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**Red Tortures Of Missionaries Told in Diary**

Arlington, Va. (NC)—Details of the persecution suffered by Catholic missionaries in Red China are related in the diary of an Immaculate Heart of Mary Missioner, who together with a number of other missionaries endured several months of imprisonment and trials by "people's courts" under the Reds.

(According to the N.C.W.C. correspondent in China, 11 Immaculate Heart of Mary priests, including the author of the diary, have reached Peking after being liberated by the communists. "There the priests related the cruel death of one of their confreres and stated that 10 others were still being held by the Reds in various prisons.")

The following are excerpts from the diary which was received here at the U. S. Immaculate Heart of Mary headquarters:

Nov. 28: This afternoon the communist civil administrator with soldiers from the Chinese communist 8th Army came and searched the residence. The priests were confined in one room, the Sisters and seminarians of the minor seminary were held in the church. All rooms were sealed. Later the seminarians and boy servants were confined in one room, and the Sisters, four women and six girls in another. A Red guard was posted at each door.

Nov. 29: Today the trial of the priests began. Father Chang (the Rev. Peter Chang, I.H.M.) and Mr. Ch'i, the business agent of the mission, were led away to the police station and imprisoned there. As he was leaving Father Chang called out in Latin to the other priests: "Moriatur fortiter—(Let us die courageously!)"

Nov. 30: All the priests were locked in the church, under guard and were forced to acknowledge their guilt—anti-communism. Meanwhile the communists headed a mob which looted the mission. During the day Father Chang was cruelly tortured.

Dec. 1: The priests were tied and led to the theatre of the town along with the Sisters and servants of the mission. There the mob, driven on by the communists, accused the priests who were forced to stand on the stage with the Sisters. Father Chang was severely beaten in public. When the Reds started beating 70-year-old Father Heyna, Father Vloeberghs volunteered to take the punishment for him and the Reds agreed.

Dec. 4: The servants were tortured and the priests were searched again so that anything that had escaped the looting could be extorted. The seminarians, still imprisoned in the Church, had to write "self-accusations."

Dec. 7: Thirty-seven seminarians, four girls and Sisters Chang of Chien-chang and Wang of Pologhshao, were led away by the Reds.

Dec. 8: The Sisters were sent home to the mission. Those led away yesterday did not return.

Dec. 16: All the priests brought from Ling-yuan were allowed to live with a Mongolian family. Twice a day a soldier led them to prison to have their meals.

Dec. 19: Father Buxin was sent back to his village to be tried there.

Jan. 7: During the night Father Chang was tried again and beaten. His leg was broken and the soldiers had to carry him back to his cell. Father Buxin, in the cell next to him, heard him moaning the whole night.

**At Our House Kitty Gets Her Diamond From Paul At St. Pat's**

By MARY TENLEY DALY

The lecturer had painted a gloomy picture of the young people of today—particularly as regards marriage. "Our young people are entering the married state heedlessly, recklessly, with no regard for spiritual values," he thundered. "They expect the romantic glow of a moonlight night on a country road to carry over to the workaday life of marriage—and when it doesn't, they quit. No wonder the divorce rate in this country is appalling. One marriage in every three ends in divorce—even more than that in some states."

It was a dark forecast. Coming out of the lecture hall into a chill drizzling rain, I pondered the whys and wherefores of the muddled state of things. Have our young people really lost all sight of the spiritual? Of course they have some pretty frightening problems to face: the housing shortage, the high cost of living and the restless state of the world—but surely they are not all "heedless and reckless."

BEFORE GOING HOME I dropped into one of the big downtown churches—dim, quiet and peaceful. After lighting a votive candle, I knelt in one of the front pews, relaxing and thinking more than praying.

A few minutes later a young couple came up the aisle, hand in hand. The girl's "new look" gray skirt swished beneath a short bright green coat, her crisp blond hair fluffed out from a little green hat like a halo. As they knelt at the communion rail, I recognized the girl, Kitty, the envied "prom queen" of last June, and a friend of my daughter. Kitty had always been very pretty and popular, and I had heard that she was now "going steady" with a young lawyer. This, evidently, was the lawyer. The couple knelt at the rail for a few moments, blond and brunette heads bent in deep devotion. Then the boy took a little box out of his pocket, opened it and, with one arm around the girl's shoulders, put a sparkling diamond on her left hand.

