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Fort Sill Chapel Is Dedicated On Christmas Eve

Fort Sill, Okla., Jan. 2.—On Christmas Eve there was dedicated here the first Catholic chapel this historic military post, which dates from 1869, has ever had. It has been placed under the patronage of the Little Flower of Jesus. A High Mass at midnight followed the dedicatory service.

Constructed in a wing of the Post Field Liberty Theater, built in the course of the World War, the new chapel has been made largely through the volunteer labor of the enlisted men at the post. Sergeant Rozburski, of the Air Service, built its artistic altar and Communion rail after sketches made by an officer of the post, Captain Godwin. The untiring efforts of Chaplain A. V. Simon are responsible for the plan and pushing it through. He obtained financial aid from the Extension Society in Chicago and the Chaplains' Aid Association in New York. The Ladies of the Altar Society also gathered money through donations and benefit affairs.

The auditorium of the chapel will seat 300, and it was filled for the Christmas Mass.

RABBI WISE STIRS THE JEWS BY HIS SERMON ON JESUS

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

New York, Dec. 31.—When Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, in a sermon at the Free Synagogue recently declared that the "Jews must accept Jesus" in the sense of accepting the teachings of Christ as a code of ethics, he started a controversy which has set the Jewish religious world agog and has resulted in Dr. Wise's proffered resignation from the chairmanship of the United Palestine Appeal.

Whether or not this resignation will be accepted by the Executive Committee in charge of the organization's drive for \$6,000,000 for the rebuilding of Palestine, is let to be determined.

Since his sermon was delivered Rabbi Wise has explained that when he said "Jews should accept Jesus" he meant that they should "accept the fact that Jesus was a great Jew and a great Jewish teacher." He had no intention, he said, of intimating that the Jews should accept Christianity and in discussing the matter in the future will phrase the thought as "Jews should claim Jesus."

Pro-Cathedral At Minneapolis Now a Basilica

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Minneapolis, Jan. 2.—The Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary here has been designated a minor basilica by Pope Pius XI, the pastor, the Rev. James M. Reardon, announced at the Christmas services. The beauty of its style of architecture won the admiration of the Pontiff, Father Reardon said.

The ancient basilica style is followed in the construction of the Basilica of St. Mary. Its foundation stone was laid in 1903 and the church opened for worship in 1914. It was not until 1923, however, that funds were on hand for its interior decoration. Father Reardon has now announced that the interior will be completed before Easter.

Already a new marble high altar has been installed, together with a choir loft and statuary, and the walls and ceiling have been finished. Sixty stained glass windows are now being put in at a cost of \$50,000. There will be eight smaller altars of marble and eight marble confessionals. The Stations of the Cross also will be of marble. A pulpit of Mankato stone and an imposing group depicting the Crucifixion already are in place.

Bishop Passenger In Bolivia's First Mail Airplane

La Paz, Bolivia, Dec. 15.—Notables from every part of the nation attended the christening and blessing of the airplane presented to the Bolivian Government by the German colony of the country on the occasion of the first centennial of the national independence. The airplane, the first of the line, will establish a regular service between Cochabamba and Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

This centennial was the occasion for many expressions of good will toward the Bolivian people by foreign residents of the country. The Spanish colony presented to the nation a fine statue of Queen Isabella the Catholic, which will be erected on the principal square of the city. The Italian colony gave a statue of Columbus, and the French a statue of "Boltz," "The Great Liberator." The great difficulty of communications in Bolivia led the German colony to present the "Junkers" plane with a motor especially constructed for high altitude flying.

The presentation and christening of the plane was a great event. It was held at Alto de La Paz, a high ridge overlooking the city, the site of the national aviation school. After the presentation had been made by Herr Jastram, representing the German colony, Monsignor Rivero, Bishop Coadjutor of Santa Cruz, speaking in the name of the bishop of that diocese, the aged, Mons. Santhaban, thanked the German colony for its gift and blessed the plane. The President of the Republic then made a formal address on behalf of the civil authorities, after which Mons. August Siefert recited the liturgical prayers and christened the plane "Orient," an appropriate name since it is to serve the eastern parts of the country.

