



Cornerstone of the new Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel, Bushnell's Basin, laid by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney assisted by Rev. Dr. Louis Edelman, pastor (left) and Rev. Dr. Edward J. Lenti. The site was donated by Mr. and Mrs. James Woods.

# Mayor of Pagan City in Japan Pleads for Catholic Missioners

Himeji, Japan — (NC) — A unique request to bring the faith to a Japanese town in the Hyogo prefecture has been received by the Immaculate Heart of Mary missionaries here. The request was made in a letter signed by the mayor, the first alderman and a prominent businessman of Mizu, a town of 9,000 people without a single Catholic.

The letter pleaded for priests and Sisters because the citizens of the town, it stated, are convinced that "the Catholic Church alone holds the key to social peace and happiness." The officials promise to provide the priests with a church and rectory and a site that is the "best place in town" and offer a large apartment house as a convent for the nuns.

While the Catholic mission here has only ten priests, with most of them newcomers to Japan and only one able to speak Japanese

fluently at present, the Rev. Joseph Spee, I.H.M., supervisor of the mission, said that the request of the Mizu people would be granted.

"Our town wishes to initiate a movement," the letter stated, "which we believe will lead towards a better place for us to live in and towards a better world. While there are no Catholics in this town, we have come to the conclusion that the Catholic Church alone holds the key to social peace and happiness. Some of us have seen the self-sacrificing life of your missionaries in China and the care you take of orphans, old people and all destitute persons.

"We, the mayor and aldermen of this town, with the exception of the one communist member, have unanimously decided to invite your collaboration to make our town a true Catholic center from which truth and happiness will radiate many miles around. We do not know

how to accomplish this purpose, but we do know that we want it and are willing to force you, as it were, by the earnestness of our appeal to accept our invitation. We do not think you can refuse.

"Without wishing to want our town above other communities, we like to point out that it is situated along the Inland Sea at a most scenic spot, which before long may become a national park. Our people are mostly farmers, devoted to their families and their land. But they need guidance and instruction if they are to improve themselves and the productivity of their fields.

"This place has since times immemorial been spared from earthquakes and floods. But worse than these, we now fear the confusion which, since the end of the war, has crept into our minds. We believe that life should have a

higher purpose than that of this earth. We have until now been able to keep the law of civil strife at our very doors, but in the morning, during the night, which seeks to destroy our country and our homes and our fields, is rearing its ugly head.

"Lest you should mistake this desire of ours as a mere flight of fancy, we have decided in plenary session of the town's people upon the following measures:

"1. We shall purchase and donate to the Catholic Church a government-owned property of 55 hectares (about 150 acres) along the shore of the Inland Sea. This property has a private beach and we think it is the best place in town.

"2. The town shall transfer to the Catholic Church ownership of two hectares (five acres)

(Continued on Page 6)

## THE CATHOLIC *Courier Journal* OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Last Week's ABC\*  
Paid Circulation  
27,491  
\*And\* Bureau of Circulation

14 Pages ROCHESTER, N. Y., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1948



Two Bishops join in observing St. Monica's Church Golden Jubilee. Here with His Excellency, Bishop Kearney (center) celebrating the Solemn Pontifical Mass is His Excellency, Most Rev. Walter A. Foery, Bishop of Syracuse (left) and Very Rev. Msgr. Gerald C. Lambert, pastor.



A scroll of names of Rochester Circle, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae donors to a new altar in Religion of the Cenacle Retreat House, 693 East Ave., Rochester is presented by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney to Mrs. Mother Angela Murphy. Looking on is Mrs. Frank A. Eaton, Rochester Circle president.

# Catholic University Only 'White' School Welcoming Negroes in Nation's Capital

## Abp. O'Boyle Says Divorce Scores Bias To Negroes

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington said here that he "never heard of any such incident" of racial discrimination occurring in a Roman Catholic church as described in a report prepared by the National Committee on Segregation in the Nation's Capital.

"IF SUCH A thing happened and I heard of it," the Archbishop said, "I would have acted immediately to correct the situation and prevent it from ever happening again."

The Archbishop's reply was made to a charge in the Committee Report that "a devout Catholic from Panama" entered a Catholic church here one day only to be told that he would be welcome at one of the "special churches for Negro Catholics" here.

ARCHBISHOP O'BOYLE declared that "an incident of this kind is contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The doors of every Catholic church in Washington are wide open to all who wish to come in to pray and to worship Almighty God.

"The report of the committee is of real social value. I am sorry that this part of the report jumped to a general indictment based on one incident."

