

New Mexico Governor Defends Use of Nuns in Public Schools

Less Cloistered Nuns' Life Urged

Gov. Mabry issued the statement in a letter to the Rev. Roy D. Coulter, pastor of the Timber Ridge, Va., Christian church. The letter and the answer were made public as they were printed in the Santa Fe Bulletin, Catholic weekly publication here.

In sending his letter to the minister, Governor Mabry explained that "I speak as a Protestant." The governor wrote:

"The Protestants and the Catholics have had no difficulty getting along in New Mexico for many years. I am sure that the thinking people of our state resent the suggestion that a Catholic sister who has secured sufficient college credits and has passed the required examinations would be any more ineligible to teach in the public schools than any other religious denomination."

"THE CATHOLIC CHURCH has for years operated schools out of its own funds in out-of-the-way places where public schools were not available, and it was the only organization which provided education for the scattered population in these areas."

"In a few places the sisters are teaching in the public schools and are as capable and as qualified as any other teachers and some, doubtless, with no religious affiliation at all."

"The sisters have taught in the schools mentioned for several years; they have become familiar with our laws to tenure of office, the same as other teachers, but in all cases they met all qualifications set by the department of education."

"We make no distinction in New Mexico as to the religion of teachers."

"IN HIS LETTER, Mr. Coulter posed four questions to the chief executive who offered answers to all."

The minister asked if it were true (1) that state law forbids any student be required to attend or participate in any religious service; (2) that students from Dixon had found it almost impossible to gain admittance in any college; (3) that no income tax is taken from the sisters' salaries; and (4) that state law provides no appropriation be made to any institution not under absolute control of the state.

To the first, Governor Mabry answered "yes" to the second he replied "all colleges in New Mexico accept students from Dixon"; and to the third question Mabry said "teachers pay the state income tax."

And to the final query, Mabry explained that no appropriations are made to any Catholic school or other denominational school or a charitable institution except as the state constitution provides.

JERSEY BUS LAW ATTACKED

Collingswood, N. J. — (RNS) — The Rev. Carl McIntire, pastor of Bible Presbyterian church here, opened a campaign sponsored by the New Jersey Council of Christian Churches, fundamentalist group, for repeal of the state parochial-school bus law.

In a radio address over station WCAM in Camden, McIntire charged that "most powerful machine" had denied New Jersey voters a referendum on the suggestion that a Catholic sister who has secured sufficient college credits and has passed the required examinations would be any more ineligible to teach in the public schools than any other religious denomination.

The parochial school bill, first passed by the Legislature in 1941, has been a center of controversy since. A few months after its passage, it was declared unconstitutional by the New Jersey Supreme Court. It remained one of the most controversial issues in drafting the new constitution.

In February, 1947, however, a review of the law by the United States Supreme Court resulted in that court's declaring it constitutional by a 5 to 4 vote. The law was written into the new charter.

The work is intended to modernize in accordance with American standards of health, convenience and comfort the building, completed in 1913 as Orin Palace without sacrificing any of its original austere ecclesiastical style.

Among the improvements will be a heating plant, an electrically equipped kitchen, new plumbing installations, new wiring for the building and a laundry.

Other renovations include restoring of floors, windows and doors, widening of stairways and some corridors, and running water in rooms. The traditional entrance on the Via dell'Umiltà and the faculty living quarters will be maintained.

The cloistered courtyard with its fountain and the garden will be preserved. A new feature will be the introduction of roof-top terraces in two sections.

When work is completed the building will conveniently accommodate 127 students. With erection of the new college some two or three years hence, this building will be turned over to the use of American priests, doing graduate work in the sacred sciences. Most priests will then have two rooms, a small study and a bedroom.

North American College Repairs Near Completion

Renovation of the historic North American College building, begun recently and now in full swing, will be completed before the Fall term, according to the college authorities here.

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Summer School Picks, Eight City Schedules

St. Louis — (NC) — The schedule of the eighteenth annual Summer School of Catholic Action has been announced by the Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S.J., founder and dean of the school, which since it was founded in 1931 has had 85,000 students registered for training.

The 1948 season will open on June 7 at St. Louis University, and continue until June 12. The rest of the schedule follows: Loyola College, Montreal, June 28 to July 3; University of Detroit, Detroit, Mich., July 12 to 17; Our Lady of the Lake College, San Antonio, Tex., July 26 to 31; Fordham University, New York, N. Y., August 10 to 21; Hotel Morrison, Chicago, Ill., August 23 to 28; Cathedral Schools, Denver, Colo., August 30 to September 4.

