

INTERNATIONAL

NEW DIOCESES BUDDHISTS IN U. S.

Annuario Lists New Dioceses

Vatican Year Book Carries New Data

VATICAN CITY (NO) — The Annuario Pontificio, official year-book of the Church, the only other new diocese in the Western Hemisphere is Pinar, Suffragan See of Havana. Two other dioceses created in 1940 are in Africa, India and Malaysia.

The elevation of the Vicariate Apostolic of Hawaii to the rank of a Diocese occurred after the Annuario had gone to press.

For the first time in an Annuario, a priest from the United States — the Very Rev. Dr. Francis James Brennan of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia — appears on the list of Apostolic Provisors of the Sacred Roman Rota.

The "little red book," one of the most important directories in the world, has increased from 1,225 pages in 1940 to 1,396 in 1941. The increase is due to an increase in ecclesiastical jurisdictions which advanced from 1,712 to 1,793 within the year, and also to additional information regarding the distribution of the 17,139 apostles who labor in the mission field under the direction of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith. Statistics regarding these 17,139 apostles, 4,416 Brothers and 12,723 Sisters, compiled according to the jurisdictions in which they serve, appear in the 1941 Annuario for the first time.

At Mass for Stricken France



In St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, a solemn Mass was celebrated for the suffering people of France, by Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, who is pictured in that occasion with Count de Maigrot, French Ambassador to the United States. (N.C.W.C.)

How Ireland Prepares For Easter

By LELLA CARROLL
(W. Mass for N. C. W. C. Easter Supplement)

From the earliest Christian times down to the present day, Easter-tide in Ireland has always been celebrated with great rejoicing. In the dark centuries, when penal laws prevailed and Catholics were ruthlessly persecuted, the external signs of spiritual joy had to be suppressed, but in their hearts our forefathers kept alive the light of faith. From its unquenching spark was kindled the fire that has burned so steadily through the ages — analogous to that Easter flame which is kindled from hill-top to hilltop throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Ireland's remote preparation for this greatest festival of the Church may be said to begin with Lent which with its austere time of prayer and penance, whetted by solemn pastoral from the Bishops to their people, admonishing, directing, inspiring. In former centuries the Lenten fast was generally observed, but in modern times classes of laborers in town or country carried out their heavy tasks cheerfully on the regulation "one meal and a collation" per day throughout the forty days of the Lenten season. So the men and women in every walk of life nowadays the regulations governing the Lenten fast are very frequently modified, and in special circumstances suspended, but in our diocese the strict rule is still observed.

Though the ecclesiastical regulations may be relaxed, the spirit of penance is abroad, and in response to the appeal for stillness of prayer and penance made by many men, including those who are fond of pleasure, renouncing tobacco or alcoholic drink and curtailing legitimate amusements for the period of Lent. Many reduce their attendances at the cinema, some cut it out completely during Lent. Dancing enthusiasts similarly curtail their activities. The children, too, join their fathers in the Lenten observance. Evening lots forego such simple pleasures as candies and will stoutly refuse them when offered.

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The Minister of the Sovereign Order of Malta and Myron C. Taylor, the personal representative of the President of the United States, arrived in Havana, Cuba, on the night of March 29. The Minister of the Sovereign Order of Malta and Myron C. Taylor, the personal representative of the President of the United States, arrived in Havana, Cuba, on the night of March 29.

During the less than two years since he became Pontifex, His Holiness Pius XII has created 23 residential sees, four Abbeys and Prelatures Nullius, and 19 Vicariates, Prefatures and Missions.

There are 473 ecclesiastical jurisdictions in the Western Hemisphere. The United States and Brazil each have more than twice the number in Canada, which is third in line with 90 jurisdictions. The United States has 117, including the Vicariate Apostolic of Alaska. Brazil has 101. But Canada has a higher percentage of Metropolitan Sees — 11 out of 30; whereas there are only 19 in the United States and 17 in Brazil.

The 1941 Annuario, which designates for the first time the number of priests and Religious at work in the ecclesiastical jurisdictions of America, Africa, Asia, Oceania, dependent upon the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith, reveals certain interesting and pertinent facts.

The greatest number of these missionary priests (4,881) and Brothers (1,167) are in China, but the country having the largest number of these missionary Sisters (10,928) is Australia.

The Sacred Congregation has 10,852 priests, 3,000 Brothers and 20,000 Sisters in Asia; 3,119 priests, 2,617 Brothers and 11,144 Sisters in Africa; and 2,418 priests, 2,185 Brothers and 12,807 Sisters in Oceania. The figures for the Americas are 1,300 priests, 500 Brothers and 2,096 Sisters.

Missionaries in Alaska

There are 36 of these priests, 100 Brothers and 87 Sisters in the Vicariate Apostolic of Alaska, and 50 priests, 125 Brothers and 414 Sisters in seven Vicariates in Canada. In the West Indies — exclusive of Cuba, Haiti, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic — which do not have dependencies of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith — there are 202 priests, 110 Brothers and 284 Sisters.

There are no Italian-Catholic missions in France but in addition to the Canadian Vicariate of the Archdiocese of Paris and Lyons, the Bishop of Lille and the Bishop of the Diocese of Amiens.

Article Cites Failure Of Soviet Godless Museums

VATICAN CITY (NO) — An article, which quotes from the Soviet Godless newspaper, Antireligion, is cited in the failure of the chain of anti-religious museums set up in Russia to spread atheism, has been published in Observator Romano.

