

Diocesan Campaign For Men's College Opens February 19

A diocesan-wide campaign for the new St. John Fisher College for men will be conducted from February 19 to March 2, 1948, the Rev. Hugh Hailey, C.S.B., executive director of the college, announced today.

Director



REV. HUGH HAILEY, C.S.B.

ON GUARD

The Little Flower - His First Call Hollywood Challenge

By REV. P. J. FLYNN

Soon, we hope, some able dramatist will bring to the stage or screen the stirring story of St. Therese of Lisieux, the little French Carmelite nun who died fifty years ago this week.

THE BRIEF but drama-packed life of "The Little Flower" as the saintly Carmelite is popularly styled among English-speaking peoples is a complete contradiction of that cautious thing which we describe as human prudence or practical wisdom.

There are many unforgettable incidents in the short career of St. Therese. First, there is the dramatic account of what happened when her father took her as a thirteen-year-old child on a visit to Rome. There, she was to be married to a young man who was a member of the Papal household and who had been raised in the strictest discipline of the papal household.

There, she was to be married to a young man who was a member of the Papal household and who had been raised in the strictest discipline of the papal household. "Well, my child," said the surprised Pontiff, "do whatever the superiors may decide."

Only an innocent child would have dared to match wits with the keen-minded Leo. "Holy Father," pleaded the thirteen-year-old Therese, "if only you would say 'Yes' everyone else would be willing."

"Well, child! Well, you will enter if it be God's will!" These words of the Pope proved to be prophetic. At the unusually young age of fifteen Therese was accepted in the Carmelite community at Lisieux. It was God's will.

TO PRACTICAL people, Therese may seem to have been rushing things but she was impelled by the grace of God and a premonition perhaps that she would die young. What pages of literature, except the Gospels, can surpass the little Carmelite nun's own description of what happened on that Good Friday when the first warning of death came to her in the silent darkness of her cell at Lisieux.

It was just past midnight and she had scarcely laid her head on the pillow when a warm stream rushed to her lips. Heaven was as real to Therese as Times Square to a native New Yorker, and thrilled by the prospect that she might be close to eternal life, she felt off to sleep like a tired but happy child. At daybreak she discovered what she suspected in the darkness of the night. Her handkerchief was saturated with blood.

WORLDLINGS who place all their trust in the bubbles of this world would regard Therese's warning of death as grim, almost cruel, tragedy. But alone in her cell, the little nun's heart beat with courage and joy. She was convinced that on the anniversary of His death, her beloved Christ had, as she herself explains, "allowed me to hear His first call, like a sweet distant murmur, heralding His joyful approach. Nowhere in all history can I find anything so grand as this—a fragile little nun laughing as she waits for the arrival of the Lord."

Express your sympathy with Flowers. Call Main 1886, Church and Elm at 55 Lake Ave., where you really get best value. Daily deliveries to all sections, including hospitals. (Adv.)

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M'Arthur's Christian Views Seen Sincere

By REV. PATRICK MCCONNOR

Tokyo — (NC) — It was ten months since I had last entered the spacious, dark-paneled study on the sixth floor of the Dai Ichi building in Tokyo, from which Gen. Douglas MacArthur has been steering the occupation for two historic years.

I found the five-stared helmetman as vigorous and earnest, as friendly and informal, as I had seen him when I was leaving Japan last fall, just as I found the occupation a continuing success.

The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, seated at the door of his study with a smile and a handshake and leads you across the room to a couch upholstered in worn leather. At his wide, uncluttered desk he fills his pipe — no bag or the corner of war days — then seats himself in an armchair beside you, talks and listens.

As he crosses his legs, sits back and looks at you with a friendly smile around his short eyes, you realize that this five-star general is easier to talk to than many a colonel.

DRESSED in summer khaki, his decorations shiny open at the neck, he gives an impression of easy vitality, while his thoughtful features betoken the constantly active mind that has planned masterpieces of strategy in peace as in war.

General MacArthur's private conversation reveals that the frequent references to Christianity in his public statements are no mere window-dressing. He is intensely sincere in viewing the occupation primarily as a tremendous opportunity to give "a practical demonstration of Christian ideals."

"The Christian tenets of justice, tolerance and understanding which have guided the conduct of the occupation appear to have contributed materially to the popularizing of Christian principles," he feels.

THE JAPANESE secret of his cherished objective to implant a Christian democracy in Japan. He feels that already a mental and moral climate has been created here. He is convinced that only a democracy based on Christian principles will last in Japan, or anywhere else. He cannot see how such Christian fruits as justice, charity and respect for human dignity on every level can come without the growth of Christianity itself.

It is known that some of the men and women working under General MacArthur are men of his frank statements that democracy has its best safeguard in Christianity. They ask if this will not offend Buddhists, Shintolists and atheists. The MacArthur view is that fundamental human rights of Buddhists and others have their surest protection where Christian principles prevail. In a Christianized Japan a non-Christian would have more security than he has ever had in the past.

MACARTHUR CAN understand criticism of himself and his policies. What he cannot understand is the cynicism of Americans, fellow-citizens of a nation founded on Christian principles, who scoff at his emphasis on these principles as the best basis for the new Japan. He is alarmed at what this cynicism may mean for the future of America.

