

2 Freed Priests Differ Over Red Charges

By JAMES WILDE
HONG KONG (AP)—They came down the gangway of the ship from Shanghai Saturday.

The older one, the Rev. Joseph P. McCormack, 65, seemed alert and called out, "Hello." The younger one, the Rev. Cyril P. Wagner, 51, of Pittsburgh, needed help. He trembled; he looked haggard and white. But he smiled wanly.

After five years in Red Chinese prisons, the two U.S. Roman Catholic priests were going home. For the first time since their release last Saturday they were setting foot on friendly soil. It moved them almost to tears.

Then they came to a news conference. Father Wagner wore a white shirt and dark trousers. Father McCormack, brown in Ireland but assigned to the Maryknoll Seminary in Ossining, N.Y., wore a black suit.

'Don't Deny Charges'
Father Wagner, charged by the Communists with "sabotaging China's financial ordinance," was the first to speak. He startled everyone.

"I do not deny the charges," he said, his face ashen. "I feel my sentence was a little long. I believe 2½ years would have been a more fair sentence. I did deal in black market currency."

Father McCormack stopped him. He put his arm around the younger priest's shoulders, turned to the newsmen, and said:

"This man has been sick for five years. I deny the charges. My trial and the trial of Father Wagner were ridiculous."

Then Father McCormack turned to the Hong Kong priest sitting next to them.

"Father, this man is tired. He is ill. He should not have to talk any more."

But Father Wagner said again, when the newsmen asked, that he was not contesting the validity of the Communist trial and the sentence.

Father McCormack spoke then. The Reds told him the charges were unimportant, he said. He was charged with collecting political and economic information "under the cover of being a priest."

"All they wanted me to do was confess, and they said it would go easy with me," he said. "I refused. The whole thing was a

mockery and an insult to justice." He had raised his voice, but then he smiled.

"Sorry to get excited—I'm just out of prison."

Now calmer, Father McCormack said the Reds had been out to get him ever since he had returned to China in 1947. He added:

"They told me so. They were out to get all of us (priests). Twelve of us were arrested at the same time (June, 1953) on trumped up charges."

Seventy-two times he was hauled before a Chinese court, he said, and every time he denied the charges against him.

"My trial and that of Father Wagner lasted over 2½ years," he said. "Frequently we were questioned six hours at a time, and all varieties of methods were used to try to make us talk. We were accused of everything. I received every kind of bad treatment imaginable."

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) said Saturday night "I think we're hanging on a brink again" over the crisis in Lebanon.

He and Sen. Russell B. Long (D-La.), both members of the Foreign Relations Committee, agreed that President Eisenhower should not send U. S. troops into that rebellion-torn country without congressional sanction.

They gave their views on a TV program filmed for station WDSU in New Orleans.

Kennedy said the situation in Lebanon poses two problems: "First, we don't want Lebanon to go down because the whole area may fall. Secondly, there is no sense in trying to intervene unless there's some real assurance of support by the Lebanese army and the Lebanese people."

"If we are going to be regarded as invaders ourselves, we can't just begin a beachhead action on

than 850,000 to fewer than 700,000. Indications are the auto makers may start the 1959 model runs with comparatively few 1958 models unsold in September.

UAW officials said Saturday that a strike vote in progress at General Motors and Ford plants was running more than 13-1 in favor of a walkout if necessary to back up union demands in the current bargaining. The officials said that returns from 33 UAW locals at GM plants and 13 at Ford plants totaled 58,669 for and 4,397 against any strike action.

Reuther told a news conference in New York earlier last week he would have new contracts with

General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler before the 1959 models roll off the assembly lines. He said he did not believe a strike would be necessary.

But just in case a strike is considered necessary, Reuther has assigned his assistant to build up an impressive strike authorization vote among UAW members now working without contracts at Big Three plants.

The union appeared to be in no big hurry about scheduling strike votes among other locals representing workers at 275 Big Three plants. They are being scheduled for next week and will continue into July.

Kennedy Urges No U.S. Troops In Lebanon

Six Youths Admit Killing Man, 74, in \$13 Robbery

NEWARK, N. J. (AP)—Acting Police Chief Paul Caffrey announced Saturday that six teenagers had confessed killing an elderly man in a \$13 robbery two weeks ago.

The youths, Negroes ranging in ages from 15 to 18, were picked up Friday night as part of an intensive police drive after three fatal muggings in the city within two weeks. All the victims were white.

The victim of a street robbery and slaying was Ludwig Lauther, 74, of Newark, mechanical engineering consultant. His body was found on a sidewalk June 7.

Police said he was knocked to the ground by a single punch from a 17-year-old boy. One of the other

ers grabbed his wallet, and the attackers ran.

Two of the older boys got \$2.50 each, while the others got \$2 each. Then they threw away the wallet and scattered.

