

### HOLY SEPULCHRE DOME MAY COLLAPSE



Collapse of the dome of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem is feared as new cracks appeared in the supporting masonry. Figures in the vaulting are constantly widening and a scaffolding has been placed around it in an effort to support the weakening structure. Technical difficulties postponed general repair work following a survey made by experts in 1934. In 1927 the church suffered severe damage in an earthquake. (NC Photos).

### Religion Best Atomic Bomb Defense Says Boston Prelate

Boston—(NC)—Religion is our greatest defense against the atomic bomb, against which there is seemingly no defense, Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, told 3,000 members of the Knights of Columbus at a special Mass on Armistice Day in Holy Cross Cathedral here.

The world is ripe for a spiritual renewal," the Archbishop said. "In this atomic age we need more men of God, spiritual men, men who will go frequently in spirit to Bethlehem and Cavalry to learn religious values."

"While Christians sleep, Communists work," the Prelate warned. "The Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, the Crib, the Cross and the Church must be taken more seriously if we are to survive."

"While forces of truth are idle, the weapons of evil are rampant; while 20-odd million Catholics and added millions of Christians of various denominations have been lulled to sleep by a false complacency and confidence, a mere handful of their enemies are multiplying themselves from cell to cell, from hamlet to hamlet and from city to city—confident that 'It Can Happen Here,' that they can take over."

"If they ever do," the Archbishop warned, "religion—all religion—will be the first victim. And when religion goes, the end is night. . . ."

### Reports Catholic U. At Salzburg, Planned

Tochay, Ill. — (NC) — A week's celebration was held at Salzburg, Austria, to stimulate interest in the founding of the Catholic University of Salzburg, it is reported in a letter received here from the Rev. Charles G. Erb, Army chaplain and Divine Word missionary, who attended the celebration.

The observance was conducted under the patronage of Archbishop Andreas Rohrer of Salzburg. Among the speakers was the Rev. Dr. William Schmidt, S.V.D., leading Catholic anthropologist, who spoke on the prehistory and history of peoples in western civilization. Father Schmidt was working to found the Catholic University of Salzburg when Hitler annexed Austria, and he was forced to take refuge in Switzerland.

Father Erb, a native of Rochester, N. Y., attended Holy Family School, Rochester, before entering the Society of the Divine Word.

### Spiritual Union Of Slavs Group Aim

Fragas — Plans are being made here for the organization of a Slavic Catholic Federation which aims at promoting spiritual union of all Slavs by cultivating spiritual contacts with Eastern Christians.

An appeal in the Catholic press by a preparatory committee was signed by a number of members of the Czechoslovak Hierarchy, including Archbishop Leopold Preca of Olomouc, and Catholic intellectuals. The appeal makes particular reference to the monastery at Velehrad, Moravia, hallowed by the memory of the brother Saints Cyril and Methodius, the apostles of the Slavs.

1000 Vets at Marquette Milwaukee — (NC) — A total of 1,079 war veterans, three times as many as in the last term, have registered for the new autumn-winter trimester at Marquette University under benefits of the GI bill of rights and the veterans' administration bill.

### How St. Thomas Evangelized India

Vatican City — (NC) — Evidence supporting the age-old tradition that India was first evangelized by St. Thomas, the Apostle, is presented in a recent issue of *Observatore Romano*. Immemorial Indian tradition, as well as the tradition of the Eastern and Western Churches, the article states, confirm the belief that the Apostle first brought the Gospel to India.

The existence of the "Christians of St. Thomas" in southern India give further assurance, the article says. The liturgy, customs and literature are intimately bound up with the tradition of St. Thomas. There are six ancient churches still extant, it notes, which tradition affirms were founded by the Apostle. Among their priests, titles such as sixth priest after St. Thomas, are common. From time immemorial, the article states, Mellapur, the small mount where the Apostle is reported to have been martyred and buried, has been the object of national pilgrimages.

According to Christian tradition St. Thomas reached Sindh in northern India about the year 50 and evangelized the district for two years. Before going to Malabar he consecrated the King's brother, Pado, God, Bishop of Sindh. At Malabar in southwestern India he preached the Gospel for eight years and then journeyed to Mallapur in southeastern India, where he suffered martyrdom.

### Poles Express Thanks For Bishops' Defense

Glasgow — (NC) — Poles will ever appreciate the efforts of the Hierarchies of American, England and Canada to dissuade their Governments from the policy which betrayed Poland into Soviet hands, John J. Campbell, secretary of the Scottish Committee for Polish Freedom, told an audience at St. Peter's in Glasgow here.

The loss of Poland is now overshadowed by the possibility of a greater tragedy, Mr. Campbell said, for the forces which have partly destroyed Christianity in Poland have now turned against the Church in other countries of Europe.

Answering charges that Poles persecuted Jews, Mr. Campbell said that hundreds of Jews had fled from Poland to other parts of Europe and that many had been paid with their lives for saving Jews from the Nazis.

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