

# Japanese Missions Need More Priests

By WILLIAM E. FANNING, Jr.  
Tokyo — (NC) — A large part of the Church's great opportunity in postwar Japan has been left untouched. And this is running out.

## Newsman Stone On Exhibition

Washington — (NC) — The Washington Stone, which is said to have been a party of the first party of the continent, is now on exhibition at the National Museum in Washington, D. C.

The stone was described by the Rev. Richard M. Huber, S. J., of the Catholic University of America, in an N. C. W. C. News Service article last week. He pointed out that the stone showed that the second voyage was probably the first to the continent about 1000 years before the American discovery of the continent.

## Canada to Bar Reds From U. S.

Ottawa, Ont. — (NC) — Canada has announced that it will bar entry of known Communists from the United States and, at the same time, bid foreign nationals from areas within the Russian orbit that they did not have to register with any government outside Canada unless they want to.

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## U. S. Catholic Aid To Poland Cited

New York — (NC) — A total of 1,000,000 pounds of food, clothing and medicine, valued at \$2,000,000, have been received at the Polish War Relief Service — National Catholic Welfare Conference since 1945 and distributed to the needy, the Rev. Joseph Malin, assistant director of Catholic charitable organization, reports from Cracow in a letter received at the N. C. W. C. Agency offices here.

Father Malin recalled that when the N. C. W. C. was the first foreign relief organization which came to the aid of war-torn Poland and that "we are aware that the organization, inspired by a truly Christian spirit of brotherhood, was helping Poland emerge throughout the war."

# Passion Play—1,000th Performance



Believed to be the oldest continuously produced Passion Play in the United States, "Veronica's Veil" in its 1000th season, recently reached its 1000th performance. Its 250 members of the cast perform every week-end during the Lenten season, in the parish auditorium of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Union City, N. J. In this scene, the child Claudia (Dolores McQuinn) has just been raised from the dead through Veronica's veil, which bears the imprint of the face of the crucified Christ. Wide World. (NC Photos).

## MEDAL GIVEN NCCW HEAD

Chicago — (NC) — The world today needs women whose activities, study and work reflect the ideals of the Catholic Church, His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, asserted as he presented Mundelein College's first Magnificat Medal to Mrs. Henry Mannix of Brooklyn, mother of nine and president of the National Council of Catholic Women.

The medal will be awarded annually by the college to the outstanding alumna of a Catholic college. Mrs. Mannix is an alumna of Manhattanville College of the Sacred-Heart in New York.

"The grandest ambition of a woman," Cardinal Stritch said, "outside of the cloister, is to become a mother. Our Blessed Virgin was a mother. A mother's place is in the home, but as His Holiness Pope Pius XII has pointed out, a good mother should also work for social betterment."

## Only 6 of 700 Children Know About Easter, Survey Shows

Paris — (NC) — Toward what dark horizon is this enervated and wretched youth heading, this youth that lacks bread on its table and enlightenment in its heart?

This question is asked by Robert d'Harcourt, of the French Academy, commenting on the results of a recent religious survey among children 9 to 12 years old in the region of Dresden, Germany, under Soviet occupation. There was a difference between children in the city and those in rural areas, the latter knowing somewhat more of the simple truths of Christianity.

At the great Christian feast of Easter, among 700 children, questioned, only six in the city and suburbs had heard of Christ's resurrection. A similar lack of knowledge of the Nativity was evident. Only two per cent of the children in the city had heard their mothers speak of Christ, and only seven per cent knew vaguely that Christ is God and had died for men.

"The great German Catholic writer, Th. Haecker, M. d'Harcourt concludes, "forecasts the coming of the 'Dark Ages.' This

Priest Captures Thief  
New Orleans — (NC) — A thief who confessed that he had robbed four churches, was captured when he tried to make off with a clock at the Little Flower of Jesus Church, here. The Rev. Michael Finnegan, assistant pastor, apprehended the intruder.

# Peoples Courts Of North China Torture Victims

New York — (NC) — Communism has condemned no one in China; all those condemned have merely been meted out justice by the courts of the people. So claim China's Red leaders.

While this statement appears true on the surface, the true facts behind it are exposed in a survey conducted by Jeuit Missions Magazine published here. It shows that the "people's courts" do not represent the will or judgment of the people; that the "justice" meted out by them is grossly unjust, and that methods used to obtain "confessions" to crimes include some of the most barbarous tortures devised by the human mind.

The survey was made by the Rev. Calvert Alexander, S. J., editor, who recently traveled through north China collecting information on the persecution of the Church under the Communists.

In outlining its findings on the "people's courts," the survey relates that one Bishop was stripped of clothing, except underwear, forced to mount a platform, and assailed by Communist officials. Whenever he tried to defend his priests he was struck on the head with a whip and beaten with iron rods.

