Science Story

Claims China Missionary Made First Steam Engine

Shanghai — (NC) — The inventor of the first steam-automobile was a missionary priest who lived at the Imperial Court of Peiping in 1678. So holds a local history professor supported by the research of an instructor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Writing in the Shanghai Catholic Tablet, the Rev. Francis Rouleau, S.J., professor of history at Zikawei, declares that over the smooth polished pavement of the Chinese palace a small wooden car glided swiftly for over an hour on its own power while its inventor, Father Ferdinand Verbiest, S.J., stood by in his mandarin robes and explained to the amazed Emperor the driving force of steam.

Belgian Jesuit

Father Verbiest, born in Belgium in 1623 and trained in Europe as a physicist, joined the Jesuit scientists, Fathers Adam and Schall at the Imperial Court of Peiping in 1660. He was a prolific worker, author of 30 learned books, instructor to the emperor, court engineer and architect, maker of cannon and astronomical instruments that may still be seen in Peiping, and an outstanding missionary.

The exploits of Father Verbiest have received official recognition outside of China. Leroy Thwing of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology calls him the inventor of the first working model of a steam-driven automobile.

"While testing the force produced by a boiler," he wrote, "I had a four-wheel car made of light wood, two feet long and extremely mobile. In the middle of the wagon I put a pan filled with burning coals, and on this a boiler. On the axle of the rear wheels I fixed a toothed bronze wheel . . . which meshed with another smaller wheel on a vertical shaft. When the vertical shaft revolved, it moved the car.

"The problem was to revolve the vertical shaft. Father Verbiest took no difficulty. He put a small windmill on top of the shaft and as the steam escaped under pressure against the windmill sails, it turned them violently and thus propelled the car, which continued to spin on at a considerable speed for over an hour." The car even had a steering wheel and a rudder which kept it going in greater or less circles as it was turned.

Slaughter Tax

When he finished his automobile, Father Verbiest had other ideas. He made a small boat with sails blew the steam into the sails' belly and away it sailed merrily on the emperor's private lake. He presented one to the older brother of the emperor and to that one he fitted an extra little pipe notched like a flute, which he says, "imitated to perfection the song of the nightingale."

He even attached his boiler to the chimes of the clock tower. "Finally," he concludes, "it is easy to think up any number of other interesting applications."

Father Verbiest died in 1688, one of the most honored men of the empire. He was a great scientist, but a greater priest and missionary. "Sire," he wrote to the emperor just before he died, "I beg you to remember that in everything I have done, I had but one desire: to make the most mighty monarch of the Orient a protector of the most saintly religion of the universe."

Sodalists Return From Union Meet

Auburn — Rev. Eugene McCarthy, spiritual director of Holy Family High School Sodality, two faculty members and a group of sodalists from Holy Family High School attended the Sodality District Meeting Oct. 5 at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

The spiritual address was given by Paul McCabe, a Holy Family Sophomore. This was the first official appearance of William Brennan, Holy Family Senior, who is the treasurer of the Sodality Union.

A delegation of the Sodalists accompanied by Rev. Eugene McCarthy recently attended the closing exercises of the Eucharistic Congress at Buffalo.

Bishop on War Dead Return Committee

Edward J. Cristy, general chairman of the committee making preparations for the memorial services and ceremony to be held on the occasion of the return of the first World War II Dead, by the announced appointment of the members of the committee headed by Major General Edward Price Gaffney.

Other members of the committee, which will make plans for Monroe County's tribute to all of the dead of this war, follow: Representative Kenneth B. Keating, honorary chairman; Judge Aris Dr. Mark Chamberlain Barr, Harry B. Crowley, Marvin R. Eve, Associate Judge of New York State Court of Appeals; the Most Reverend James E. Kearney, D.D., the Right Reverend Mortal H. Walkelmier, D.D., Rabbi Leon Kieskin, and Dr. Alan Valentine, President of the University of Rochester.

Villa Auxiliary Meets

The Auxiliary of St. Joseph's Villa will hold a meeting Tuesday, Oct. 14, at 2 p. m. in St. Joseph's Hall. Hostesses are Mrs. Hugh Harper, Mrs. Eliza Harrigan and Mrs. A. Haupenthal.

Collegians to Hear Gifted Singers

With a repertoire from Palestrina to modern swing, these artists known as Garfield Henry's "Silvertones" are booked for Nazareth College on Oct. 16

Sociology Club At Nazareth to Hear Fr. Cleary

The Sociology Club of Nazareth College has launched its program for the year with plans for the opening meeting on Monday evening, October 13, at 7 o'clock.

The speaker will be the Rev. Donald Cleary, Chaplain of the Newman Club of Cornell University and his topic will be "The Strength of Communism among the Youth of Europe."

