

Pledges Tolerance Elected in Mexico

Mexico City — (RNS) — Addressing a campaign meeting in Chihuahua, Miguel Aleman, candidate of the government-backed PRM (Party of the Mexican Revolution), pledged that if elected President of Mexico for the 1946-52 term, he will respect all religious beliefs and continue the program of tolerance adopted during the presidency of Manuel Avila Camacho.

Alaskan Fire Leaves 63 School Children Homeless

Juneau — (NC) — Sixty-three Indian children of the Plus X Mission School, Skagway, Alaska, were left homeless in the midst of Skagway's first winter storm when fire destroyed their school. Built in 1931 at a cost of \$60,000, the school was covered by only \$20,000 insurance. It is reported here.

Sodality to Solicit Food Donations in St. Anthony's

At a recent meeting of the Young Ladies Sodality, St. Anthony's parish, Elmira the following were elected to office for the coming year: prefect, Mary Frances Mogros; vice prefect, Mary Spazani; secretary, Lena Caraccio and treasurer, Mary De Stefano.

A reception for new members will be held in the church on Sunday evening at 7:30 and a cordial invitation is extended to all young ladies of the parish to be present.

Following the services a program of entertainment has been arranged and refreshments will be served in the church hall.

The Young Ladies Sodality of the parish has undertaken the task of making a house to house

Lourdes Group Opens Meeting with Supper

The regular monthly meeting of the Altar and Rosary Society of Our Lady of Lourdes parish, Elmira, will be held on Tuesday evening commencing with a picnic supper at 6:30 p. m. in the church hall.

Election and installation of officers for the coming year will take place following the supper and the program will continue with a bazaar.

Mrs. William Donovan, Mrs. A. W. DeFilippo and Mrs. Youston Sekella are in charge of arrangements.

Members of the Altar and Rosary Society and Holy Name Society will receive Holy Communion in a body at the 9 o'clock Mass on Sunday.

Kathleen Donovan, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Donovan, Roe-Ave., is a patient at Arnot Ogden Hospital.

canvass in the interest of obtaining canned goods for relief in Europe and Asia.

A box has been placed at the entrance to the church to receive contributions and it is the hope of the committee that every member of the parish will do all possible to make this project an outstanding success.

The election of officers for St. Anthony's Holy Name Society will take place on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the church hall.

Novena to Close At St. Patrick's

Solemn closing of the Novena in honor of the Immaculate Conception now being held at St. Patrick's Church, Elmira, will take place Saturday evening at 7:30. The Rev. Vincent J. Raetz O.P. of New York City is conducting the services.

At Saturday evening's closing services the papal blessing will be imparted to all those in attendance who have made the Novena.

The Sodality of Our Lady will hold a Silver Tea on Sunday from 3 until 5 in the afternoon in the school assembly rooms.

Mrs. James A. Frost, chairman will be assisted by the following: Mesdames Arthur Nolan, Wilfrid Underwood, Justin McCarthy, Eugene Agan, Peter Shields, Edward Reidy, Raymond Rogers, Edwin Jensen, Gerald Loughlin, Clark Kerwan, Robert Powell, John Moriarty, William Schiefen, Mary Owens and the Misses Helen Ganey, Frances Burns, Kathleen Hughes, Mary Custy and Mary Donovan. Music arrangements are in charge of Kathleen O'Hara.

Enlists in Army

Corning — Bernard F. Miller, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Miller of 226 Sly Ave., has enlisted in the Army and reported for duty at Fort Hancock, N. J. He is a graduate of St. Vincent de Paul's School and Northside High School and has been employed at Corning Glass Works Fall Brook Division as draftsman trainee in the Engineering Department.

Pvt. Miller's brother, Staff Sgt. Charles C. Miller has been missing in action in Germany since April of this year.

Fr. Tormey Visits Molokai Lepers

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This proved to be a 45 minute trip down the steep rocks on a meandering donkey trail. Coming back we rode on little sure-footed donkeys.

"We lunched with the priest chaplain and 3 brothers, all of the Order of the Sacred Hearts and visited the house of the Franciscan Sisters who run the Hospital. Two of the nine sisters used to work at Mercy Hospital, Sister Carmelita and Sister Mary Margaret. It was a pleasure to see how happy they were to hear about names and places in Central New York.

"Some of my companions went by car to visit the old church and home of Father Damien (he never lived to see the present colony) but I was taken on a guided tour of the Sisters hospital to get a close up view of the lepers. There are over 300 in the colony but only 40 or 50 sick enough to be patients in the hospitals. The others live with their families in community groups around the bright and neat colony.

"The whole atmosphere despite the grotesque conditions of the patients is clean and happy and the place is filled with magnificent color of flowers and scenery. The place is run and administered by the Territory of Hawaii and the Sisters and Brothers are maintained by Territory funds to run the Hospital. The priest has been there 22 years and some of the Sisters more than 10. Besides the fine Catholic Church there are Mormon and Presbyterian churches."

Father Tormey concluded his letter: "A few Sundays ago I visited Sister Miriam David in Honolulu. Her convent is about 45 minutes ride from here. We had a nice chat and I promised to return to visit the large school which over 800 children attend and of which she is assistant superior. Sister Miriam David is also going to help me with my outdoor Christmas Midnight Mass." Sister Miriam David is a member of the Maryknoll Sisters and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Donovan, Parker Street, Auburn.

Mrs. Jennie Baetzel Rites Held in Corning

Corning — Mrs. Jennie T. Baetzel, 59, of 226 W. Second St., died Nov. 27, at her home. She was born in Ludlowville, the daughter of Matthew and Mary Massick and was united in marriage with James Baetzel in St. Mary's Church in 1909.

Survivors include a son, John T. Baetzel, radioman second class with the Navy; one sister, Mrs. Margaret Bennett of Corning; two brothers, Thomas and Frank Sotch of Corning.

Funeral services were held from the late home at 8:30 a. m. Thursday and at 9 o'clock in St. Mary's Church. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Dying Chaplain Gave Absolution as Prison Ship Sank in Pacific

Honolulu — (NC) — Father James W. O'Brien, Army chaplain from San Francisco, last was seen alive clinging to a piece of driftwood in the Pacific, giving absolution to those about him, following the sinking of a Japanese prison ship a year ago.

The story was told by survivors of the tragedy, who arrived here aboard the Navy transport Joseph T. Dickman. Father O'Brien, a priest, Army chaplain from San Francisco, lost his life in the same tragedy.

A boat of nine plants lost their lives in this sinking and the missing of another priest.

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