He realizes that the unending of Christianity in the soul of Japan calls first of all for spiritual means and not for the Church to supply what he, in his sphere, cannot give.

In conversation he frequently returns to a favorite theme: what the Church has meant to the Philippines, not only in past centuries but also during the war years.

IT WAS EIGHT o'clock in the evening when I left his study. Only then his working day was ending. A few minutes later I watched him leaving the building, walking with his easy swinging stride, his head bent slightly forward in the thoughtful manner of a general.

(Continued on Page 5)

U.S. Educators to Aid Teachers of Korea

Seoul, Korea — (NC) — A group of 20 to 25 U. S. educators will be brought here to conduct an institute for Korean primary and elementary school teachers under the auspices of the education department of the Military Government of Southern Korea. I have learned here.

The visiting educators so far have not been picked but they will give courses in philosophy of education and social studies as well as teaching techniques. Catholic mission teachers here are interested in the choice of the visiting groups, as well as the direction of the planned courses.

Schools Hit 29,214 In Population

A record diocesan registration of 29,214 pupils — the highest number in recent years — was reported today by the Rev. Charles J. Maloney, diocesan superintendent of schools.

This total represents an increase of 1,222 over last year's registration of 27,992.

Of the 1,222 additional pupils, 1,160 are from the elementary schools, the vast majority being registered in the kindergarten and first grades.

The high school registration increase is set at 70. Of the 22,214 pupils now registered in diocesan schools, 24,340 are in elementary grades and 4,974 in high schools.

SCHOOLS in the City of Rochester report an 18,495 registration, 14,477 from the elementary schools and 4,018 from the high schools. The Rochester elementary school increase is 705 and the high school increase is 67.

The total registration for all schools in Monroe County is 1,001. The 37 kindergartens in the diocese have a registration of 1,040.

The school population in the Rochester Diocese has been on the increase in recent years and most grade schools and all high schools are filled to capacity at the present time.

If the registration at Nazareth College, St. Bernard's Seminary and the various nursing schools were to be included, the total attendance at diocesan institutions of learning would be well over the 30,000 mark.

MINNESOTA Bus Study Sought

St. Paul — (NC) — The Minnesota branch of the Catholic Central Verein has voted to investigate the "feasibility" of seeking a state constitutional amendment to permit free transportation of parochial school buses.

The investigation, which will include consultation with other groups, will determine whether the 1919 Minnesota legislature should be asked to submit such an amendment to the state's voters. Action authorizing the investigation was taken at the state Verein convention here.

Other resolutions asked a "fair trial" for recently passed labor laws, demanded a "fair solution" of the displaced persons problem and urged caution in the use of compulsory military training.

GROUP Urges Red Ban

Union City, N. J. (NC) — Outlawing of the Communist party in the United States and the banishment of Communists from government positions were asked in a resolution passed at the fifty-third annual meeting of the Catholic Central Society of New Jersey, held jointly here with the annual convention of the New Jersey branch of the National Catholic Women's Union.

PRIEST-CORRESPONDENT Sees Miracle Blood

(Here is the first dispatch received from Father Sullivan, a priest of this diocese now serving as N.C.W.C. correspondent in Vatican City. Father Sullivan called from New York on Sept. 9.)

By the Rev. Joseph J. Sullivan, N.Y. — (NC) — Many unusual things happened the day of our arrival in Naples, the most unusual being the miracle of the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius which takes place every year on his feast day.

Scarcely had we stepped from the gangplank when the whistles of our and all the other ships in the port began to blow for a long minute, shouting to all who could hear that the miracle had occurred again; the blood of the sainted and beloved martyr, carefully kept in tiny glass bottles within a sacred reliquary and brought forth on this great anniversary, had again changed before the eyes of thousands from its dry and dark and powdery state into red, living liquid blood flowing within the bottles as they were tipped and turned.

We did not see the miracle occur. The other unusual things were the processions. It is almost beyond the power of words, but if one allows in his imagination he will surely have some idea of what happened when hundreds of thousands of all classes, seemingly more hundreds of porters, and literally thousands of trunks and bags of all kinds were dumped onto the pier, better shelter, amidst the partially reconstructed ruins of a terminal in this bombed-out and battered port.

During the five or six hours which followed, as we tried to rescue our bags and boxes and trunks, we thought, alternately, of what it must have been in wartime and of St. Januarius. In a way, we felt somewhat akin to him — in reverse — our blood was almost drying up. Finally, the best we could manage was to visit the cathedral at the first possible moment after escaping the macabre. It was late in the afternoon when bags and trunks had been rescued and customs had been cleared. St. Januarius must have known of our anxiety and helped a bit here, or we would very likely be there yet.

Flags and banners with sacred emblems and shrines adorned the streets and most of the stores and shops were closed for Naples' feast holiday. Even at this hour there were hundreds of people in the Cathedral with many more going and coming all the time.

First, we made our way to the "Treasury," a beautiful chapel where we saw the reliquary in which the relics are kept during the year, a beautifully constructed wall-safe above and behind the altar.