I felt like the svesdripper I was—but to prove now would undoubtedly embarrass them. "This was a sweet and reassuring sight—particularly after this afternoon's lecture. "Gee, Kit," murmured the young man, "I'm glad we came in here to put this ring on. It makes it sorta—well, for keeps." "We'd never be able to run our show the way we want to by ourselves. It's good to know that there's somebody always ready to help us."

He nodded toward the tabernacle. The girl smiled understandingly. "Um-hum," she said, "and His Mother too."

A few more moments of prayer.

**Czechoslovak Diplomat At Vatican Resigns**

Rome (RNS)—Prince Franz Schwarzenberg, First Secretary of the Czechoslovak Legation in Vatican City, announced his resignation shortly after learning that Jan Masaryk, Czech Foreign Minister, had committed suicide.

Commenting on the death of Masaryk, Osservatore Romano, Vatican newspaper, declared: "Suicide is a gesture of desperation, and means surrender, exactly what a patriot, a political leader and a government man ought at any price to refuse."

**April Book Selections**

New York (NC)—Catholic Children's Book Club has announced the following selections for April: Picture Book Group (ages 6 to 8): "Mustache" by Douglas Rigby and "Chanticleer" by Roger Duvoisin; Intermediate Group (ages 9 to 11): "Thunder in the Mountains" by Hilda Mary Hooker, collection of humor-filled folk tales from Canada and the United States; Older Boys Group (ages 12 to 16): "The Thief of the Golden Ring" by Isabelle Lawrence, an adventure story with plenty of historical background, and "Older Girls Group (ages 12 to 16): "Your Kind Indulgence" by Gladys Malvern, a heartwarming story of a young girl striving for a career in New York's first theatre.

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**OUTSTANDING SERVICE**



Mrs. Henry Mannix, of Brooklyn, mother of nine children and president of the National Council of Catholic Women, receives the first award of the Magnificat Medal of Mundelein College, Chicago, from the hands of Samuel Cardinal Stritch. Mrs. Mannix is the American representative on the International League of Catholic Women. (NC Photos)

**State Control For Catholic Hospitals Out**

London (NC)—Britain's 60 Catholic hospitals are not to be taken over by the State under the new nationalizing Health Act which comes into operation on July 5. Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health, has assured the Catholic authorities here.

This decision follows months of amicable negotiations between His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, and the health department, to avoid the grave injustice such a taking over of Catholic hospitals would have involved.

Under the new Act the Ministry of Health is entitled to take over all voluntary hospitals, that is all hospitals supported by voluntary subscriptions, without any compensation whatsoever, it being argued that these hospitals had been erected and maintained by public monies and that they should henceforth be the charge of the community.

CARDINAL GRIFFIN and his delegates pointed out, however, that Catholic hospitals, though supported partly by voluntary contributions, are the private property of religious communities or of dioceses who had built them out of their own private funds.

They further pointed out that under the new plan hospitals would come under regional boards who would appoint doctors and staff and who would naturally—in a country where Catholics are outnumbered by ten to one—be composed mostly of non-Catholics.

The Catholic hospitals—which include kindred institutions, such as homes for mental defectives—will therefore continue to function as before after July 5. The hospitals have agreed, however, to cooperate in the national health plan by placing a large number of their beds at the disposal of the regional boards to accommodate Catholic patients whose fees will be paid out of the state health fund.

British Catholics will have to pay a heavy price for their decision to keep their hospitals. They will have to maintain them, voluntarily, at the standard of the other hospitals which will be paid for out of public funds.

Monte Casino Gets Aid  
 Rome—A grant of ten billion lire for reconstruction of the town of Monte Casino and its neighboring communities has been approved by the Italian government.

