Monks Forced to Make Cut In Number of Rescue Dogs

Basel, Switzerland—Monks of the famous St. Bernard hospice are not planning to give up their settlement high in that Alpine pass, according to word the Revue de Lausanne has received directly from the Prior of the Augustinian monastery.

It is true, however, that the hospice has been encountering financial difficulties in recent months. It was found difficult to provide adequate heat for the big building. Gifts from abroad have been reduced considerably due to foreign exchange difficulties and the number of tourists visiting the region has been dwindling while maintenance expenses have risen.

Only three or four of the famous St. Bernard dogs remain in the hospice to be available when stranded travelers require assistance. All the other dogs have been sent to Martigny in the Rhone Valley.

The hospice was founded in 962 by St. Bernard of Montjoux for the convenience and protection of travelers from France and Germany making pilgrimages to Rome. The pass near which the hospice is located is constantly covered with seven to eight feet of snow, with drifts of up to 40 feet. At all seasons of the year the monks, accompanied by their well-trained dogs, go out in search of victims who may have succumbed to the severity of the weather and offer them food, clothing and shelter.

Priest Authority On Afghanistan

Chicago —(NC)— In Afghanistan, where no missionary is allowed to enter, a Catholic priest is the highest authority on native history and customs.

The Rev. Egidio Caspani could not have entered Afghanistan, if he had not been assigned to the Italian Legation as chaplain. Now he has spent 12 years in Kabul, capital of the rigidly Mohammedan state, and is honored by the Afghans as an expert on Afghan lore. For years he has lectured at the Habul Faculty, the leading academic institution in the country.

Father Caspani acquired much of his immense knowledge by his explorations and study of archaeology in Afghanistan. Accompanied by the Rev. Ernesto Cagnacci, also attached to the Italian Legation, he has covered most of the country on numerous expeditions.

The unique record of the two priests in the otherwise priestless country was one of the surprises encountered by Waldo Drake, chief of the Los Angeles Times Asia Bureau, who had recently visited Afghanistan.

Music Exhibit Draws Throngs

Great numbers of persons interested in music and history are being drawn to M. Doyle Marks and Son, 300 East Water Street, Elmira, during this, the company's fiftieth birthday, or golden anniversary, week by an exhibit illustrative of the development of music and the growth and progress of the Marks company, which has been associated on the second floor of the store.

Occupying the exhibit are nearly 150 items, including old and serious musical instruments, sheet music, photographs, etc., which have been loaned by residents of not only Elmira, but also of communities throughout southern New York state and Northern Pennsylvania. These range in size and variety from tiny finger cymbals, only two and one-eighth inches in diameter, to a towering organ with cathedral-like golden pipes.

Highlights of the exhibit, in the opinion of the hundreds who already have seen it, are a piece of sheet music, dated 1853, which Carl Czerny composed for the coronation of Her Majesty Carolina, Empress of Austria, as Queen of Hungary; a century-old melodeon; an Autophone, an odd sort of "player" accordion; a beautiful combination melodeon and square piano with gleaming rosewood case; a fascinating "orchestra" musical box, with animated manikins busy with sounding bells, drums, and castanets; an early cylinder phonograph; and a pioneer crystal radio receiver.

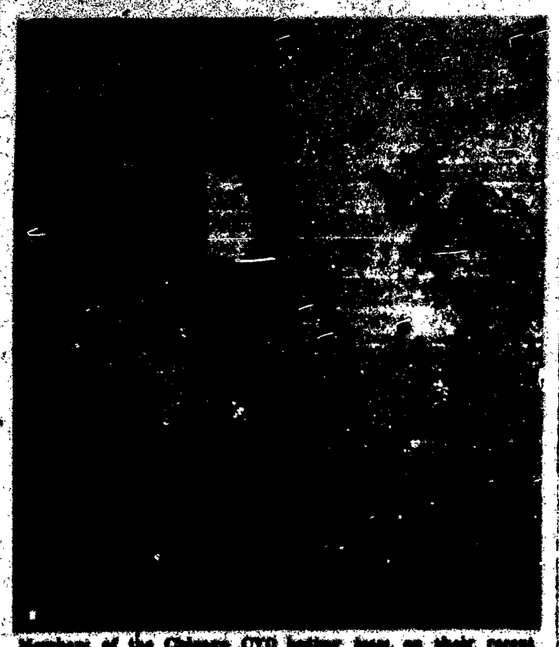
The exhibit will remain open to the public, free of charge, through Saturday, February 7.

Priest Gives Support To Striking Truckmen

Boston —(NC)— Told by a Catholic priest that their cause was a "just" one, striking truck drivers voted unanimously here to reject arbitration of the issue.

