

Papal Decree Against Communism

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
ROME, July 13—Following is an official translation from the Latin of the decree by the Congregation of the Holy Office on excommunication of Communists:

This Supreme Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office has been asked:

1. Whether it is lawful to enlist in or show favor to the Communist party?
2. Whether it is lawful to publish, read or disseminate books, newspapers, periodicals or leaflets in support of Communist doctrine and practice or write in them any articles?
3. Whether Catholics who knowingly and freely place actions as specified in Nos. 1 and 2 above may be admitted to the sacraments?
4. Whether Catholics, who profess and particularly those

who defend and spread, the materialistic and anti-Christian doctrine of the Communists, ipso facto, as apostates from the Catholic faith, incur excommunication reserved especially to the Holy See?

The most eminent and reverend fathers, charged with the defense of matters pertaining to faith and morals, after having previously heard the opinion of the consultors at a plenary session held on Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 1949, decreed that the above-mentioned questions be answered as follows:

To No. 1—In the negative, for communism is materialistic and anti-Christian. Besides, Communist leaders, although they sometimes verbally assert that they are not opposed to religion, show themselves nevertheless, both by doctrine and by action, to be in reality enemies of God, of the

true religion and of the Church of Christ.

To No. 2—In the negative, inasmuch as this is prohibited by law itself [cf. Canon 1399, Corpus Juris Canonici].

To No. 3—In the negative, in accordance with the common principles governing refusal of the sacraments to those not having proper dispositions.

To No. 4—In the affirmative. And on the following Thursday, the 30th of the same month and year, His Holiness Pope Pius XII, when informed of the decision in the usual audience granted to His Excellency, the Most Reverend Assessor, approved and ordered to be published the above answers in the Acta Apostolicae Sedis.

PETER VIGORITA,
Notary of the Supreme Congregation of the Holy Office.

POLES REPORT 'STAMPEDE'

Woman Trampled to Death in an Effort to See 'Weeping Virgin'

WARSAW, July 13 (AP)—Poland's official press agency reported that a woman was trampled to death and nineteen other persons were injured today in a stampede to see a "weeping Virgin" miracle in Lublin, in eastern Poland.

The agency, an organ of the Communist-dominated Warsaw Government, charged that the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Poland had "deliberately" encouraged an hysterical pilgrimage that resulted in the tragedy.

The agency said that 100,000 Poles from all over the country, hoping for miraculous cures, were massed around the Lublin Cathedral when a wooden stockade collapsed, causing the casualties. It said near chaos reigned in Lublin tonight.

Government officials promised prosecution of those who had spread rumors that a miracle had occurred.

The pilgrimage started when word spread that six blind Poles had regained their sight after having knelt before a portrait of the Virgin in the cathedral. Priests had reported seeing blood dripping from the eyes of the picture a week ago.