## Europe Returns U. S. War Dead

Antwerp, Belgium — (NC) — Monsignor Zech, dean of the Antwerp Cathedral, and two American chaplains offered prayers at ceremonies in connection with the exhuming of the remains of several thousand American soldiers which are being taken to the United States aboard the transport Robert F. Burns. The remains were taken from the Epinal cemetery in Vosges, France.

Monsignor Zech represented His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines.

Rome — (NC) — The United States Graves Registrations Commission has closed the U. S. cemetery in Nettuno to begin preparations for the shipment of the bodies of U. S. war dead to the United States.

Luxembourg — (NC) — The bodies of several thousands of U. S. war dead are being removed from the military cemetery in Hamm, Luxembourg, and will soon be sent to the United States.

# Big Church Building Program Underway

Collegeville, Ind. — (NC) — The greatest wave of church, school and institutional construction and remodeling in all history will take place in the United States during the next decade, according to the Very Rev. Henry A. Lucks, president of the College of St. Joseph of Indiana, sponsor of the National Catholic Building Convention and Exposition to be held in Chicago from June 30 to July 3.

The business and industry foundation of the college is conducting a broad scale survey among Catholic pastors, religious superiors and college officials. Returns to date cover only 309 organizations, all planning building and remodeling projects for the next three years. Value of these projects exceeds \$100,000,000, not including decorating furnishings and equipment.

Previously the greatest wave of church construction occurred in the century between 1170 and 1270, Father Lucks said. In that time in France 80 cathedrals and approximately 500 cathedral-class churches were built at a cost equivalent to about \$3,000,000,000. "Catholic parochial and institutional building has, of course, been at a virtual standstill during and since the war," Father Lucks said. "The accumulated backlog in churches, schools, convents, rectories, recreation centers, hospitals, college buildings, homes and other types of construction is at an all-time high. As rapidly as materials and labor become available we will see hundreds of new Catholic buildings erected throughout the nation."

Leading authorities in the building, furnishing and equipment industries will be at the National Catholic Building Convention and Exposition, of which His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, is honorary chairman. Building field specialists will meet with some 5,000 pastors, religious superiors, college officials and architects from all parts of the United States and Canada.

group shouts. Some priests have been accused of crimes supposedly committed many years before they were born.

Communist spies roam through the meeting. Should any person object to the charges, he is immediately taken captive and himself tried, as opposing the will of the people.

"Shall we beat him, or hang him?" shouts the prosecutor. "Beat him!" "Hang him!" the trained stooges cry.

"Then the torture is meted out to the victim," relates a missionary who has been through a "trial." The accused is beaten with sticks; or his arms are bound behind his back and he is hung up by his wrists until he confesses. Sometimes he is hung by the thumbs so that his toes barely touch the ground.

## Boys' Mayor To Be Ordained

Omaha, Neb. — (NC) — The Rev. Mr. John Farrell, 1948 graduate and former Mayor of Boys Town, will be ordained to the priesthood on April 5 in St. Cecilia's Cathedral, here, by Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan of Omaha. The following day Father Farrell will offer his First Solemn Mass in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Boys Town.

## Chaplain Corps Unconstitutional?

Louisville — (RNS) — The Record, official newspaper of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Louisville declared here that the Army and Navy chaplains corps are unconstitutional.

"We submit," the paper said, "in all seriousness, that, on the basis of the concept of the separation of Church and State adopted and promulgated by the Supreme Court in its recent decision on the Campaign, Ill., 'released time' program of religious education, the existence of an Army and Navy chaplains corps is clearly unconstitutional."

"If it can be stated flatly that to use tax-supported public-school buildings for the dissemination of religious doctrines is unconstitutional, how can it be constitutional to use tax money to erect chapel buildings destined exclusively for religious services?"

## Civil Rights Program Gets Interracial O. K.

New York — (NC) — President Truman's civil rights program was characterized as a solemn attempt by the government to redress grievances and as a chance for the United States to strengthen its prestige abroad, in discussions at the Catholic Interracial Council here by the Rev. Charles Keenan, S. J., managing editor of America, and George K. Hunton, secretary of the Council.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting: calling on members present to request their congressmen to support recommendations of the program.

# Mussolini Admitted Existence of Christ In His Final Days, Priest-Author Reveals

Wilwaukee — (NC) — Mussolini, who during his youth wrote a pamphlet "God Does Not Exist" in which he indicated that he thought Jesus Christ was purely a mythical person, came around in his last days to a grudging admission that he was in error and that the historical existence of Christ could not be doubted.

This footnote to history is disclosed in word received by the Bruce Publishing Company here from the Rev. Giuseppe Ricciotti, who said he was reliably informed that his volume "The Life of Christ" was the last book the Italian dictator read before his death and that it was probably responsible for the Duce's change of opinion.

The Mussolini copy of "The Life of Christ" is now in the hands of an American collector, who paid a high price for it, according to Father Ricciotti. He said that after the Duce escaped from captivity on the Island of Ponza to Northern Italy, British officers came to question the priest about the book and about Mussolini's use of it.

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