One of the first passengers in the new plane was Bishop Rivero, who returned to his see of Santa Cruz in the "Orient."

U. S. Funds Finish Old People's Home At Oberammergau

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Oberammergau, Dec. 11.—Oberammergau's new home for the aged, built with contributions of American friends, has been completed and the City Council of this little village has adopted a resolution officially expressing the gratitude of the community to those who made the building possible. There is an interesting background to the completion of the new home. During the last Passion Play Mr. and Mrs. Anton Lang (Mr. Lang, it will be remembered, was the Christus of the play) began collecting funds for a home for the aged, an institution which had long been needed in Oberammergau. Shortly after the completion of the building had been laid, however, the inflation of the German mark had reached such proportions that the funds collected became valueless and work was stopped. The Langs refused to give up and appealed to friends in the United States. There was a generous response and the building has been completed.

When the home was completed the City Council adopted the following resolution:

"With the aid of charitable donations gathered in the United States by Mr. and Mrs. Anton Lang, a home for the aged was commenced in Oberammergau. This home is now completed. The City Council of Oberammergau hereby offers most heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to this charitable enterprise."

(Signed) "WILHELM RUTZ, 'Bürgermeister' of Oberammergau."

The home for the aged is a substantial three-story brick annex to the hospital, which stands on an elevation south of the village. Its windows command a superb view of the picturesque valley of the Ammer, the Kofel, the Passion Play Theater, and other scenes dear to the hearts of the villagers.

Cornwall Shows Moss Taken To Catholic Church

LONDON, Dec. 15.—A change in the attitude toward non-Catholics in Cornwall, England, is shown by the fact that the Catholic Church has been asked to take possession of a moss which has been growing in the churchyard since the time of the Reformation.

Catholics are now being asked to take possession of the moss, which has been growing in the churchyard since the time of the Reformation. The moss is a relic of the old religion and is said to be a relic of the old religion.

German Women And Who Take Religious Views

Berlin, Dec. 15.—The religious life of German women is being studied by a committee of the Reichstag. The committee is composed of members of the Reichstag and is charged with the task of studying the religious life of German women and reporting on the results of its study.

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Medieval Studies Academy Planned By Historians

Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 31.—An Academy for Medieval Studies was established here during the sixth annual meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association. Officers of the Association and a group of twenty priests participated in the establishment of the Academy, of which Professor Rand of Harvard was chosen president.

Officers of the Association elected for 1926 are as follows: President, Parker Thomas Moon, of Columbia University; First Vice-President, Richard M. Reilly, K.S.O., of Lancaster, Pa.; Second Vice-President, Clarence E. Martin, of Martinsburg, W. Va.; Treasurer, Rt. Rev. Magr. C. F. Thomas, of Washington; Secretary, Rev. Peter Guldady, Washington; Assistant Secretary, Rev. Edward J. Hickey, Detroit; Archivist, Miss Frances Louise Trew, Washington; and members of the Executive Council, Lawrence Flick, James J. Walsh, Carlton J. H. Hayes, Robert Howard Lord, Monsignor Francis X. Wastl, and Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Shahan.

The membership committee reported a gain of seventy-five members during the past year, bringing the total for 1925 up to 450.

Orthodox Rabbis Protest

The Union of Orthodox Rabbis has protested against Dr. Wise's views and demanded that his resignation from the Chairmanship of the United Palestine Appeal be accepted. This body describes Dr. Wise's remarks as "a maneuver toward baptism, a wide opening of the doors of the churches for the youth."

The union charges that "on more than one occasion Dr. Wise made speeches on the same subject, preaching about Christianity publicly, which are harmful to the large masses of the House of Israel and the Jewish youth in this country," and then declares that "he surpassed himself last Sunday and preached on a subject which threatens to tear down the barrier which has existed between us and the Christian Church for over 1900 years—which may drive our children to conversion."

