CATHOLIC GROUP SEES SHORTAGE OF PRIESTS

ROME — The number of Roman Catholic priests is declining in areas with strong population increases, according to the First International Congress for Ecclesiastic Vocations.

The Congress opened here under the auspices of the Vatican. Seven Cardinals and about 500 churchmen from thirty countries are attending the sessions.

The New York Archdiocese is represented by the Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, Auxiliary Bishop to Cardinal Spellman.

Among the other points to emerge was the report that the United States and Canada were among the few nations where the Catholic clergy continues to expand and that they would have to "lend" priests to understaffed dioceses in Latin America and other parts of the world in increasing numbers.

While the Vatican is thus promoting a global distribution of sacerdotal manpower, the church everywhere will encourage adult laymen to take up the study for priesthood.—New York Times

Photo shows a small section of "51" Club members, celebrating at the monthly Birthday Party.

RELIGIOUS CLASSIFICATION of the 88th CONGRESS and GOVERNORS

Affiliation Reported	*Senate*	*House*	*Governors*	*Total*
Apostolic Christian	0	1	0	1
Baptist	13	50	8	71
Brethren in Christ	0	1	0	1
Christian Scientist	0	3	0	3
Churches of Christ	0	4	0	4
Cumberland Presbyterian	0	1	0	1
Disciples of Christ	1	12	1	14
Episcopal	15	49	7	71
Evangelical Free Church	0	2	0	2
Evangelical United Brethren	0	1	0	1
Friends	½	1	0	1½
Jewish	2	9	0	11
Latter Day Saints (Mormon)	3	4	2	9
Latter Day Saints (Reorganized)	1	0	0	1
Lutheran	2	15	2	19
Methodist	24	78	11	113
Plymouth Congregational Church	0	1	0	1
Presbyterian	11	71	7	89
"Protestant"	2	16	0	18
Reformed Church in America	1	0	0	1
Roman Catholic	11	88	9	108
Schwenkfelder	0	1	0	1
Seventh-Day Baptist	1	0	0	1
Unitarian	6½	4	0	10½
United Church of Christ	6	19	3	28
Universalist	0	1	0	1
"Not Given"	0	2	0	2
	100	434	50	584

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SOVIET BRANDS CHRISTIANS FROM SIBERIA AS CRIMINALS

MOSCOW (AP) — A group of Siberian peasants who sought American help to leave the Soviet Union were described by a Soviet news agency as criminals and people addicted to beating their children.

The Soviet version of the peasants, as carried by the Novosti news agency, was in sharp contrast to the description given by U. S. embassy officials of the six men, 12 women and 24 children who paraded into the embassy seeking help but were told nothing could be done for them.

U. S. officials described the Siberians as healthy, good-minded people wanting to escape the hard life of Christians in the Soviet Union.

Leader Named

"The first chapter of this story," said the Novosti article, written by Stanislav Petukhov, evidently begins with a certain Grigory Vashchenko coming to Chernogorsk, a town in the Krasnoyarsk territory of Siberia, and organizing an illegal fundamentalist splinter group.

"From his father, twice put on trial for violating Soviet laws, Grigory inherited a taste for loafing. Shamming illness to avoid being called up for service in the Soviet army, Vashchenko moved on from village to village with his 'fellow Christians,' doing part time work as a 'team of builders' and picking up good money."

Members of the group made their way 2,100 miles from Chernogorsk to Moscow. After being heard in the embassy, the group was taken by bus to a hotel and later the Soviet government said they were being shipped back to their homes in Siberia.

Parted from Children

Children in Soviet schools are taught atheism as a phase of Communist teaching, and the religious sect told the Americans they sought to avoid this.

As the Russians looked upon the matter, it was different. They accused the religious folk of abusing their children, making mental cases of them. A concerted drive was launched against them in Chernogorsk, the Novosti report said.

"The initial results of this public drive against the fanatics are that the most malicious of the sect have been deprived of their parental rights, and their children now are being cared for at a boarding-school. After being persuaded by local public bodies, 17 people recently broke off from the sect. The leaders of the fanatics, G. Vashchenko and A. Miller among them, were sentenced by a people's court to imprisonment.

"The appeal of active members of the splinter group to a foreign embassy for help to leave the country was actually an attempt on their part to evade responsibility for their evil deeds."

TELL THE TRUTH - and YOU'RE BANISHED!

Walter Winchell on Kruschchev's Rise to Power

Dictator Khrushchev, who has the power to destroy the world, fears to face facts about himself: After an American network documented his rise to power he retaliated by banishing its Moscow correspondent. The network's program neglected to include the following: Mrs. Khrushchev played a major role in elevating her husband to power. Shortly after coming to Moscow she became friendly with Stalin's wife and with Mrs. Malenkov and Mrs. Molotov. A close friendship among the husbands followed. As a consequence Khrushchev rose in the party ranks. But after gaining power he denounced Stalin and exiled both Malenkov and Molotov. The foregoing should come as no surprise. Those who attain the Kingdom of Hell must act like the Devil.—The Metropolitan Daily, New York