

LONDON MOTHER PROUD TO LEARN CHILDREN HELP SPREAD FAITH IN WALES

LONDON. — A London mother whose two children have been sent for safety to Wales, glowed with pride when she read in the Catholic papers here the report of a priest, sent to the Bishop of Merioneth, declaring that the Catholic children were helping to convert Wales and calling them "little missionaries."

"I have two girls in the Rhonda Valley," the mother has written to the priest. "If they have helped even a tiny bit in preparing the ground for the conversion of Wales then the separation and sadness at their absence from home and parents will be changed to joy and thanksgiving."


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A VICTIM OF NAZI REPRISAL RAID



Demolition and repair workers begin to clear the damage done the Catholic Church of St. John, in Bath, England, one of several churches hit during a recent "reprisal" air raid on the city. Photo passed by censure. (N.C.W.C.)

Mighty Apostolate Looming For Oriental Rite Priests Seen

NEW YORK. — Priests of the Oriental Rites "must be ready and waiting for the mighty apostolate which looms ahead" for them, writes the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonnell, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in a statement commenting on the August Mission Intention of His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

The intention is "For Native Clergy of the Oriental Rites in the Near East."

"At the conclusion of the last war interest lingered for a time in the plight of the peoples of the Near East, many of whom were starving and homeless because of invasion and pillage," Monsignor McDonnell said. "Gradually, however our concern lessened and we lapsed into indifference from which we are now suddenly jolted by the imminence of today's struggle for the natural resources of this same Near East."

He added that according to statistics furnished by the Near East Association in New York, there are in the area some 180,000,000 Christians, only 8,000,000 of whom are united with the Church of Rome.

"The majority of these 8,000,000 Catholics belong to the Oriental rites, which, in most instances are more ancient than the Roman rite to which we belong," he declared.

"The fostering of vocations," Monsignor McDonnell asserted, "the careful training of aspirants and the watchful guidance as well as monetary aid to the priests of these rites are of paramount importance particularly at the present time. A mere reading of the names of the countries where these rites flourish will furnish the clue for the Holy See's request for the prayers of the faithful. The Balkans, the Ukraine, Russia, Northern Africa, Iran, Iraq, Transjordan, coastal India! Certainly the native Catholic priests in these territories need our prayerful intercession now and during the trying days ahead."

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500 in Service
 Montreal. — The Loyola College Contingent of the Canadian Officers Training Corps is to go to a new camp for training this summer. The unit will gather August 15 at Farnham Summer Camp. The Very Rev. Edward Brown, S. J., Rector of the College, has revealed that men on active service from the unit now number more than 400.

Departure of Nuns For Osage Mission Recalls Indians' Long Fight For Catholic Schools

PHILADELPHIA.—There is an interesting history in back of the Osage Mission, which has just been taken over by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, from their Motherhouse at Cornwall Heights, Pa. The departure of a group of Sisters for the Osage Reservation in Oklahoma, where they will conduct both the St. Louis Boarding School and Immaculate Conception Parish School, at Pawhuska, took place yesterday.

Back of the mission lies the colorful story of the desire on the part of the Osages themselves for Catholic missions and Catholic teachers and their inability to realize this hope for more than half of the last century. It was Katharine Drexel, who a few years later was to found the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, who first came to their assistance by erecting St. Louis School for them in 1887. There is more than a coincidence in the fact that 55 years later the members of her community take over the work on this reservation at the cordial invitation of the Most Rev. Kelley, Bishop of Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

Petition to President Grant

As far back as 1867 when the Osage Indians were removed from Kansas to the Indian Territory, they addressed a petition to President Grant reminding him of their desire to have Catholic missionaries among them.

"When we signed the treaty of that date (1867)," the petition said, "the commissioners who made it promised if we would sign it we would have our missionaries. We have sought every opportunity to remind our Great Father of his promise and we hope that he will have it carried out in good faith. Your Government is our protector. It asks us to become civilized and we are endeavoring to take your advice as fast as we can. Your Government asked us to embrace your religion and we have done so; and in doing so we have chosen the Catholic religion. In doing this we have only followed your example and exercised those privileges that a good God has given us, and that no earthly power has any right to take away."

Year after year they sent similar petitions, but their requests remained unanswered. On May 15, 1877, they addressed another petition to Washington, this time to President Hayes. It said, in part: "During the Osage treaty with the Government officers, in 1870, at Drum Creek, for the balance of our lands in Kansas, the Osages, in their private council, unanimously agreed that the Catholic schools should be continued on their reservation, and expressed their unanimous will to the Government Commissioners."

"This treaty at Drum Creek was signed by the Osages, but, having been forced to sign it by threats from the part of the Commission-

ers, the said treaty has not been ratified by the President, however, Congress passed a new law for Indian lands. By this law, the Osages' land in Kansas was transferred to the United States Government, so that the Osages had no chance to defend their rights and provide for their Catholic schools.

Delegation Sent to Washington

The Osages refused to be daunted and sent a delegation to Washington to explain their grievances. Unfortunately this delegation was sent back without a hearing. Concluding their list of grievances the Osages said:

"However, Commissioner J. Q. Smith found means to reopen schools at the Osage agency, and the Osages being reduced to poverty, and being no longer allowed to send their children to the Catholic schools, have been all obliged to send them to the agency schools for food and raiment."

"The grievances of the Osages being not diminished but rather on the increase, another delegation was sent to Washington in the beginning of this year, 1877, we fear with the same discouraging result."

"May we not hope that our Grand Father, the President, will have pity on the Osages and grant to the Osages the desires of our heart, viz., Catholic schools and Catholic missionaries, Catholic teachers for our children. Under their care the Osages will take courage to cultivate their lands and live by industry."

It was at the request of Katharine Drexel that the Franciscan Sisters of Glen Riddle, Philadelphia, agreed to staff the St. Louis Mission for the Osages. They taught there until 1915 when it was transferred to the Sisters of Loreto of Kentucky. The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People have now added the Osage Mission to their United States missionary program of 43 missions, including six missions among the Navajo, Pueblo, Winnebago, Sioux and Apache Indians.

Children Play In Lot, Find Stolen Chalice
 QUABEC (NC) — While playing in a lot here, two children found two valuable chalices which had been stolen some time ago from the Rev. Maurice Dionne and the late Monsignor Gignac. The discovery was made at the same place in which other sacred vessels stolen from St. Matthew's Church had been found by children a year ago.

DENY POPE WILL ISSUE NEW ENCYCLICAL ON PEACE PLANS IN MID-AUGUST

VATICAN CITY. — Reports in secular news dispatches that His Holiness Pope Pius XII plans to issue in mid-August an Encyclical defining his "ideas of a basis for negotiated peace and post-war world plans" were emphatically denied at the Vatican July 21.

Secular news reports from Vichy stated that "diplomatic circles" there had asserted that the Holy Father would issue a peace Encyclical in mid-August.

"Although there has been no announcement about the document by the Vatican or by Nuncios in the various capitals," one secular news service dispatch said, "all diplomats were reported to be aware that it is in preparation."

2 Priest Brothers

New Orleans. — Among relatives attending the First Solemn Mass of the Rev. John Elmer Toussaint, C.S.S.R., in St. Alphonsus Church were his brothers, Brother Joseph C. Toussaint, S.M. of St. Louis, and Frater Earl J. Toussaint, C.S.S.R., Mt. St. Clement's Novitiate, DeSoto, Mo.

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