China Catholic School Given First Prizes

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Peking, China, Dec. 21.—Pupils from the Sacred Heart School here have won first prizes in English, Chinese, Ethics, Classics, and History. In competition with pupils from all the regular grade schools of the country. The examinations were held by order of the local mandarin. Sacred Heart School, one of the institutions fostered by the Maryknoll missionaries, has been officially recognized as a government school by the Provincial Board of Education.

The results of the examinations were distinctly surprising to the other schools here. It had been assumed that Sacred Heart pupils would excel in English, but their success in the other branches also caused consternation among the native teachers.

The examinations were held just after the other schools had participated in parades carrying banners urging that foreigners be driven out of China. Shortly thereafter when a local war seemed impending the natives sought safety for themselves and their valuables in the mission—even the judges asking the missionaries to keep their seals of office. The war was short and caused no damage however, and the affair merely served to indicate that there was no real feeling against the foreign missionaries. The demonstration had been the result of the efforts of skilled agitators.

Fribourg University Getting Back To Its Pre-War Enrollment

Fribourg, Dec. 20.—The Catholic University of Fribourg has published the following figures in regard to its present enrollment:

While 580 students matriculated for the summer semester, the opening of the fall term witnessed the registration of 605 students, an increase over the previous year, which would seem to indicate that enrollment will soon compare with the years before the war. The establishment of a chair of anatomy is expected to increase the enrollment still further.

Of the total number of students 258 are registered in the School of Theology; 143 in the Law School; 104 in the philosophy course and 300 in the mathematics and science course.

Switzerland claims 351 of these students and the remaining 254 are distributed among the following nationalities: France 73, Germany 28, United States 34, Holland 23, Poland 17, Lithuania 11, Italy 10, Great Britain and Ireland 9, Spain 8, Yugoslavia 7, Austria 4, Hungary and Luxembourg 3 each, and one from each of the following countries: Russia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Rumania, Liechtenstein, Denmark, Canada, Peru, Chili, Colombia, Persia, Japan and Oceania.

Ursulines Receive Papal Blessing At Pontifical Mass

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cleveland, Dec. 25.—Pontifical Mass in St. John's Cathedral was celebrated here this morning by Rt. Rev. Joseph Schrembs for the Ursuline Sisters who held their diamond jubilee in August.

Bishop Schrembs was in Europe at the time of the observance and on his return promised the Sisters that he would offer pontifical Mass for them before the end of the year.

The congregation which numbered about 1,000 sisters, comprised not only the Ursulines but representatives of the other teaching orders of women in Cleveland. It was the first time such a service was held in the cathedral or in the diocese. The Ursulines were the pioneers in the work of religious education of the youth in the diocese. They came from France upon the invitation of Bishop Amadeus Rappe 75 years ago.

Bishop Schrembs told the congregation after the Mass this morning that during his audience with the Holy Father early last summer he told the Supreme Pontiff of the coming jubilee of the Ursulines and reviewed their work briefly. The Holy Father, he said, had expressed keenest interest in the occasion and directed him to bestow the Apostolic Blessing upon the Ursulines and their work and to include the plenary indulgence. These were given at the end of the Mass.

Bishop Schrembs also expressed his appreciation of the work the Ursulines and the other orders are doing in Catholic education.

The address for the occasion was given by Magr. Edward A. Pace of the Catholic University at Washington, who embodied a tribute to the founder of the Ursuline order and to the work of the Ursulines in the diocese as well as the sisterhoods in general.

"Such consecration," he said, "means a pledging of one's self to a work that is of the utmost importance and the pledge knows of no recall and continues during life. It means a devotion not to any merely human purpose, not to any ambition or object for which the world praises—it means the giving of one's self over entire forever to God to serve God."

Today perhaps more than ever Magr. Pace said, "those who think are coming to realize that the Catholic Church is right and has been right all along to maintain schools in which children are taught duty, obedience to law, their responsibility to God, the attainment of eternal life—in a word religion."

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Church Pioneer In Journalism, Author Asserts

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

New York, Dec. 23.—Declaring that the Catholic Church had been the pioneer in fostering journalism as it had been in the other professions, William H. Gregory, New York newspaperman, told the members of the Association of American Schools and Departments of Journalism, at the Newspaper Club last night that St. Peter Canisius founded the first school of journalism in the Sixteenth Century.