A moment later we were at the main altar where one of the Canons of the Cathedral allowed us to see the blood as it flowed around within the tiny jar in the golden reliquary, and to venerate the relic. After a few minutes we were again thrusting our way through the throng in the church and the crowd pouring in at the doors, but not until we had said a few prayers of sincere thanks to St. Januarius for helping us, if not to witness the miracle, at least to see the evidence of it.

It was a great event for the very day of our arrival in his beloved Naples, a time of the very beginning of our stay in a land of wonders.

Fr. Eckl Appointed Diocesan Consultor

Rev. George W. Eckl, prominent Rochester churchman for many decades has been named a Diocesan Consultor by His Excellency, Bishop James E. Keenan, it is announced at the chancery today.

Pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Rochester, since 1916, Father Eckl succeeds the late Rev. John F. Mapp as consultor.

Father Eckl will join the board consisting of the Rev. Messrs. William M. Hart, V.G., the Rev. Messrs. William F. Deane, Charles H. Rice, Messrs. George V. Duran, Rev. Messrs. Joseph S. Cameron, Rev. Messrs. Charles F. Shaw, Rev. Thomas F. Conners, Rev. John R. Sullivan, Rev. P. William Stokes and Rev. William J. Brien.

Ordnained in June, 1902, Father Eckl has practically devoted his entire priestly career to the development of St. Andrew's Parish. Prior to his appointment as pastor of St. Andrew's he served as assistant pastor at St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls and Immaculate Conception, Rochester. He was appointed pastor of St. John the Evangelist, Greece, Nov. 25, 1935.

Under Father Eckl's guidance the entire plant of St. Andrew's Parish, church, school, rectory and convent have been developed. The present church, built under his direction, was dedicated in 1923 and marked the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. The rectory, built and constructed by St. Andrew's Church is one of the outstanding buildings in point of beauty in the diocese.

Down through the years Father Eckl has fostered the organization work among his parishioners and his Holy Name Society has consistently been in the forefront in numbers and activity.

PROTEST GOES TO DELEGATE

St. Louis, Mo. — (NC) — Catholic lay men protesting against Archbishop Joseph R. Ritter's decision to allow Negro students to enroll in parochial school here, have sent a letter to the Holy See, asking the Pope to intervene with the United States to stop the segregation.

The letter, drafted by a committee of lay men, followed a warning by Archbishop Ritter that the laymen would be automatically excommunicated from the church if they persisted in efforts to bar the Negroes by civil action against the parochial schools.

John F. Harrell, chairman of the lay group, declared the letter to the Holy See was a protest against the Archbishop's decision to allow Negro students to enroll in parochial schools. He said that the protest was a direct appeal to the Pope to intervene with the United States to stop the segregation.

Catholic Schools Save State Four Millions

Washington, D.C. — If the State of Washington were to take over the cost of educating 21,000 students now attending Catholic grade and secondary schools in the state, it would require an additional annual expenditure of nearly \$4,000,000 and a capital investment of more than \$12,000,000.

These conclusions were reached in a report compiled recently at Georgetown University here by the National Catholic Educational Association. The report is a study of the Catholic schools in the state, and is the first of a series of reports which will be published by the association.

Petition Seeks Taylor Recall

New York — (NC) — A demand that President Truman recall his personal representative to Pope Pius XII and cover all political relationships between the United States and Vatican City was made in a petition sponsored here by the Protestant Magazine.

Kenneth Leslie, editor, said the petition had been signed by 1,273 Protestant ministers and about 6,000 laymen. The petition charged that diplomatic relationship between the U. S. and the Vatican is in direct contravention of the basic law of our country.

Looted Art Stores Returned to Italy

Vatican City — (NC) — Italian works of art that were taken for protection during the war to Montecassino Abbey and later stolen there by the German "Ermann Goering Division" have been recovered and returned to Italy, according to Osservatore Romano.

Among the returned art treasures are priceless bronzes from the Sistine Chapel and a valuable collection of ancient Greek and Roman bronzes and statues. The works of art, including a statue of St. John the Baptist, were found in a cave near the town of Montecassino.

German Dominican Ends 14-Year Exile

Cologne — (NC) — The Rev. Father Martin Bueckmann, O.P., a German Dominican monk, has returned to his homeland after 14 years of exile.

Threatened by Gestapo arrest in 1933, Father Bueckmann managed to escape to Holland. There he remained in hiding for a long time, but eventually he succeeded in reaching France. During the war years he worked as a bookbinder in the Netherlands.

After the war, he was allowed to return to his homeland. He is now working as a bookbinder in Cologne.

Holy Name Meet Opens In Boston

Boston — (NC) — In a constant stream from all sections of the nation and Canada, Holy Name men, many accompanied by their families, continued to converge on this city today at the colorful convocation marking the fourth anniversary of the Holy Name Society of the United States and Canada.

The opening event was held in the grand hall of the Hotel Commonwealth, where the Holy Name men, many accompanied by their families, continued to converge on this city today at the colorful convocation marking the fourth anniversary of the Holy Name Society of the United States and Canada.

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