Father Cleary has just returned from a conference in Europe, at which this problem was studied.

The club is sponsoring a sale of religious Christmas cards, the proceeds of which will help the missions as well as the club.

The primary purpose of this project is to stimulate the students of the college to send religious cards in keeping with the true spirit of Christmas.

New British Bishop

London — (NC) — The Most Rev. John Matheson, 46-year-old pastor of a small North Scotland mission, has been consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen in St. Mary's Cathedral there where he was an assistant priest 19 years ago.

Concert by Colored Artists Slated at Nazareth College

A concert by the Silvertones, international colored artists, will be given Thursday afternoon, October 16 at 3:30 p. m. in Nazareth College auditorium.

This distinguished group of seven concert singers, organized and managed by Garfield Henry, has made tours throughout the country for several years, appearing especially before college audiences.

The program will open with the "Hallelujah Chorus" from the oratorio Messiah, followed by the Lords Prayer: Mendelssohn's "The Fire Descends" from Elijah, and the Bach-Gounod "Ave Maria."

The male quartet will sing a Russian Folk Song, "The Song of the Meadow Land," by Knipper, and Romberg's "Stout Hearted Men." That portion of the program will be rounded out with a number from Porgy and Bess and romantic music.

Three soprano-tenor duets will also be featured in "Medley of Negro Folk Music," "Sit Down" and the "Indian Love Call."

Hirohito Deeply Impressed By Nuns' Charity Center

Akita, Japan — (NC) — Deeply impressed by the work carried on at the charity center of the Daughters of the Sacred Heart here in northern Japan, Emperor Hirohito overstayed his time when he made an official visit.

The Emperor was met by Mother Teresa, foundress of the congregation of nuns, and was escorted through the hospital, sanatorium for tubercular patients, boys' and girls' orphanages, home for the aged and refuge for displaced persons. The Emperor chatted freely with residents and offered words of consolation on occasions.

During his visit to the congregation's Chapel of Perpetual Adoration, the Emperor listened with wrapt attention while the Sisters' choir sang the "Prayer For The Emperor."

The Emperor's schedule called for a visit of 15 minutes to the charity center, but he stayed for three-quarters of an hour.

The Daughters of the Sacred Heart is a community of Japanese nuns, founded in 1920 by Mother Teresa, a German nun who became a citizen of Japan and the only foreign-born member of the congregation. Mother Teresa is a personal friend of the Empress.

U. S. Thanks From Poles

Warsaw (NC) At the Polish national shrine of Jasna Gora, the monastery in Czestochova, His Eminence August Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, has celebrated a special Mass of Thanksgiving "for all the benefactors in the United States who have offered such substantial help to Poland through War Relief Services National Catholic Welfare Conference, American Relief for Poland and the Catholic League."

Terry's 544 Leads Bowlers In St. Aloysius League

Auburn — John Terry returned to his old-time form Sunday as he led the bowlers of the St. Aloysius' Holy Name Bowling League with games of 185, 214 and 145 for a 544 total. Terry was the only one who refused to let the excitement of a "World Series" ball game interfere with his bowling. Despite John's good bowling, his team, Notre Dame, was able to garner only one point from the up and coming Loyola team.

John Mazzeo's improved bowling was one of the chief reasons Loyola took three points from Notre Dame. This victory placed the formerly "Lowly" Loyola in a third place tie with Holy Cross.

Holy Cross took three points from the strong Gonzaga team, who were very much handicapped without their captain, who was laid up with a cold. Joe Lober showed the way for the victors and with a few better breaks might have been second high man for the day. The Crusaders with two Paul Graneys (Paul J. and Paul W.) on their roster begin to shape up as a likely contender.

Charlie Rice went to town in his last game and with Paul Friedel, who rolled 510, managed to salvage one point for Gonzaga.

Captain John Miskell, who last season proved to be a nemesis to Villanova, still has his jinx hold as he demonstrated Sunday as he led his Georgetown team to a three-point victory with his 507. Johnny Madden came back strong in the second and third game to team with Miskell to make the difference between a three-point victory and a one-point loss.

Father Haffey and Vernon Pinckney rolled almost identical games, the former having 516, the latter 511; yet they were not able to pull Villanova up into the win column.

Harold Jones led the Santa Clara team to a three-point victory over Canisius which placed his team in first place with a one-point margin over the two teams tied for second place, Notre Dame and Gonzaga.

Capt. Sonny Geno and John Bacon were the leading lights of the Canisius team.