Mr. Gregory said that the famous Jesuit scholar had founded his "College of Authors" during the stirring days of the Lutheran controversy in Germany with funds supplied by Pius V. This institution was designed to develop Catholic writers to combat the assaults on the Church by the propagandists of Lutherism.

Professor James Malvin Lee, of the New York University School of Journalism, was host to the instructors of journalism from all parts of the country.

Among those present were Willard G. Bleyer and Grant Hyde, of the University of Wisconsin; F. G. Lazelle and W. S. Maulsby, University of Iowa; M. G. Osborne, Louisiana State University; A. L. Stone, University of Montana; Gerald W. Johnson, University of North Carolina; J. O. Simmons and Samuel Cahn, of Syracuse University; Nelson A. Crawford, Kansas State College; James V. Clarke, Albion College, and Miss M. V. Garner, of Wesleyan University, Macon, Ga.

Mr. Gregory is author of "Brother Andre," which is now in its third printing. He has been an active newspaperman in New York for ten years and has reported most of the important news events during that period. He is now engaged in the preparation of a historical sketch of the famed shrine at St. Anne de Beaure.

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Recitation of Nicene Creed In Cincinnati Led By Archbishop

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cincinnati, Dec. 23.—The sixteenth centenary of the Nicene Creed was celebrated by Catholics of Cincinnati Sunday night, December 27, as a fitting close to the Holy Year. The event was the occasion also for a public recognition of the patronal feast of Archbishop John T. McNicholas, who presided at the services commemorating the Nicene centenary in St. Peter's Cathedral.

Following a brilliant sermon by Rev. Thomas M. Schwertner, the noted Dominican writer and preacher, the archbishop led the assembled faithful and priests in the recitation of the ancient creed.

Archbishop McNicholas prefaced the recital with a few stirring observations inspired by the centenary. "It is a marvelous thing," he declared, "that we today can assemble in the temple of God and subscribe to these words formulated 1,600 years ago; it is a marvelous thing to know that 1,600 years from now or 1,600 times 1,600 years from now the bishops and the people of the Church can subscribe to these same words."

The recent "fundamentalist" controversies, Father Schwertner said in his sermon, had no more than passing interest for Catholics because the "fundamentalist" problem was settled for them at least 1,600 years ago when the Nicene Fathers drew up the creed as the expression of the beliefs held by the Catholic Church from the time of the Apostles.

Pittsburgh Parish's Financial Showing

Pittsburgh, Jan. 2.—The financial statement of the Sacred Heart Church for the year 1925 was distributed to the congregation on January 1, by the pastor, Rev. Thomas F. Coakley, D.D. It shows that the total cash receipts of the parish during the year were \$158,141.62. After paying all expenses incident to the management of the church, school, and the new church that is in course of erection, there remained \$86,253.23 to be applied toward the reduction of the present debt of the parish.

This showing was achieved without any special drive for funds, the entire revenue of the parish being derived from the ordinary income through church collections.

The parish has in course of construction an entirely new parish plant on the finest site in the city of Pittsburgh, to cost some \$2,000,000, and it will be occupied partially during the early summer.

Catholic Council Formed By English Trade Unionists

London, Dec. 15.—The Catholic Council of English Trade Unionists, formed by Catholic trade unionists, met at a meeting of the council of study at the headquarters of the Catholic Council of English Trade Unionists in 1925.

The objects of the council are:

- (1) To create a wider and more active interest among Catholic trade unionists in the future development and policy of the trade union movement.
- (2) To be well informed and to take part in all matters of general interest to trade unionists.
- (3) To provide facilities for close examination and study of theory and practice of trade unionism, with special reference to day problems, with a view to arriving at a more intelligent and effective action.
- (4) To encourage an active and constructive attitude towards the trade union movement, and to assist in the work of the Catholic Council of English Trade Unionists.

The idea of forming a Catholic Council of English Trade Unionists was first suggested by the Rev. Fr. John A. Ryan, S.J., who is now in the United States.