet Government cannot feed or clothe or employ. It entered Russia under an agreement similar to that of the American Relief Association and other foreign relief missions; in other words, its agents were granted diplomatic privileges and allowed to communicate with the Vatican by courier. Recently Dr. Walsh, the head of this organizaexactly what will happen save that if religion remains untaught, as it is at present, religion will inevitably disappear. But there may be a great Orthodox revival, and the Russian Church may emerge from this trial stronger than ever.

There may be a drift toward Rome erty and every other kind of prop-erty. He rented it for five years and paid all the rent in advance.

First of all, I should say, he got an agreement from the Government that it would not quarter any one

(bureau of foreigners) had signed with Dr. Walsh a contract which gave him absolute possession of the house for five years, and stipulated that neither that bureau nor any other Bolshevik organization was to The Bolsheviks have a horrible suspicion that it is they who are destined, in spite of themselves, to bring all the various churches of Christendom together. In an article headed "The approaching Union of Delahavik commission was to that the right of quartering persons in this house, Dr. Walsh spent the equivalent of £5,000 in repairing and equipping it. When he had done this the Soviet Government told him that it had decided to place the a Bolshevik commissar in the house, scow "whose business was to look after the drains, the electric light, &c." In reality he was to act as a spy on Dr. Walsh, to listen at keyholes, to

THE ATTEMPT TO MANEUVER THE PAPACY INTO RECOGNITION

Consequently Dr. Walsh refused to receive the Red commissar into his house. At the same time the Commissariat of Foreign Affairs intimidated to Dr. Walsh that his privilege of sending his letters to the Vatican by special courier would henceforth cease. Dr. Walsh prohenceforth cease. Dr. Walsh pro-tested, but Tchitcherin insisted that the letters of the papal mission must henceforth be sent by the ordinary post, "the ordinary facili-ties being now adequate," as he

The Vatican lodged a mild but definite ultimatum that it could not continue to maintain a mission unless that mission had the right, which the A. R. A. had to send out correspondence to Rome by a special diplomatic courier, and unless it were also accorded the right enjoyed by every private citizen in all countries outside Russia, of excluding from its house persons whom it considered as undesirable lodgers.

ring: 'Sign the undertaking to let a commissar live in your house, or else leave the house.' At the same time a Bolshevik agent, probably a cut-thror; of the G. P. U., presented himself in the papal mission and proceeded to examine all the company of the STUDENTS; THE REDS RAID A CONVENT proceeded to examine all the rooms with the object of selecting one as his own. He finally selected Dr. Walsh's own private room, locked it, put the key in his pocket and went away. The head of the papal mission went too. mission went too. As soon as the agent of the Soviet Government agent of the Soviet Government crossed the threshold he left by another door. A kit bag containing his few personal effects had long been packed, ready for departure, and he had no difficulty in finding a place on the train. The Bolsheviks seemed, indeed, to regret his departure. They had not consider departure. They had not expected him to act so abruptly, and they must have counted on his giving way, or else obviating all difficulties by acknowledging the Soviet as a de jure government.

CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN RUSSIA PULLING TOGETHER VERY WELL

This latter indeed was the object viks themselves intimated clearly that the instant this recognition

use for their own purposes. They would use it to excite the envy of Canterbury and the Methodists and the Baptists in order to make Eng-

throats, understand each other perfectly well, and also understand perfectly well the trap which the Bolsheviks are laying for them. The Orthodox, the Roman Catholics, the Anglicans, the Episcopalians, the Methodists, the Baptists and the other Christian bodies are all in the same boat, and all perfectly aware that Bolshevism wishes to wreck them. I cannot, for certain reasons, give further particulars: but al Christian churches in Russia are pulling together far better than the Red atheists imagine. Even the religious minded Jews are co-operating

The bait held out to the Papal on him without his approval. In a greement was necessary as the Bolsheviks have a law allotting so many cubic feet of lodging to every in Moscow. The many cubic feet of lodging to every in Moscow. mission in Russia was certainly tempting one. Were Pius XI. on any religious movement he liked, wherein he could shelter monks and nuns working for the reunion of the Eastern and Western churches, wherein religious services could be held even if they were for-bidden elsewhere. And though this recognition would raise the prestige of the Soviet Government, it would also show the common people in Russia that the great Western Patriarch must indeed be very powerful, must indeed be far above Patriarch Tikhon, to have such concessions made to him.

But Pius XI. refused to recognize the Soviet as a civilized Power, though he would be willing to keep to succor the naked and famished insisted on planting one of its spies in, say the British mission, Mr. R. M. Hodgson would leave Moscow by the first train.