RESULTS

The Big Three

Loyola	2423
Notre Dame	2378
Holy Cross	2340

The Big Five

John Terry	544
Father Haffey	516
Vernon Pinckney	511
Paul Friedel	510
John Miskell	507

Loyola				Notre Dame			
Sobeski	125	148	145	Friedel	111	150	178
Mazzeo	122	117	155	O'Connor	135	124	141
Bishop	159	151	184	Holmes	160	131	193
Costello	115	148	166	Geno Sr.	121	153	123
Taylor	149	152	153	Terry	185	214	145
Hilers	35	48	49				
Totals	710	833	828	Totals	787	881	790

Gonzaga				Holy Cross			
P. Friedel	158	168	189	Malfa	147	130	171
Graney	153	155	123	B. Geno	155	141	159
Hiles	99	108	177	P. Graney	130	129	124
Kennedy	148	149	149	Lober	164	201	125
Reimer	129	210	158	W. Graney	152	147	147
				Hilers	3	3	3
Totals	690	831	896	Totals	744	821	783

Villanova				Canisius			
Miskell	169	185	153	Costello	142	141	163
Madden	108	178	164	Russell	139	150	149
Paddock	147	148	158	Chase	164	134	138
Strassner	112	151	143	Pinckney	149	190	152
Wilson	167	189	171	F. Haffey	146	147	186
				Hilers	18	18	18
Totals	703	851	889	Totals	732	781	851

St. Aloysius				Santa Clara			
Hafle	118	128	154	Donnelly	123	124	146
Barnes	138	140	155	Fitzsimmons	141	155	139
Collins	126	151	147	Shaw	148	135	143
Glanz Sr.	155	141	136	Sieckhaus	135	141	146
Gene Jr.	120	140	141	Jones	156	146	180
Hilers	18	18	18				
Totals	675	718	744	Totals	723	771	814

Seven Couples Pronounce Marriage Vows in Auburn

Morrissey—Miller

Auburn — Miss Maria Anne Miller, daughter of Mrs. Jean Thalheimer, 49 Genesee Street, became the bride of Thomas E. Morrissey, son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Morrissey, 4 Bostwick Ave., at a ceremony Sept. 25 in the rectory of St. Mary's Church. The Rev. Dr. William E. Cowen, pastor, officiated.

Muldoon—Laird

Miss Lorraine Laird, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Laird, 32 Owasco Street, and Gerald Muldoon, of Auburn, were married Sept. 27 in St. Alpsonsus Church, by the Rev. Frederick G. Straub, pastor.

Busco—Penna

Miss Frances Jean Penna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carmelo Penna, 58 Orchard St., and Larry Busco, son of Mrs. Mary Busco, 189 Clifton Pl., Syracuse, were married Sept. 27, in St Francis Church by the Rev Adolph Gabbani, pastor.

Churney—Withers

Miss Marjorie Alice Withers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Withers, 148½ Cottage St., and Michael Churney, son of Mr and Mrs. John Churney, RD 2, were married Sept. 30 in SS Peter and Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Officiating was the Rev. Basil Ostas, pastor, who also celebrated the nuptial Mass.

Falcone—DeBenedetto

The wedding of Miss Philomena DeBenedetto, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter DeBenedetto, 37 Barber St., and Peter Falcone, 15 Barber St., took place Sept. 27 in St. Francis Church. Officiating was the Rev. Adolph J. Gabbani, pastor.

Brotek—Tarala

The marriage of Miss Virginia Marie Tarala, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Tarala, 35 Lansing Street, and Matthew Paul Bratek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bratek of State Street Road, was solemnized at 9 a. m. Saturday, Sept. 27 at St. Hyacinths Church. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Stanley Moronczyk, assistant pastor.

Spoto—Navarro

The marriage of Miss Carmela E. Navarro, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Navarro, 147½ Van Anden Street, and Joseph Spoto, 27 Columbus Street, was solemnized in St. Aloysius Church, Saturday morning, Sept. 27. The Rev. John J. Crowley officiated.

China Cardinal Picks Vet For Medical Scholarship

Washington — (NC) — Fulfilling a promise made two years ago to His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Tien, S.V.D., Archbishop of Peiping, Georgetown University here has awarded a full time scholarship in the school of medicine to a Chinese war veteran now in this country.

The Very Rev. Lawrence C. Gorman, S.J., university president, promised the scholarship for a worthy Chinese student to Cardinal Tien on the occasion of the prelate's visit to the university two years ago.

Cardinal Tien selected Thomas Tze-tung Tang, who just has finished a science course at St. Mary's College, Winona, Minn., for the scholarship. Mr. Tang fought as a foot soldier in Manchuria during the undeclared war waged by Japan and was wounded. Later he became an aviation cadet and was one of a number of Chinese students who were trained in the United States by the Army Air Forces. He returned to China and served with the intelligence forces. Mr. Tang who will enter Georgetown University this fall, has a bachelor of science degree from the National University of Peiping.

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