The priest, Rev. Thomas E. Shortell, S. J., of Boston College, said he projected himself into the dispute because of his position as a member of Gov. Bradford's committee which drew up the Hatcher act relating to strikes. The measure empowers the state to seize an industry when the public welfare is menaced.

SCARS OF HISTORIC RAID



Members of the Chicago CYO boxing team, on their recent visit to Hawaii, look over some of the scars of the Japanese raid of December 7, 1941, at Hickam Field. Master Sergeant Paul Copperfield, who was present during the raid, acts as guide. Left to right: Dick Guerrero, Rev. John Ryan, Chicago, Catholic Chaplain E. E. Fitzgerald, Joe Castanede and kneeling, Sam Frantzel and Sgt. Copperfield. The Chicago CYO boxers fought a 4-4 tie with a picked team of Hawaiian CYO punchers before a crowd of 17,000. (NC Photos)

Pakistan Christians Told They Won't be Persecuted

Karachi, Pakistan — (NC) — Confidence that there "is absolutely no ground for panic" for Christians in Pakistan was expressed by the Catholic Chronicle, weekly publication here of the Mission of Sind and Baluchistan.

The paper made this assertion in commenting on reports that hundreds of Christians had fled the country for fear of persecution in this predominantly Moslem dominion.

"In view of the many conflicting and confusing reports which have appeared in the papers of the Indian Union regarding the alleged exodus of Christians from Nawabsha and elsewhere we publish the following facts," the paper stated. "Some Christians have left Nawabsha along with their Hindu relatives and other Hindu members of their community who fled in panic for fear of repercussions on them of the tragic happenings in Delhi and the East Punjab, and that in spite of Government assurances of protection . . .

"THERE IS absolutely no ground for panic. The Government is doing all it can to allay the fears of the panic-stricken and restore their confidence. In one instance Christians from the outlying parts of Nawabsha flocked to the church compound of St. Isidore's out of fear. When the priest in charge consulted the Collector of Nawabsha, the Christians were assured that they need fear no molestation and should return to their homes, which they did."

Another expression of confidence for the safety of Christians in Pakistan came from Msgr. Alcuin van Miltenburg, superior of the Mission of Sind and Baluchistan with residence here. Addressing the Christians at a demonstration of welcome here upon his return from a visit to Europe and America, the Dutch-born priest advised Christians not to be apprehensive about the future.

Naval Monk At De Gaulle Rites

Paris — (NC) — The Rev. Louis de la Trinite, a Carmelite monk of the monastery of Avon near Fontainebleau, who was called to the colors during the war and served as Admiral of the French Fleet, gave the nuptial benediction at the marriage of Philippe de Gaulle, son of General Charles de Gaulle, and Henriette de Montalembert, great grandniece of the Count de Montalembert, illustrious Catholic leader of 19th century France.

In the world Father Louis was known as Admiral Thierry d'Argenlieu, head of the French fleet. Following the war the French Government asked special permission of His Holiness Pope Pius XII to enable this French priest and admiral to serve as High Commissioner in the Far East.

Publisher Cites Catholic Book Gains

Milwaukee — (NC) — Although there were "substantial gains made in the overall development of Catholic book standards" during 1947, it "would be safe to say that there were at least 4,000,000 Catholic families" that did not buy a single Catholic book, it was estimated by Frank Bruce, Milwaukee publisher in his annual statement reviewing the book business of the year.

Mr. Bruce said the gains were made in "techniques of book writing and above all the clarification of the moral responsibility on the part of the reader, writer and the publisher as to what is 'bad.' "

Chinese, Mongols Ordained

Arlington, Va. —(NC)— Twenty-two seminarians, trained in the Far East seminaries conducted by the Immaculate Heart of Mary Fathers, were recently raised to the priesthood, it is reported at the community's U. S. headquarters here. Twenty of the priests are Chinese and two are Mongols.

Dutch College to be Rebuilt As Paratroopers' Memorial

New York — (NC)—Aid to United State Government efforts for European recovery is seen in plans announced here for the restoration of the University of Nymegen, lone Catholic university in The Netherlands, as a memorial to the heroic dead of the American 82nd Airborne Division.

Hugh Gibson, former U. S. Ambassador to The Netherlands is chairman of the eventual committee, which seeks to raise $250,000 in the United States as a part of the restoration cost.

The 82nd Airborne Division took part in one of the bloodiest engagements in modern military history at Nymegen. Dilmegen in a three-day effort in September, 1944, to hold a strategical bridge in Holland the division lost nearly 1,000 men. Before the Nazis left Nymegen they destroyed the university library and priceless collection of rare books, and reduced its administration building and experimental psychology school to roofless shells.

