

Père Pire, who has intervened so often and effectively on behalf of refugees, who has created villages for them in various countries and who has in other ways still sought to aid the victims of war, concludes with a profession of faith which cannot fail to touch those who themselves work under the emblem of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun: " I am merely pro-human, the brother of all men. I firmly believe that the fate of mankind is in the hands of men. War or peace is dependent on each one of you. May the most powerful and the humblest of you be conscious of this fact. Above all he must act. Workers for peace are urgently wanted ".

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Control of water pollution. — *International Digest of Health Legislation, World Health Organization, Geneva, Vol. 17, No. 4, 1966.*

... Difficult as the present situation already is, the severity of the problems to be faced is continuously increasing. Thus the WHO Expert Committee on Water Pollution Control, which met in 1965, came to the conclusion that, although the developed countries are still developing, and must therefore expect to face increased water pollution in the future, " water pollution must be expected to increase very much faster in the developing than in the already developed countries. If the cost of remedial measures increases proportionately, the problem will shortly be of overwhelming magnitude...". Thus it is clear that there is an urgent need for effective legislation for the control of water pollution, in particular in the developing countries, where its introduction may help to prevent the development of the disastrous situation envisaged by the Expert Committee...

... The general situation in respect of legislation on the control of water pollution has been described by Litwin in the following terms: " The legal grounds for the protection of water vary from one State to another... The differences observed are mostly due to the differences between the political, economic and administrative systems of the various countries and to the legal status of watercourses, which may be public or private property. Certain countries have recently introduced or recast laws and regulations which are satisfactory in that they are

consonant with present-day scientific and technical requirements. Others have older laws or regulations which consequently vary in their suitability for meeting present needs, while yet others have no legislation on the subject. In a number of legislations the provisions for the prevention of pollution are scattered and ill-assorted because they were introduced, sometimes long ago, for limited purposes. It was, for instance, intended to protect fish life, public health, rivers considered as public property, or riparian rights. This has led to a proliferation of remedies, procedures, or penalties that are often ill-adapted to their purposes. . . . The general tendency is now to make up for lost time and to prepare more up-to-date and comprehensive legislation". He adds that "Several legislatures merely prepare skeleton enactments and, for the sake of efficiency, leave a wide margin of discretion to the rule-making authorities. . . . Two aims are thus pursued. The first is to avoid delaying the legislative work and to enable the Executive to draft the regulations while that work is in progress. . . . The second is that the Legislature is spared the details, while the implementing regulations, which must be flexible and tested by practical experience, may easily be amended whenever necessary. . . .".

Informations sociales. — *U.N.C.A.F., Paris, No. 12, 1966.*

From May 6-10, the XIIIth International Congress of the International Abolitionist Federation took place in Rome.

Papers submitted on "Society and Prostitution Today" reviewed the problems arising as a result of prostitution, its organization, and the general attitude towards this commerce. The more developed a society appears to be, the less does prostitution take the form of a recognized activity controlled by the authorities. Prostitution is a sensitive indicator of female emancipation and equality in any society.

The congress adopted a number of resolutions designed to bring the Federation's methods up to date. An enquiry into all aspects of prostitution will be based on sociological, psychological and medico-social pilot studies on the national level.

It was decided to organize and intensify opinion in favour of the abolition of prostitution, with the aim of awakening electors and influential circles to this problem, and also to counter thereby the shady dealings of procurors.

The congress considered the decline or the absence of family influence or interest to be primary causes of prostitution and decided to leave no stone unturned in an effort to consolidate family life. Measures envisaged were the study of modern family life, with special attention to its evolution in large towns and housing complexes and bearing in mind also the difficulties created by present day labour organization; sex, moral and hygiene education for youth; preparation for marriage;