Among the various instruments employed in atheistic propaganda in Russia the anti-religious museum found most favor with Communist officials," the article said. "From the beginning of the Bolshevik regime, in October, 1917, exhibitions were set up in Moscow, Leningrad and other large population centers with the object of showing the 'purely reactionary' and 'bourgeois' character of religion."

In recent years the number of these museums has been greatly increased. The principal ones, in addition to those of Moscow and Leningrad, are to be found in Baku, Kiev, Ivanov, Orel, Ufa, Ufa, Voronezh, Khmipropel, Khar'kov, Kiev, Samarkand, Smolensk, Odonnikidze, Sverdlovsk, Minsk, Tbilisi, Jerevan, Khabarovsk and Penza.

"But notwithstanding this wide-spread chain of museums, these exhibitions have failed by far to achieve the desired end, since the Godless publication, Antireligion, is maintaining a thorough reorganization. This necessity arises, the Soviet organ says, by the fact that too often the museums, after they have been established, are abandoned to their fate by the Communist authorities.

"It very often turns out, also, that the museums devoted to the study of other than desired effects on visitors. Even in the central museum in Moscow it is not unusual to see a visitor kneeling in prayer before the ikon."

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Interned Frenchmen Set Up 'University' In Nazi Prison Camp

VICKEY, France — Returning from Oflag II-D, German concentration camp for prisoners of war, Gustave Minnie, French veteran, has told how priests, professors, lawyers, engineers and business men among the prisoners have set up a "university" in the camp for the intellectual development and spiritual welfare of the inmates.

Hourly lectures, he said, are delivered. A Mitered Abbot lectured on the contemplative life in a chapel of the camp. Lectures were given by 500 interned army officers. He was requested to deliver additional lectures on the liturgy of the dead and on the Breviary.

Chinese Offer Son For Priest's Cure

YUANLING, China — Rarely has a finer proof of loyalty on the part of Christians to their priest ever been given than was given when the Rev. Marcellus White, C.P., fell critically ill shortly after Christmas.

Lumen Service reports that Christians throughout the mission, especially the refugees, who withdrew to the interior, were asked to visit to his speedy recovery and asking that Masses be said for his intention.

Most touching of all was the act of a man and his wife whose attend was accompanied with a sealed envelope in which they offered their only son to God as a petition that the priest's life should be spared.

For two weeks the priest hovered between life and death with Sisters and two physicians in constant attendance, but finally the crisis passed and he was pronounced out of danger.

New Bishops Named In Canada and Chile

VATICAN CITY — The appointment of a Bishop in Canada and two in Chile were announced at Vatican City today.

The Rev. Edward G. Jennings, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, was named Titular Bishop of Sisa and Auxiliary Bishop of Vancouver.

The Rev. Robert Merain Martinez, Secretary of the Curia of the Diocese of Rancagua, Chile, was appointed Bishop of Linares, Chile, and the Rev. Arthur M. Burdick, Rector of the Seminary at Concepcion, Paraguay, was named Titular Bishop of Parnaso and Auxiliary Bishop of Antofagasta.

INDIA BISHOPS START FUND FOR FAMINE VICTIMS

CHANGANACHERY, INDIA — The Most Rev. James Kallacherry, Bishop of Changanacherry, in a pastoral appeal to the clergy and laity for cooperation in the famine relief work he has inaugurated.

The Bishop already has started a "Famine Relief Fund" for the poor laborers of Central Travancore. Unemployment there is ripe because the war has hampered the cotton industry. The victims of famine are helped by the Fund through the personal efforts of the clergy, the laity, or through the agency of special committees. In each parish poor school boys are fed every day in many Catholic schools of the district by these committees. This work, it is being extended to other areas of the diocese.

Easter Water Blessed

Blessed water in one of the varieties of holy water, so called because it is blessed with special ceremonies and distributed to the people on Holy Saturday, was of Easter.

There are three German Cardinals: The Archbishops of Breslau, Munster and Vienna. Spain and the United States each have two, and the remaining eleven are Belgian, Polish, Bohemian, English, Irish, Hungarian, Portuguese, Syrian, Canadian, Brazilian and Argentinian.

Bishop Plays Star Role In Film To Encourage Religious Vocations

MADRID (NO) — For the first time in the history of the cinema, a Catholic Bishop has played the stellar role in a motion picture. The scene: Barcelona. The lead: The Most Rev. Miguel Diaz y Gomez, Bishop of Cartagena and Administrator of Barcelona. The title: "The Priesthood." The theme: Encouragement of religious vocations, especially to the priesthood, to meet the needs of the Church in Spain.

Bishop, clergy, seminarians and personnel of the seminary entered against the background of the Barcelona seminary, the life of seminarians and of priests, their occupations and apostolate. The sacred ministry is presented to the public, via the screen, with the sublime drama of the heroic limits in which we are being: priests in ruins, the dying last without consolation, children in remote towns with no priest to baptize them or instruct them. Masses celebrated in inadequate, and inappropriate places, confessions along the road in the forest — all illuminated by the grace of a first Mass and hope in a happy immortality. The film is interesting as well as instructive; a Christian reality presented through recourse to artistic numbers. The Province of Salamanca within a short period supplied 25 seminarians. In some cities the municipal authorities are encouraging the campaign. The Deputation of Navarra has established 26 houses at the Seminary of Pamplona.

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