

Plans to join in convent old foundation here. She is Miss Ruby Brock of Covington, Ky. The Passionist nuns, a cloistered community, plan to construct a laywomen's retreat house on their grounds.

### Supreme Court Ban On Religious Study Spreads Confusion Across Nation

(Continued from Page 1)

Public Safety and Public Works and with no objection of the Indiana Public Service Commission, a daily schedule will send four buses to various schools to accommodate the 3,000 children of 125 classes who are expected to enroll.

IN KANSAS, Attorney General Edward F. Arn this week ruled that it is illegal to use public school buildings or time for religious training.

He has held two practices to be violations of the U. S. Constitution: (1) religious instruction held within a public school building; and (2) religious training given outside school premises where children are released from regular school routine for given periods.

The attorney general's opinion was expected to have a wide effect. Released-time weekday church schools are an established custom in most Kansas communities.

FLORIDA'S ATTORNEY General Tom Watson has given the opinion that the state's "non-sectarian Bible instruction plan" is not made illegal by the Supreme Court decision banning teaching in public schools.

According to Watson, the Bible instruction plan is legal, even in view of the Supreme Court decision, which is now provided for by regulations drawn up by the

State Board of Education. The plan permits teaching of a Bible course to those pupils who want it.

Watson declined to comment on the legality of these plans also in use in Florida schools:

1. The schools make it possible for ministers or religious workers representing various denominations to come to the school for one period a week to give religious instruction on an elective basis.

2. Various religious groups in the community combine to em-

the State Board of Education sanctions such an arrangement.

He added, however, that parents or guardians must sign an appropriate request for such release and parents in the local community must be responsible for securing these signed requests outside of the public school. Almond also stressed that all such classes in religious and moral instruction must be operated independently of the control, supervision or responsibility of the public schools, and that no public funds may be used.

"This plan," he continued, "states that the public school authorities shall have no control, supervision or responsibility over the classes in religious education. So long as the plan operates in this manner, it is my opinion that it is constitutionally unobjectional."

AS A RESULT OF the Supreme Court decision, Bishop Thomas J. Toolan of the Diocese of Mobile, which includes the entire state of Alabama and part of Florida, has ordered that with the opening of the new school year every child of Catholic parentage must attend a Catholic school.

Penalty for failure to obey the law will be refusal of sacraments to the parents.

A letter from the Bishop read in every Catholic church of the diocese states:

"The latest decision of the Supreme Court makes it very necessary that every Catholic child be in a Catholic school for in this school alone will the child learn of God and the great gift of faith which He has given them."

"All Catholic parents who do not send their children to Catholic schools are to be denied the

### Catholic School Ban Protested

Paris—(RNS)—The French government has instructed its Ambassador in Sofia, M. Camille Paris, to protest against the closing of French schools in Bulgaria, it was learned here. Most of the schools are conducted by Roman Catholic religious orders.

(A Sofia dispatch to Bell-gious News Service last July declared that the National Committee of the Fatherland Front, Communist-dominated government coalition, had called for the discontinuance of "any kind of religious propaganda among children."

IN NEW YORK STATE two suits have been filed to force the State Board of Education to halt the released-time religious instruction program for public school pupils.

Both suits are still pending. One was filed last May in Albany County Supreme Court by Joseph Lewis, president of the Free-thinkers of America. The other suit was filed last month in the Brooklyn Supreme Court by two Brooklyn parents, Tessim Zorach and Mrs. Esta Gluck.

Among the organizations supporting Zorach and Mrs. Gluck in their suit are the American Civil Liberties Union, the United Parents Association, the American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Committee, the Synagogue Council of America and the Public Education As-



BISHOP TOOLE

play an individual full-time to give daily religious instruction on an elective basis.

3. Ministers or religious workers of the various denominations go to the schools at regular hours to give instructions for which the pupils may remain if they like.

PENNSYLVANIA is troubled with doubt surrounding the legality of released-time programs as a result of an opinion handed down by its Attorney General T. McKeen Chidsey.

While Chidsey ruled that released-time religious training is legal if held outside public school buildings, he declared at his home here that he had been asked only to rule on the effect in Pennsylvania of the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Champaign, Ill., case. He emphasized that he had not been requested to decide on any specific program.

Chidsey's ruling, which bans religious education classes conducted in public schools, left open to individual interpretation the legality of local released-time programs which give pupils time off during school hours to take religious instruction outside public school buildings. He said here that it was up to each school board to ask its solicitor for an opinion on the legality of its particular program.

VIRGINIA'S Attorney General J. Lindsay Almond has also doubts about the constitutionality of most of the weekday religious education classes offered in the state.

Almond's opinion came when he was asked to rule on the three religious education plans offered by the Virginia Protestant Council of Churches. The attorney general approved only one of these.

He said it appeared that "in the great majority of cases, the school authorities were responsible for the failure of the child to report to the religious education class and were likewise responsible for the discipline of the child should he misbehave in class beyond the authority of the religious education teacher to control him."

Then he added "I have grave doubts as to the constitutionality of any plan operating in such a fashion."

ALMOND FURTHER RULED: "In situations in the state where a group of competent and responsible parents shall petition a county or city school board to release pupils of the elementary grades for non-compulsory non-sectarian religious instruction for a period of one hour each week,

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**JUST ONE MORE**

We need one more offering for Bishop Paul Cheikho, of Akra, Iraq, and we shall have filled the needs of this young Bishop. He asks for four hundred and fifty dollars, a ridiculously low price in these times, to build a little chapel. Can you make this year House of God among God's grateful poor? Delight the heart of a poor Shepherd of souls.

**DIED WORN OUT**

Now comes the sad news of the death of Archbishop Paul Saiman of Transjordan. In sixteen years he brought six thousand into the Church, established 42 missions, built schools for 1,200 poor children, through Near East benefactors. He died worn out, after ordaining four new priests. His last appeal to us was for \$150 to furnish a chapel just built. Can you fulfill his dying wish?

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During this month of Our Lady's Sorrows enroll a loved one deceased in our Purgatorial Society. Perpetual enrollment is twenty dollars. Members gain indulgences on September 8, 14, 21, 29. Annual enrollment is only one dollar.

**WHITE CLAD MONKS**

White Trappist monks, five of them, have a temporary monastery at Asmara, East Africa. Six native boys have entered their Order. Before the year ends they will need a thousand dollars to complete their cloistered home. Please help them.

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Nineteen years old, Mahari Nerih, has just begun his studies for the priesthood in Cheren Seminary. Can you make him your adopted son in Christ and give the six hundred dollars needed for his six years of training? Write for our picture folder.

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**MESSAGE TO MOTHER**

Read Father Damien's message to his mother in our picture pamphlet "TWO FACES," which we send to all who give to the Damien Leprosy Fund.

**TOO MANY NEEDS**

Appeals for special pictures, costing fifty dollars, for lovely chalices, costing the same, for sanctuary lamps, twenty dollars, for crucifixes and candlesticks, twenty-five dollars, all for humble Near East mission chapels, come to us daily. Perhaps you will want to help.

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