The Burobin had insisted and ramished victims of Bolshevik misgoverning of birds. On his estate at Villers-Bretonneux of whom no fewer than 80 are the first train.

London.

The Guild has now 102 speakers, of whom no fewer than 80 are the had formed a collection, unterpolation of the maked and ramished victims of Bolshevik misgoverning of birds. On his estate at Villers-Bretonneux the had formed a collection, unterpolation of the maked and ramished victims of Bolshevik misgoverning of birds. On his estate at Villers-Bretonneux to have the study and climatizing of birds. On his estate at Villers-Bretonneux to have the study and climatizing of birds. On his estate at Villers-Bretonneux to have the study and climatizing of birds. On his estate at Villers-Bretonneux to hand over the administration of whom no fewer than 80 are taking the platforms regularly. Every week addresses are given from 35 public platforms, and the form all parts of the world. The first train.

An assistant of Dr. Walsh's is in charge of the mission premises, and if Rome decides that the relief work should be continued it will be continued. If it thinks that Dr. Walsh should be replaced by some one else he will be so replaced. If it orders the mission to leave, leave it must. In this latter eventuality, however, Catholicity will have received a knockout blow in Russia. All its Bishops are now living in exile. Archbishop Cieplak is dying in prison. A person who saw him An assistant of Dr. Waish's is in in prison. A person who saw him two months ago says that it is very doubtful if he will survive till the end of the month. The Exarch Fedorov, the head of all the Catholics of the Slav rite in Russia, is also in prison, undergoing a sentence of ten years' imprison-ment. There are twenty-two Catho-lic priests in the Butyrka prison countries outside Russia, of excluding from its house persons whom it considered as undesirable lodgers.

The Soviet Government thereupon presented a counter ultimatum, saying: 'Sign the undertaking to let a commissar live in your house or commissar live

RAID A CONVENT Uniat Church, a Russian church which acknowledges Rome, has been completely obliterated by has been completely obliterated by the Bolsheviks. On November 7, the Bolshevik police made a raid on a house in Prechistensky Boulevard, Moscow, which had long been used as a seminary where Catholic eccles-iastical students were secretly pre-pared for the priesthood. Such pared for the priesthood. Such neophytes in Petrograd and Moscow carry on other occupations during the daytime. Some are waiters, some street sweepers, some Red soldiers, some shop assistants. At night they study their ecclesiastical books, and pray—but they must needs pray cautiously, as their work is in the highest degree illegal, and throughout Russia there are sharp ears listening for the sound of

This latter indeed was the object of all the inconveniences inflicted on Dr. Walsh and the Papal Mission.

Then were inflicted deliberately in of Madame Abrikosova, and all of Dynasian converts save one, a They were inflicted deliberately in order that Dr. Walsh might see order that Dr. Walsh might see Polish girl. This convent had been Polish girl. This convent had been Polish girl. This convent had been that the only exit from them was a complete recognition of Lenine's Red Republic by Pius ing the poor, comporting the sick XI., and the conversion of and the orphans. The raid began at the Papal Relief Mission into a regular nunciature. The Bolshe-ished saying their night prayers and were preparing to lie down on the that the instant this recognition floor, for such is their extreme were accorded all difficulties would poverty they have no beds, the door disappear, the mission would be allowed to use a papal courier, to soldiers, who had drawn their enjoy extra territoriality, to possess all the diplomatic privileges of an embassy, to fly the papal flag, to do anything that the German Minister or the English commercial agent could do.

And no doubt the Balshavika gathered all the sisters into one and kept them there till 4:30 And no doubt the Bolsheviks room and kept them there till 4:30 would keep their word, for recognition by the Papacy would enormously increase their prestige. This recognition they would, of course, the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition to the recognition that we have a supplied to the recognition tha

The sisters thus passed a night of agony. Then at 5:30 a. m. an auto arrived from the G. P. U. land and America accord de jure recognition also.

Canterbury and Rome, which they want to set at each other's on the same night similar raids and the same night sim arrests were made at the houses of adherents of the Uniat Church all over Moscow, and thirteen such dherents are now in prison. (Later information places the number at nineteen; the arrests and raids are still going on

> Next day Father Nicholas was arrested. Another great trial like that of Cieplak will apparently follow to enliven the Bolshevik.

THE HOLY FATHER AND THE BIRDS

Paris, Nov. 24.—M. Jean Dela-our, president of the French League for the Protection of Birds, has received the following letter from Cardinal Gasparri:

Mr. President. The League for the Protection of Birds, the aim and activity of which you have described to the Holy Father, did not fail to attract the very kindly attention of His Holi-

This is a cause which finds in the Gospel its greatest claim to the sympathy of the faithful. How, in-deed could one be cruel toward the oyous creatures of the air wh Our Lord warns us—are cared for

by the Heavenly Father?
This is why His Holiness expresses desire that this initiative of kindness and gentleness may find among Catholics the welcome it deserves.