Catholics Offered Buddhist School

Dubuque — (NC) — "The Japanese are eager for Christianity," said the Rev. Sylvester Juergens, S.M., Superior General of the Society of Mary during a visit here.

The future of the Catholic Church in Japan seems to be very bright, according to Father Juergens. "Shintoism has disappeared by law and Buddhism is no longer state supported. A Buddha priest offered me a school on the sole condition that my professors teach English and the Catholic religion."

Monastery Decorated For Anti-Nazi Stand

Paris — The President of France has signed a decree conferring the cross of the Legion of Honor on the Clisterian Abbey of Notre Dame des Dombes situated near Lyon.

It is exceptional that the Legion of Honor is conferred upon a group. It has been conferred in recognition of the heroism of the monks during the Nazi occupation.

Fr. Coughlin's Kin Dies

Royal Oak, Mich. — (NC) — Thomas John Coughlin, father of the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower here and widely known radio orator of the 1930's, has died here at the age of 84.

Six Indian Nuns

St. Louis — (NC) — Six Indian girls have taken the black habit in a ceremony at Sacred Heart Church, Anaham Reserve, British Columbia.

HOLY FATHER PLEASED



At the Alpine Galleries in London, Archbishop William Godfrey, Apostolic Delegate to Great Britain, views a new-natural color photograph of His Holiness Pope Pius XII. It is the work of a leading non-Catholic photographer, David Waddington, (left) who plans to take the picture on a world tour. Archbishop Godfrey was instrumental in getting the Holy Father to pose for the picture. Pleased with the photo, His Holiness wrote a personal message to accompany it. (NC Photos.)

Jew-Arab Battle Leaves Scars On Christian Units

Jerusalem — (NC) — The bloody battle between Arabs and Jews in the Holy Land over the partition issue is leaving its scars on the Christian community here.

The ruthless machine-gunning, sniping and bombing touched off by the Ben Ben Yehuda Street blast on Sunday, already known to have taken the lives of more than 50 persons, has shattered the supposed security in the Old City.

This happened when the first mortar bombs fell within the ancient walls of the Old City and exploded on the grounds of the Notre Dame monastery.

Later two bombs were exploded against a section of the Sisters' convent of the Franciscan Missionaries of Egypt now occupied by a British military court. No Sisters were killed due to the removal of a third and the most powerful bomb following a telephone warning in Hebrew. The Blessed Sacrament has been removed from the chapel and the nuns left the convent temporarily.

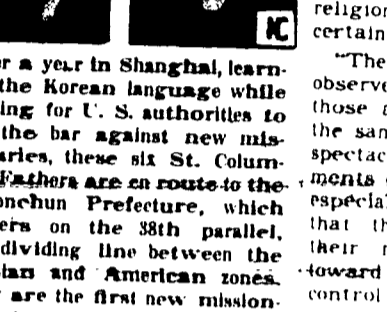
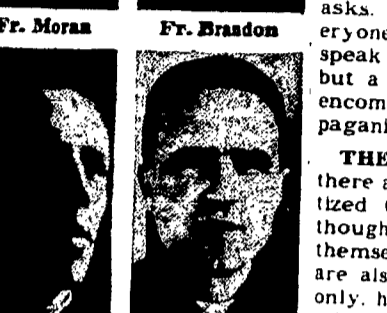
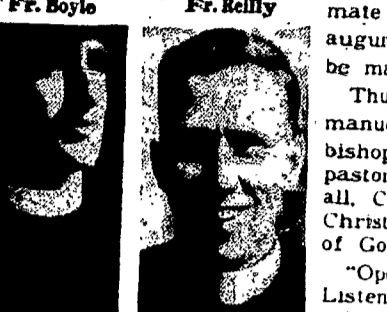
ON THE FOLLOWING night the two-hour battle between Jews and the Transjordan Arab guards who had been placed around the property after the first attack. However, there were no casualties among the nuns who have now abandoned their convent school because of the "grave danger."

Meanwhile neighbors prevented the St. Charles Borromeo nuns from leaving their school for girls in the Jewish section of Jerusalem to attend Friday Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa. They were told to pray in their chapel instead. An Arab girl at their school was interrogated for two hours and then released and told to stay at home.