**Nuns Get Credit 'Children Ahead' Sign Leads To Happy Villa**

BY MARIE WEIDMAN  
 Rochester Catholic Charities

Winding up a green knot on our city's outskirts there is a roadway with bright yellow signs asking caution because there are children up ahead. There are, as a matter of fact, one hundred and twenty of them, ranging in age from six to fourteen, all members of St. Joseph's Villa, our diocesan institution for homeless children.

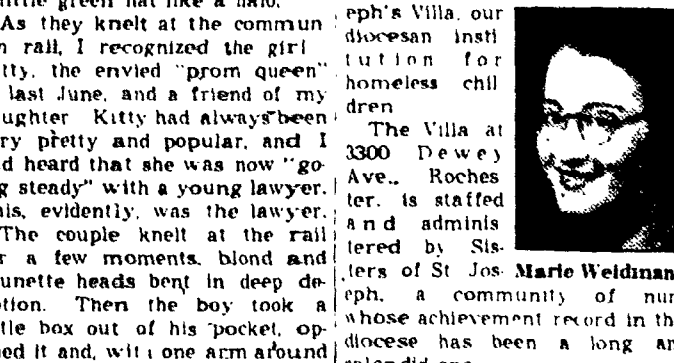
The Villa at 3300 Dewey Ave., Rochester, is staffed and administered by Sisters of St. Joseph, a community of nuns whose achievement record in this diocese has been a long and splendid one.

THE SETTING for this community of children is of very verdant, rolling acreage with wonderfully wooded nooks and crannies which youngsters so love to explore. Competent recreational leaders make the most of these grounds by conducting year-round sports programs varied enough to appeal to every child.

It was Charles Dickens, it we recall, who described so touchingly life in English orphanages of his day. Their cold, grey halls, the dull and scanty food, the appalling guards and matrons have brought tears to the eyes of generations of Dickens lovers. Today such conditions are unheard of, so great has the progress been toward enlightened institutional care for those youngsters who are in need of this type of living.

GONE ARE THE cheerless uniforms children used to wear; today each child has his own wardrobe each as individual as the child who wears it. Diet receives the greatest attention and the Villa has trained dietitians who plan well balanced meals, many times more nourishing than the child received in his own home before arriving at the Villa. A great step forward, too, is the constant attention of a trained nurse and pediatrician who give immediate attention to the ill child.

One of the major changes at the Villa is the fact that children no longer occupy one large building or group of buildings. It has been found that smaller groups living in cottages are easier to manage, easier to adjust and that the youngsters know better to each other. At the Villa there are three boys' cottages and two girls' cottages, with the need becoming increasingly apparent that in the future more must be added. These large brick cottages are bright, cheerful and clean, kept so by the willingness of the children themselves. Also on "campus" is a low, white building which houses the school—eight grammar school grades. When a child finishes school he must leave the Villa and at this point Rochester Catholic Charities frequently aids in making some other plan for him. If his family cannot give him a home, or if his parents are dead,



There is little danger of life becoming dull or routine at the Villa. Its members have much the same opportunities as other children. There are weekly movies, parties and innumerable picnics throughout the summer. Many charitable groups give freely of their time and money both at Christmas and other times during the year.

Of course many children cannot adjust to group living; when this is the case Villa authorities often with the aid of Catholic Charities removes him to what would be for him, a more acceptable kind of situation.

Credit for this smooth-running diocesan institution must be given to the Sisters of St. Joseph who work and live constantly with the children, who care for them when they are ill, who watch them grow and develop and who never cease to pray for them. These sisters have provided a quiet haven for scores of children who often look back to their days at the Villa as their happiest.

**Oblate Fathers Slated For Japanese Missions**

Montreal (NC)—The Oblates of Mary Immaculate soon will add missionary work in Japan to their labors in other parts of the world, the Very Rev. Leo Deschatelets, Superior General, announced on his first visit to his Canadian homeland since his election a year ago as head of the Oblates.

Father Deschatelets said the Holy See had asked the Oblates to assist in the missionary work in Japan. Missionaries to Japan will be named shortly, he added.

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