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**Polish Bishop Home From Exile in Britain**

London — (NC) — Bishop Charles Radonski of Wloclawek, Poland, who has been in London for the past three years as the Polish Hierarchy's representative on the Polish National Council, has left by sea for Gdynia, Polish Baltic port, to resume work in his own diocese. Illness had prevented his earlier return home. Bishop Radonski's return, it is said, now leaves only one Polish Bishop outside his native territory — the Most Rev. Joseph Gawlina, Bishop to the Polish Army, who is watching over the spiritual needs of about 250,000 soldiers and 1,000,000 displaced civilians in Germany.

**MANILA'S ARCHBISHOP RESTS**



Archbishop Michael J. O'Doherty of Manila, 71-year-old prelate who said "No" so many times to the Japanese military occupation authorities that he barely escaped with his life, is pictured as he recuperates at the Rest Home conducted by Sacred Heart parish, in Fairmount, N. C. He lost 26 pounds during the occupation, through which he was in "protective custody." With him in the photo is the Rev. John A. Brown, pastor. (NC Photos)

**N. C. C. W. Backs Housing Aid**

Washington (NC) — Pointing to the need for government aid to relieve the housing shortage, the National Council of Catholic Women has presented a statement from its Board of Directors to the Senate committee which has been holding hearings on the Wagner-Elender-Taft Housing Bill. In the letter accompanying the statement, Miss Ruth Craven, executive secretary of the Council, referred to previous resolutions, one adopted in 1935 and another in 1931, to show the organization's long-standing interest in improved housing. Calling for government aid to stimulate private building for middle-income groups, and a direct subsidy for low-income groups, the communication to the Senate Banking and Currency Committee also takes note of the acute need for housing returning servicemen and their families.

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**Deathbed Promise Made By Mexico 'Strong Man'**

By Dora Grace Erickson  
 (In the San Francisco Monitor)

Since the death of former President Calles of Mexico I have been asked frequently whether the former "Strong Man" returned to the faith before his death. The answer is unquestionably, no. There is no evidence that he at any time during his illness requested the spiritual services of a priest. He was buried with all the honors due to one who had been Mexico's highest dignitary but without the spiritual ministrations of the Church. The Strong Man may not have sought the Church he so bitterly persecuted during his presidential regime but the Church gave him every opportunity to do so. One of the editors of Excelsior, a leading newspaper of Mexico, recently published an article based upon a personal interview with the prominent Jesuit writer, the Rev. Carlos Heredia, which reveals the efforts the priest made over a period of years to bring Calles back to the faith of his fathers. Father Heredia first visited General Calles when he was in exile in San Diego. Father Heredia was also in San Diego giving a retreat to an exiled Mexican religious community who had been expelled from Mexico by Calles during the religious persecutions. Heredia gives the following detail of the preliminaries to that first interview. Picking up a small statue of the Infant Jesus which the Sisters used for their Christmas crib he said, "Sister Superior, I am going to steal this little statue. No Father, please, we brought it from Guadalupe. It was made in the pottery works at Tlaquepaque. Isn't it a beauty?" "Yes, that is why I am stealing it. It is St. General Calles'!" (One can imagine the bewilderment of the good religious.)

Years after that first meeting, and during the recent illness of President Calles, Father Heredia visited him at his home in Mexico City, and I quote from the published account of that interview: "I have brought you a little package of 'atomic bombs' (sweet cookies made of corn meal and traditionally cooked and sold only in the little stands in front of the Basilica, a traditional symbolic and nationally known delicacy). Father says that the President's eyes filled with tears as he said, 'You do not know how much I appreciate this, Father.' The following day Father Heredia took Calles a Miraculous Medal and said, 'You will accept it and wear it?' 'Yes, Father.' 'And do you know how to make an act of contrition?' 'Yes, I do.' 'Please do not fail to do it, and as a parting promise, General, if you were to get well would you agree to go with me to thank La Indita?' 'Think it over before answering.' The answer Father Heredia was so anxious to hear came quickly and clearly. 'If I get well I shall go. That was their last meeting before Calles died on the 19 of October of this year at the age of 68. He knew of the great demonstrations of the faith at the Basilica, and that in trying to extinguish the flame he had only fanned it to new vigor. He was aware too, that his people would forget the material benefits he had brought them and that in their memory his name would be forever linked to a great and noble personage.'

General Calles found time to call upon the forgotten Strong Man. He says that he said to Calles, "I went to call on 'La Indita' 'The little Indian' loving nickname of Our Lady of Guadalupe) and I prayed to her for." And I have brought you a little package of 'atomic bombs' (sweet cookies made of corn meal and traditionally cooked and sold only in the little stands in front of the Basilica, a traditional symbolic and nationally known delicacy). Father says that the President's eyes filled with tears as he said, "You do not know how much I appreciate this, Father." The following day Father Heredia took Calles a Miraculous Medal and said, "You will accept it and wear it?" "Yes, Father." "And do you know how to make an act of contrition?" "Yes, I do." "Please do not fail to do it, and as a parting promise, General, if you were to get well would you agree to go with me to thank 'La Indita'." "Think it over before answering."

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Nun Peace Leader Dies  
 Newark, N. J. — (NC) Sister Rose de Lima, founder of the Athlete's Club division of the Catholic Student Federation, died at St. Joseph's Hospital here after a year of illness. She was 71 years old.

**Holy Childhood Association**  
 Rev. John S. Randall  
 Director

Twelfth of the winning essays on mission topics is the following by an eighth grade pupil of St. Ann's School, Hornell: **SOME CUSTOMS OF INDIA** By Martha Benzamith. India is one of the strangest countries of all Asia. It is a densely populated country and its customs are as strange and numerous as its millions of people. Here, men disdain the world as evil, and money as base, and yet on certain days, will account their own books; and when allowed, will enter the mints and fall down to worship before piles of bullion. In India there is the widest intolerance in religious beliefs alongside the fiercest intolerance in social customs and caste rules. A caste is a distinct class of society, and a "jose" caste is one which loses social rank. This system influences and controls all life in India — no man's soul or body is his own. He is dominated by the class of men next higher than he. An untouchable, the lowest of the low, is without a doubt, the most miserable of all the creatures of the gods, for he has no rights, no freedom, no power. The great number of men belonging to this degrading position is appalling. If a boy in our country were to have a toothache, our parents would call in a doctor, but in India, they would call in a devil dancer to cast off the pain. Dancing is a religion in India, and the dancers are connected with the temples and are known as the servants of the gods because they dance and sing before their idols. They also dance at banquets, marriages and public entertainments. Not all of India, however, is pagan. Many years ago the great St. Francis Xavier worked among these people and gave his life to convert them. His dearest wish was to be buried in the country which he longed to see converted from idolatry to the worship of the one true God. Today noble Missionary priests and Sisters are carrying on the work which he started. Many schools, churches and dispensaries have been established by the great labor and sacrifice of these noble teachers of the Gospel of the one true God. We too can do our part, by cooperating in all Missionary activities.

Irish Gift to Poland  
 London — (CIP) — The Irish Hierarchy has offered the Polish Government in Exile a house in Paris which in the past served as a center for Irish students studying in the French capital. It will be used in future as a home for Polish students studying out of the country or some other institution of higher learning.