M. Jean Delacour is a young scientist of ample means who devotes his fortune almost entirely to the study and climatizing of birds.

Bolshevik post office, where every one of his letters would quite certainly be opened.

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Bolshevik post office, where every of his letters would quite certainly arranged for them. The bombard-the work is about 80 hours.

The Guild, so the report stated, where every one of his letters would quite certainly arranged for them. The bombard-the work is about 80 hours. ment of Villers Bretonneux de-

EVIDENCE GUILD

Cardinal Bourne has just paid a visit to the university city of Cambridge for a double purpose: first to attend the reunion of the Cambridge University Catholic Association, and secondly, to bless and enclose a new Carmelite convent in the city. the city.

The second of these objects is of more than passing interest, since the establishment of the new convent means that both Oxford and Cambridge have now each a Carmel in their midst, and both these houses have been established this year.

The second of these objects is of thundering her message through the land. One found today few non-Catholics who had no Catholic Church.

Catholic Church.

PRIESTS RESCUE. this year.

CATHOLIC VOCATIONS INCREASE

But of greater interest still is the fact that while organized Protestants in this country appears to be falling apart, and splitting up into diverse factions; while religion is generally supposed to have lost its hold on the people, Catholic vocations to the religious life, among women of all events, and especially to the austere orders like the Carmelites and the Claresses, are more numerous that they have been, certainly for some four centuries. This increase of religious vocations amongst the Catholics, and the apparent falling off of religious interest amongst those But of greater interest still is the

The reunion of the Cambridge University Catholic Association, at which the Cardinal Archbishop of various colleges. Catholics were predominant amongst the guests on the occasion; but Cardinal Bourne had as his fellow guests the Vice-Chancellor of the University, who is a Protestant clergyman, and the Master of Magdalen College, who is the elder brother of the late Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson and himself a Protestant.

CARDINAL SPEAKS ON LATIN CULTURE Eminence the Cardinal, the President of the Catholic Association called attention to the extraordinary progress made by the Catholic Church in England during the past twenty years; a progress which had stood there for twenty the past twenty years; a progress which, the speaker said, was very largely to be accounted for by the truly remarkable personality of the Capuchin Fathers.

At 1:30 o'clock Acting Battalion

At 1:30 o'clock Acting Battalion Cardinal Archbishop.

In his reply, Cardinal Bourne

whole range of intellectual culture which grew out of, and was dependparticular spheres of culture diminished and ultimately perished. On the Sunday during his visit Cardinal Bourne gave an address to the Catholic undergraduates in the chapel which is restricted to Cathoeven the staircases were packed with undergraduates who had flocked to hear the Cardinal's address

Speaking on the subject of developing their intellectual endowments, Cardinal Bourne told the students that they could never understand secular legislation unless they understood the history of the Catholic Church. The reason why the good politicians of England were always going astray, the Cardinal asserted, was because they did not understand where the Catholic Church came in.

RECORD OF CATHOLIC EVIDENCE GUILD The Bishop of Miletopolis, Auxiliary to the Archbishop of West-minster, presided at the annual conference of the Westminster Catholic Evidence Guild at the Cathedral Hall.

The annual report is a remarkable account of the activities of the Guild, whose mission is to carry the Gospel of Catholic Christianity into the parks and public places of

about 80 hours.

The Guild, so the report stated, has aroused the widest interest in

grandparents of the present Catholic generation—Father Gavan-Duffy said—could tell that when they were born the liberal professions were closed to Catholics, the professions of whose faith was a disgrace in the even of the world disgrace in the eyes of the world and a hindrance to success. But now the Church was no longer on the defensive. She had come almost into her own, and was thundering her message throughout the land. One found today very few non-Catholics who had not a

PRIESTS RESCUE SACRAMENT

and the apparent falling on the religious interest amongst those outside the Church is one of the after others had been restrained by firemen, and after the attempts of the complete of the priests to bring the three other priests to bring the Blessed Sacrament from the church had failed.