In his statement opening the restoration campaign, Mr. Gibson stated that the university will not only be a permanent memorial to the American paratroopers, 500 of whom now lie in Nymegen military cemetery, but it will contribute substantially to the success of the Marshall plan.

The only building of the University of Nymegen that is undamaged is the auditorium, which now serves many purposes. Lectures are being continued in private homes rented as classrooms. Under the restoration plan, four new buildings are contemplated: a dormitory, administration building, library and psychological institute. Total to be $5,000,000.

Power of Atomic Bomb Portrayed in Church Mural

Kentrich, Germany —(RNS)— Breaking a three-year silence the bells from the tower of Christ Church here once again peal through the crisp winter air, reminding the people of peaceful, bygone days. But still hidden from public view in the almost-completed edifice is a monumental mural, "The Last Judgement," dramatically portraying the demonic power of the atomic bomb.

Rebuilding of this Catholic church which was destroyed in a 1944 air attack is one of the major architectural enterprises in the Soviet occupation zone.

The fifty-foot high painting on the walls of Christ Church has just been completed by the famous woman artist, Irmas Land-Scheer of Sudetenland, now living in Dresden.

It depicts in apocalyptic imagery the close of the twentieth century which has undergone the the travail of two suicidal wars and the most monstrous power of the atomic bomb. This mural, like similar works of art produced in times of great tribulation, stands as a "memorial to the dead, a comfort to the living and a warning to the generations yet unborn," according to an official ecclesiastical release.

In the lowest group of figures three men are portrayed, one representing a refugee from Eastern Germany. This is a permanent memorial to expulsee from the East.

Atomic Areas To Get Churches

Washington — (NC) — The Atomic Energy Commission has announced that it will permit the use of Government-owned land at its principal installations as sites for construction of churches or church schools which church organizations operate at their own expense.

The Commission's installations are at Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Hanford, Wash., and Los Alamos, N.Mex. Citing the need for more places of worship at the atomic plants, the Commission pointed out that at Oak Ridge there is a population of 40,000, which is served by only two churches. Eleven religious groups have requested permission to build there.

(One of the churches serving Oak Ridge is St. Mary's Mission, which was established in 1943. The Rev. Francis A. McRedmond pastor and the Rev. John J. Rierney, assistant, according to listing in the Official Catholic Directory.)

Military Control Scored by Jesuit

Washington —(NC)— The Rev. William J. Miller, S. J., president of the University of Detroit, is among a group of 21 American civic leaders who have issued a report here warning that "one of the important safeguards of American democracy — civilian control — is rapidly disappearing."

The report, entitled "The Militarization of America," condemns military control over U. S. foreign policy, which it says, starts with General Marshal and Admiral Leahy, criticizes Army lobbying for the universal military training program; objects to Army and Navy monopoly of federal subsidizing of scientific research, and holds that the Army plans to control labor and industry.

Catholic Daily's Anniversary

Quebec — From an humble beginning in rented quarters, L'Action Catholique, local French-language Catholic daily, has now become one of the great metropolitan newspapers in Canada. On December 21, 1907, the first edition made its appearance under the name Action Sociale. The name was changed in 1916. Today the daily is published in a building which borders on four city streets.

French Chaplain Taught By Red Cross Field Aide

Machinaha, Japan—In addition to his normal duties at Red Cross field director with the 11th Airborne Division in Japan, Robert Rochester, N. Y., has volunteered for an extra job—that of teaching English to the Catholic chaplain here at Camp Haugen.

Catholics at Camp Haugen asked Father Pierre, a French-Canadian missionary who has lived 17 years in Japan, to officiate at Camp services. Father Pierre, who speaks both Japanese and French fluently, had difficulty in speaking English and sought help from Tizzard. The Red Cross man reported that his pupil is "doing nicely."

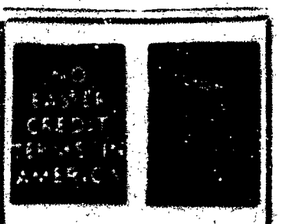
Tizzard, who joined Red Cross in May, 1944, was in the Army three years prior to becoming a field director.

Catalogues Premier's Letter

Ottawa, Ont. — (NC) — Miss Jacqueline Cote, B.A., former vice - president of the Newman Club at Queen's University, is now working at the Dominion Archives cataloguing the letters of Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King.

Affiliate With Sodality

St. Louis — (NC) — Three hundred forty-one Sodalities of Our Lady in the United States were affiliated with the historic First Sodality in Rome during 1947, according to an announcement from the Sodality central office here.



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