Mission Sunday Program Stresses Reconstruction Tasks Ahead

New York — The National Council of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, at a meeting here, completed plans for the annual observance of Mission Sunday on October 21.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonnell, National Director, stressed the enormous reconstruction task confronting the missions. He said that "millions of dollars in property damage has already been incurred in the destruction of churches, schools, hospitals and orphanages throughout the Catholic mission fields, while the work of generations of tireless missionaries seems to have been undone."

"Eight long years in China," Monsignor McDonnell declared, "have scattered priests, Brothers and Sisters, together with millions of their people. The work of three centuries in the Philippines must be rebuilt from the very foundations and 100 years of effort in Oceania lies prostrate.

"Burma, Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies have all felt the devastating efforts of this world-wide war. Latest reports from Nagasaki, Catholic stronghold in Japan, as well as from Hiroshima, where St. Francis Xavier began mission work almost 300 years ago, indicated almost complete destruction in these cities. Hundreds of missionaries have been killed or incapacitated, and many need furloughs to regain their strength."

Monsignor McDonnell said that thousands of returning veterans have viewed first hand the tremendous achievements of our missionaries and have experienced the hardships they were forced to endure. Many of these young men and women, he said, are eager to engage in missionary work in all parts of the world. "Hundreds of the cream of our American youth are prepared to undertake this great task and will go to the missions at the earliest possible moment," he said. "The Society must prepare immediately for this greatly increased mission effort."

WILL OBSERVE MISSION SUNDAY

Bishops confer with National Director at Council Meeting to prepare for universal observance of Mission Sunday throughout the United States on October 21st. Left to right, Most Rev. Appollinaris Baumgartner, O. F. M. Cap., new Vicar Apostolic of Guam; Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonnell, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith; Most Rev. William J. Griffin, Bishop of Trenton, and Most Rev. J. Francis McIntyre, Auxiliary of New York. (NC Photos)

Cologne Cathedral Seen Restored in '48

Cologne — (NC) — The famous Cathedral, landmark of this metropolis on the Rhine, will again be restored to its former splendor by 1948, the year of the 700th anniversary of its foundation, if plans of the Most Rev. Joseph Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, can be realized.

Some 30,000 square feet of glass will have to be replaced, most of it having been destroyed during the many air raids on Cologne. The ancient stained-glass windows and art treasures had been stored away safely during the war and can now be restored to their former position.

Colored Students Ordained in 25 Years Number 19

Bay St. Louis, Miss. — (NC) — Nineteen students of St. Augustine's Seminary of the Society of the Divine Word, the only seminary in the United States exclusively for the Colored, have been ordained since the foundation of the seminary, which observes its silver jubilee here on October 18.

In the 50 years between 1895, when the Rev. James Henry, the first American Negro priest was ordained, and 1934, when the first class of St. Augustine's was ready for ordination, only 14 Negroes had been ordained in the United States. In addition to the 19 of St. Augustine's, [illegible] ordained before 1934 and the present day, seven from other seminaries have been already ordained, making a total of 40 [illegible] priests of color [illegible] K. M. [illegible] [illegible]

Catholic Party Gains Two Cabinet Posts

New York — (NC) — Membership in the Austrian Government was increased from 15 to 17 and the two new posts were entrusted to members of the Austrian People's (Catholic) Party, according to a broadcast of Radio Vienna, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission here.

The new members of the Government are Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Gruber, Provincial Governor of Tyrol, and Dr. Schumy, of Carinthia, Secretary of State for the Safeguarding of Property.

Seven representatives of the Austrian People's Party hold posts in the Austrian Cabinet as it now is constituted. Communists hold three posts in the Cabinet and Socialists hold five, while the other two posts are held by experts chosen from the Austrian civil service.

Thanksgiving Mass Opens Canada Bishops' Meeting

Quebec — (NC) — Forty-seven members of the Canadian Hierarchy, 500 priests and representatives of the Dominion, Provincial, and municipal governments assisted at a Pontifical Mass of Thanksgiving for Victory celebrated on Sunday in historic St. Roch Church here by His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec.

The Mass marked the opening of the plenary session of all members of the Canadian Hierarchy, this being the first such meeting since 1943.

His Excellency the Most Rev. Idebrando Antoniutti, Apostolic Delegate to Canada and Newfoundland, occupied a throne of honor in the sanctuary.

Fr. Stone Celebrates Mass in Seneca Falls

Seneca Falls — The 7:30 Mass on Sunday, Sept. 30, was offered by the Rev. John A. Stone, who was ordained a week ago in Ogdensburg. Father Stone is a brother of Mrs. John A. Bourdon, whose husband, Mr. Bourdon, is a member of the faculty of Mynderse Academy.

Father Stone studied at St. Bernard's Seminary and is at present continuing his studies at Washington University, Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Bourdon attended Father Stone's ordination and were present when he offered his first Mass at Churubusco, N. Y.

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