Caffrey said murder charges would be filed against the older boys in the group. He added the arrest was the result of a round-the-clock investigation in which police had canvassed homes and youth hangouts in a four-square-mile area.

Police said at least two of the youths are believed to be 18 and that their names would be disclosed as soon as their ages are verified.

Expensive Privilege
ST. CATHERINE'S, Ont. (AP)—Magistrate Harley Hallett convicted defendant Samuel S. Porter's claim that he had a right to abuse a constable who had ordered his car out of a no-parking zone. "It's your privilege," the magistrate said, "but it's going to be an expensive one—\$105.50, including costs."

Woman Dies in Pond

CALDWELL, Idaho (AP)—Mrs. Edna Marie Goudie, 40, Caldwell, was found dead in a pond near here Friday night. She apparently stepped into a hole while bathing at the pond with her daughter.

The Samuel Casey farm, which dates from 1840-50, is a historic place for sightseers in Saunders-town, R.I. The will of its last owner stipulates that it must continue to operate as a farm, as well as being a choice haven for sightseers.

Behind Every Headline...



...is a meaning that affects your job, your home, your purchases — your future. That's the story which

SYLVIA PORTER

brings to you in her column

daily in

The Oregon Statesman

A "REAL COOL" SALE OF MEN'S COOL WASH AND WEAR SUITS

*Requires little or no ironing

**BROWNS
TANS
GRAYS
BLUES**

**REG. SIZES
... 36 TO 46
SHORT SIZES
... 36 TO 42
LONG SIZES
... 38 TO 46**

**IF NOT SPECIALLY PURCHASED
WOULD SELL FOR \$39.50**

Meier & Frank's is proud to offer these wash-and-wear suits because we know they'll fit you right—you will enjoy the feel—the comfort—the coolness. No need to suffer in regular wear suits when you can come in tomorrow and get one of these wonderful wash and wear suits.

MEN'S CLOTHING—STREET FLOOR

**DACRON and COTTON
ORLON and COTTON
DACRON and RAYON
Nylon & Dacron Cords**

**SINGLE BREASTED
THREE-BUTTONS
CENTER VENT COATS
SOME IVY LEAGUES**



Banker Terms Financial Tax In State Illegal

PORTLAND (AP) — A banker Saturday suggested that the nine per cent state tax on net income of Oregon financial institutions is illegal.

John R. Hay, a representative of the Oregon Bankers Assn., said the 1957 Legislature erred in boosting the tax from eight per cent.

Hay said the tax is illegal because federal statutes say the state levy can be no more than that applied to business and manufacturing corporations.

That tax, he told the Legislative Interim Tax Committee, is six per cent.

Banks which are members have been advised by the association to pay a six per cent tax—and no more—Hay said. All but six have complied, he said.

Scant Encouragement
Hay got scant encouragement from the committee.

Rep. Monroe Sweetland (D-Milwaukie) termed the action of the banks a taxation revolt.

The committee chairman, Sen. Walter Pearson (D-Portland), said that the nine per cent tax "was no error. It was done with full intent and with the advice of competent legal counsel."

Pearson said he would oppose any tampering with the tax rate.

Tax Commission Chairman John Horn said, however, that his staff is investigating the nine per cent rate.

The commission also announced Saturday that tax receipts now are \$106,900,000—compared with the estimate of \$107,400,000.

Below Estimate
Corporation receipts are 4½ million dollars below the estimate, but personal income tax receipts exceeded estimates by about that amount.

Randall Kester, a solicitor for the Union Pacific Railroad, later asked the interim committee to help revise taxes on railroads.

Kester said that because railroads are defined as public utilities, they pay a seven per cent corporate excise tax.

Truck lines, though, because they are classified as business firms, pay but six per cent, he said.

Pearson said that "I have long thought railroads have been improperly classified as utilities for tax purposes."

Arson Suspected In Two Portland Automobile Fires

PORTLAND (AP) — Two automobiles burst into flame in a southeast Portland district Saturday, and police say they suspect arson.

Police said it was similar to the outbreak of 1952, when at least 15 cars were set afire by an arsonist who never was caught.

One of the cars damaged Saturday suffered \$1,000 loss at 5548 SE Franklin St., and the other \$200 damage at 3404 SE 55th Ave.

STORE HOURS
MONDAY AND FRIDAY: 9:30 A.M. 'TIL 9 P.M.
OTHER DAYS: 9:30 A.M. 'TIL 5:30 P.M.

**SHOP IN
COMPLETE AIR-
CONDITIONED
COMFORT**

**IT PAYS
TO BUY AT
MEIER &
FRANK'S**

Meier & Frank Co.
OREGON'S OWN STORE SINCE 1857
SALEM EM 3-2211