Anxious for the safety of their charges, the Sisters of Charity have removed the 400 orphans from their institution in the heart of Jerusalem to the comparative safety of the convent on Mount Olivet.

The British chaplain wounded by sniper fire while on his way to conduct religious services is a Catholic priest, Father Savage. He was wounded in the arm shortly after the Ben Yehuda explosion. His driver was killed.

Korea Bound



After a year in Shanghai, learning the Korean language while waiting for U. S. authorities to lift the bar against new missionaries, these six St. Columban Fathers are en route to the Choonchun Prefecture, which borders on the 38th parallel, the dividing line between the Russian and American zones. They are the first new missionaries to enter Korea since the war. They are: Fathers Neil Boyle, Patrick Kelly, Thomas Moran, Patrick Brandon, Thomas Comerford and Arthur McMahon. (NC Photos.)

'Sense of God' Must Be Kept Cardinal Says

Paris — (NC) — "The world will be saved by the presence of Christians. More than ever before in history they must animate existing institutions and inaugurate the reforms that must be made."

Thus speaks His Eminence Emmanuel Cardinal Suhard, Archbishop of Paris, in his Lenten pastoral. It is necessary above all, Cardinal Suhard says, that Christians do not lose the "sense of God."

"Open your eyes. Observe. Listen. What do you see?" he asks. "A world in which everyone speaks of man and few speak of God. It is not a letter but a volume one must write to encompass all the forms of this paganism today."

THE CARDINAL observes that there are a large number of baptized Catholics in France who, though not atheists, conduct themselves as if they were. There are also those Catholics in name only, he says, who practice their religion only on the occasion of certain special festivals.

"Their conduct," the Cardinal observes, "does not differ from those around them. They read the same books, attend the same spectacles, share the same judgments on life and events. It is especially in their family life that they appear unworthy of their religion. They manifest toward divorce, free unions, birth control and abortion, an indulgence scarcely believable when they are not in fact apologists for these evils."

The Archbishop of Paris asks that there be restored to the rites of the Church the place of silence, of intimate prayer, of mystery, of the sense of the presence of God. The loss of the sense of God, he observes, is one of the reasons for the sadness that characterizes this generation.

"IT IS NOT easy to conserve a lucid spirit, a calm will. War yesterday, rumors of war tomorrow, world opinion oscillating between these two follies. Some have made of this absurdity their system, the immense majority of men find in it their despair. They are inconsolable as a result of the debate of the dreams they held concerning human progress. They conclude that there is nothing to be hoped for in a world in which man is bad and fatalism commands. This conclusion brings only sadness immense without doubt — if it is a question of unbelievers."

China War Called Russian Invasion

Dubuque — (NC) — The hostilities in China amount more to a Russian invasion than a civil war, the Very Rev. John T. S. Mao, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Nanking, China, declared during a visit here.

He said that Moscow has supplied the Chinese communists with ammunition and other military supplies, and also has a hand in directing the operations of the Red. Father Mao told the Very Rev. Sylvester D. Luby, president of Loras College, that if China goes communistic then the rest of Asia will be lost to democracy.

Latin-American Plan Outlined

St. Louis — (NC) — Three things should happen soon in Latin America if the Church there is to take its full place in world affairs, according to Archbishop Raymond A. Lanza, S.M., Superior General of Maryknoll, who has just returned from a visitation of Maryknoll missions in that area.

"Without pretending to be an authority on Church affairs in Latin America," Bishop Lanza said, "my many conversations with leaders in the great world to the south cause me to feel that three things should happen there very soon."

"First, the strong sectors of Latin America should supply workers in great numbers for the less fortunate areas, and should push their horizons, wherever possible, to include the entire world. In other words they should organize foreign mission societies."

"Secondly, Catholics of education in Latin America should promote in a far greater scale than at present a continent-wide program of social advance for their poorer brethren, based on the Social Catholicism."

"Thirdly, Catholic relations in Latin America should be advanced to a point where the rest of the Catholic world is enabled to place its missionaries in the less fortunate areas to have their people brought to new destinies, peacefully and humanely."

Disguise of Dominican General Foiled Reds

Dubuque — (NC) — The Most Rev. Emmanuel Suarez, O.P., Major General of the Dominicans, who at one time disguised himself as a long-shorthead to aid fellow Spaniards to escape from Red-controlled areas during the Spanish Civil War, paid a visit here to Archbishop Henry J. Rohlfman of Dubuque.

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