The three priests emerged from Westminster was the guest of honor, was a striking incident of the good relations that exist between the University authorities and the control of the contr Catholics who are members of the various colleges. Catholics were removed their helmets and bowed

Church while flames still shot out from the blackened beams and a thick blanket of smoke obscured its interior from those in the street, to rescue the Cardinal, the President of the Catholic Association of the Catholic Associa

Chief Tom Crowley, standing in the door of the fire house on White avoided the personal reference and spoke of the enormous influence that Latin culture has had on the saw smoke rising in a cloud from the jeweled crowns and threw them the church roof. He sent in an into the river intending to fish

which grew out of, and was dependent on, the worship, the liturgy and doctrine of the Latin Church. If Tonnini, the church pastor, and his assistants, Fathers Vincenzio Caso assistants, Fathers Vincenzio Caso which is the Latin Church exercised her due the Latin Church exercised her due influence those spheres of culture flourished and extended. If for the firemen to let them enter the building to rescue the Host. They building to rescue the Host. were held back.
When Deputy Chief Fred Guder-

son arrived he sent in a third alarm.
After most of the building had crashed inward, Father Tonnini and his assistants, led by Patrolman Frank Ditmars of the Wakefield lic members of the University.
The oratory is quite small, and both it and the adjoining room and altar. Ditmats to force their way through the smoke and flames to the smoke, and the priests were driver back. Ditmars was taken to Ford-

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOLS

tian Schools indicate that the congregation this year has 824 schools

America has 282 schools with of Calicut. It was at Calicut that 81,000 pupils. Asia has 58 schools with 15,000 pupils. Asia has 58 first European navigator to touch Schools with an enrollment of 21,300. the coast of India, Mgr. Perini in Australia has six schools with 900 a farewell letter to the clergy and

CATHOLIC NOTES

New York, Dec. 14.—Convicted of violating the postal laws by publishing a birth control advertisement, Carlos Tresca, radical editor, was sentenced to Atlanta penitentiary for a year and a day.

Cleveland, December 12.—Sister Mary Irene, fifty-five years old, superior of Charity Hospital for two terms, died last Monday. She had been a member of the Sisters of Charity for thirty-five years, and was a recognized authority on hospital management. She was Figure 1. pital management. She was Elizabeth Kelly and a native of Ireland.

The Center or Catholic Party of Germany has issued a proclamation announcing its opposition to any attempts to dismember Germany. The statement announces that the Centrists will support the unity of the country at all costs declaring:
"Even the vilest misery shall not make us traitors to the Fatherland."

At the Third Annual Book Week session which opened on Monday, Nov. 12, at the Wanamaker Audi-Nov. 12, at the Wanamaker Auditorium, New York, Joel Townsley Rogers, author of "Once in a Red Moon" one of the six authors who spoke at the opening session, made a plea for more laughter. He argued that the Ku Klux Klan could better be routed by being made ridiculous than by serious made ridiculous than by serious treatment.

Madrid, Dec. 4.-In the comments published on the subject of the speech made at the Vatican by King Alfonso, considerable emphasis is given to the request that the Holy Father increase the number of Spanish members of the Sacred College and of the Noble Guard. This request is interpreted as demonstrating the necessity of giving a more internacharacter to the Roman

St. Columbans, Neb., Dec. 12.-Nine more priests have arrived at St. Columbans, Han Yang, China. Accompanying the new arrivals were four Christian Brothers. The six Sisters of Loretto (Nerinx, Ky.) who departed from Seattle in September have also reached Han Yang where they will labor as auxiliaries of the Columban Fathers. In the Hupeh District there are now 56 Columban Missionaries

Jerusalem, Dec. 1. - Official announcement has been made here that His Eminenbe Orestes Cardinal Giorgi, general penitential of the Church and Cardinal protector of

who was arrested in connection with the robbery is said to have confessed to the police that he There was, the Cardinal said, a whole range of intellectual culture

The church foot. The company them out later. The jewels were at the gift of the Austrians in America in 1918

St. Columban, Neb., Dec. 12.— Father E. J. Galvin reports that during the twelve months ending in the early fall of this year 2,057 Chinese converts were baptized in the missionary district committed to the Fathers of St. Columban. This brings the number of Catholics in the area up to 14.719. The Columban missionaries have set up 188 schools at which 4,072 pupils attend A large number of pagan boys are flocking to the High School at Han Yang. The three medical missionaries report a very busy year.

The Right Rev. George J. Waring, pastor of St. Ann's Shrine Church, 110 East Twelfth Street, New York rather Wickham and his assistants made their successful dash into the building.

The fire caused damage estimated at \$30,000. Its origin is unknown.

The fire caused damage estimated at \$30,000. Its origin is unknown. Annie Leary and was presented to St. Ann's through the generosity of Mrs. George Leary, a relative of the Countess. It stands, exclusive Paris, Nov. 28.—Statistics published by the Brothers of the Christian a block of the finest Carrara

outside of France with an enrollment of 210,500 pupils.

More than half of these establishments are in Europe: 427 with his residence there as the first Bishop of the newly erected dioces pupils and the Philippines have one school with 400 pupils.

faithful of Mangalore describes the circumstances that led the Holy See