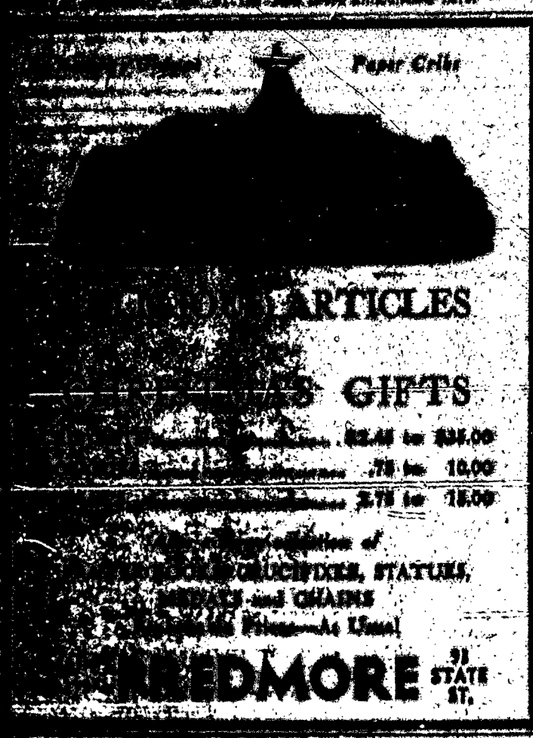
## ...Gains in Belgium

...Liberals is at the wane in this country.

In nine first free choice of parliamentary councils since 1932 the Christian Social party showed considerable strength in the large cities. In Ghent it gained a majority of the seats in Brussels the party took the lead away from the Liberals who had been in control of the city government for the past 100 years.

Dr. Matthew Fromstad

Washington — (NC) — Promotion to full professorship for Dr. Martin R. P. McGuire, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at The Catholic University of America since 1937 has been announced here.




## Church Unity Octave Set January 18-25

Washington — (NC)—Grown to the proportions of a world-embracing celebration in a comparatively short time, the 39th annual observance of the Church Unity Octave, eight days of prayer for the conversion of the world to Christ, will be held from January 18, Feast of St. Peter's Chair in Rome, to January 25, the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

While still a member of the Anglican Church, the Rev. Paul James Francis, S. A., founder of the Society of the Atonement, founded the prayer movement in 1908. He was appalled by the innumerable divisions in organized Christian religion, which motivated him to work for reunion of all men in Christ and in His Church. Even as an Anglican, Father Francis preached that all baptized Christians owed allegiance to the Pope.

On October 30, 1909, Father Francis entered the Catholic Church and into the fold with him came his entire Atonement community of Friars, Sisters and lay associates. He was ordained in 1910 and his Church Unity movement received the blessings of Pontiff.

In the United States, the principal observance of the Church Unity Octave is held at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the Catholic University of America campus in Washington. It is sponsored by the Friars of the Atonement in conjunction with the Clerical Conference of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade. Plans for the coming observance already are under way and the sponsors have announced that Bishop Vincent S. Waters of Raleigh, and the Very Rev. Joseph Fenton, of the School of Sacred Theology at Catholic University, will be among the speakers at the exercises held each evening during the octave.

## Noted Convert

Very Rev. Simon De Kanvait, who was recently received into The Catholic Church from the Jacobite church in Malabar, India. Without a church or rectory of his own, he has started a Catholic circulating library among his Jacobite friends, in the hope of winning some converts. (NC Photo)

## Response Generous In Clothing Campaign

Seneca Falls — St. Patrick's Parish responded most generously to the Clothes Drive which closed last Sunday. Pupils of the eighth grade, under the supervision of Sister Edward Marie, principal, are busy packing the garments for forwarding to a central warehouse.

### Catholics At Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh — (NC) — Catholics from the largest single religious group at the University of Pittsburgh this term, a registration analysis has disclosed. Of the 16,589 students enrolled, 9,170 indicated their religious affiliations and of these 2,954 listed themselves as Catholics, 2,913 Latin Rite Catholics and 41 Greek Rite Catholics.

## Warsaw Anti-Church Moves Are Stepped Up

New York—(NC)—The Warsaw regime is purposely increasing its pressure on the Church in Poland and its attacks on the Vatican to coincide with the visit of His Eminence August Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, to the Holy See, the Inter-Catholic Press Agency here reports.

Cardinal Hlond who a few days ago had an audience with His Holiness Pope Pius XII has planned to spend several weeks at the Vatican, where he journeyed after a visit of several days in Paris.

The pressure of Bierut's Government on the church is evident in new arrests, accusations and the sentencing of a priest to death, the agency reports. Simultaneous with the Cardinal's visit the government authorities staged the trial of Father Jankiewicz, who together with three others was sentenced to death. This is believed to be the first time that a Catholic clergyman has been sentenced to death in the whole history of Poland.

The agency charges that President Boleslaw Bierut had the same intention of putting pressure on the Church in mind when he attacked the Vatican and the Church in a recent interview published in the government newspaper. In his statements the Polish President had reportedly complained that "our country is ignored by the Vatican."

He had also threatened liquidation of the Church and the restriction of its rights if it were not "prepared to accept the new state of affairs in this country."

Other accusations, including those of hiding arms, are becoming more numerous, the press agency reports, adding that only a few days ago a Father Konczala was condemned to five years imprisonment by a military tribunal in Bydgoszcz for allegedly aiding a partisan.

### Prelate Warns of Russia As 'Threat to Italy'

Rome — (RNS) — Warning of a "Russian threat to Italy" was sounded by Ildefonso Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan, in a talk to women members of the Congregation of St. Vincent de Paul.

Recalling the saying of Pope Pius X, "I see Russians in Genoa," Cardinal Schuster declared: "They are now around Trieste, but it is obvious that once the eastern door is undefended, it will be easy for them to reach Milan from Trieste and Genoa from Milan."

## Rosary Crusade For Abp. Stepinac

New York — (NC) — A Rosary crusade to Our Lady of Fatima for "the vindication of the Most Rev. Aloysius Stepinac, Archbishop of Zagreb, a martyr of Communist persecution," was announced here by the Rev. Frank A. Kaiser, of Belleville, Ill., editor of Our Lady of Fatima magazine.

The crusade, Father Kaiser said, will be undertaken by 10,000 men and women throughout the United States, who are enrolled as Knights and Ladies of the Rosary of Our Lady of Fatima and who dedicate themselves to daily recitation of the Rosary and seek to promote Family Rosary Hour in Catholic homes.

"I have asked all Knights and Ladies of the Rosary of Our Lady of Fatima to join in a Rosary Crusade to procure the freedom of Archbishop Stepinac, a great Confessor of the Faith, a St. Peter of the twentieth century," Father Kaiser declared. "A prejudiced court, a tribunal of Tito's regime, satellite of communistic and atheistic Russia, has announced a verdict which has shocked the civilized world. Prayer is needed at this hour, a prayer which is most powerful and efficacious."

## Franciscans Depart For Brazil Mission

Chicago - (NC) - Departure ceremonies have been held here for three Franciscan priests and one Brother, who will leave New York next week for Para at the mouth of the Amazon River in Brazil. All are from the Sacred Heart (Chicago) Province.

There are but six church structures in the mission which covers 350 square miles, and 20 priests minister to 800,000 souls.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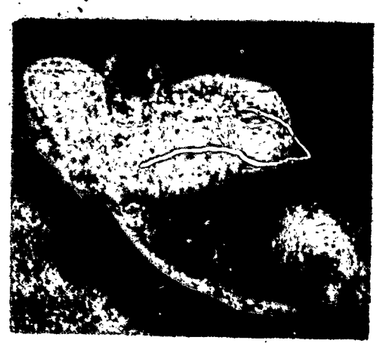

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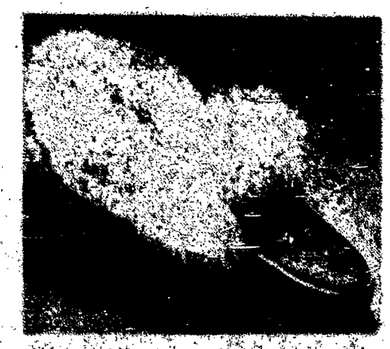

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