## CYO'S GIRL OF THE YEAR



From Hollywood, Calif., comes this photo of Father Hill, one of the directors of the Catholic Youth Organization here, presenting a plaque to motion picture star, Joan Leslie, chosen "Girl of the Year" by the CYO for her untiring efforts and charities for the youth of the world. INF. (NC Photos)

## Report Hits Washington On Race Ban

Washington — (NC) — The Catholic University of America is the only "white" college in the Washington area which welcomes Negroes, whose leaders from all parts of the United States declared in a 25-page report on segregation in Washington.

THE TREATMENT of Negroes in jobs, housing, recreational facilities, hospitals and churches in the Nation's Capital mars that country's reputation before the world, the Committee charges.

The committee concludes that the treatment of Negroes in the capital is worse than it was 60 years ago and is of concern to all Americans because Washington is a symbol to foreign visitors.

The practices of religious bodies are touched upon in the report and Protestants and Catholics both are criticized. "The exclusion of Negro Catholics from 'white' Catholic churches is one of the most disturbing aspects of segregation which Latin Americans find in Washington," the report states.

An incident is described in which a "devout Catholic from Panama" was approached by a priest in a Washington church and given a slip with the name of a Negro Catholic church, with the explanation that he would be welcome there.

A later addition to the report refers to this occurrence as follows: "These incidents are few in number but have a symbolic importance. Recently action has been taken in the Archdiocese of Washington to eliminate discrimination."

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY Hospital is also mentioned in the report. After noting that public money was used in the building of a recent addition to the Catholic-operated institution, the study says that despite this fact, the hospital limits the number of beds for Negro patients and excludes Negro doctors from staff positions and courtesy privileges. A footnote declares that Negro girls have been assigned as practical nurses in the hospital.

However, in December, 1947, the Congress of Industrial Organizations contributed \$55,000 to equip the children's wing of the hospital. It was announced at that time that the C.I.O., which had raised the money through five-cent donations from 1,100,000 workers, chose the university hospital because it does not practice racial or religious discrimination in admission and treating patients.

JAMES B. O'NEILL  
(Continued on Page 6)

## ON GUARD

"Swinging Left" Loaded Question Is It Christianity?  
By REV. P. J. FLYNN

The readiness of so many to hurl the damaging label of socialism at every government proposal for improving the national welfare betrays the fact that some of our fellow-citizens are confused not only about socialism but also about Christian social principles.

THERE IS much talk these days in the press and on the platform about the American people "swinging to the left" and about an alleged trend toward socialism in our federal government.

This is particularly true since the recent election which saw the people re-elect a president who has championed a (Continued on Page 6)

Floral arrangements for any session always properly styled, says the best showing for your money at Blanchard Florist, 53 E. Ave. Call Main 1992—our festive colored deliveries cover sections every day.—Adv.

## Discovery Revives Search For St. Thomas More Tomb

London — (NC) — A forgotten vault, discovered by chance near the bombed ruins of Chelsea Old Church, in London's West End, has led to a new attempt to prove or disprove the ancient tradition that the headless body of St. Thomas More was buried there after his execution in 1535.

The discovery was made when a woman gardener working in the ancient churchyard caused a sudden subsidence of the soil, disclosing a vault never known to the authorities of the now Protestant parish.

It is known that after St. Thomas More's execution on Tower Hill, his daughter, Margaret Roper, took the severed head to the Roper family vault at St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, 50 miles southeast of London. The place of burial of the martyr's body, however, has been a matter of much controversy.

The most widely accepted theory is that the remains still lie in their original burial place in the chapel of St. Peter Ad Vincula in the old Tower of London, but some authorities from the sixteenth century onwards have held that the body was brought to Chelsea Old Church, which includes the More family chapel.

WHEN THE CHURCH was largely destroyed by bombing during the war the More Chapel was the only part of the building to survive. Two years ago the vault beneath the More Chapel was opened but nothing was found. The new vault now discovered may, it is believed, be the actual vault in which the body was placed. A first exploration produced fragments of a brass-studded coffin and shreds of cloth, but these were found to be of the eighteenth century. Further explorations of the underground area are now being undertaken.

## Plan Four Homes For Aged Folks

Washington (NC) Plans for new homes for the aged are under way in the diocese of Winona, Minn. (Winington, Ky., Sioux Falls, S. D., and Oklahoma City and Tulsa, according to recent announcements from these places.

In Oklahoma City plans for a \$450,000 home are already in the hands of the contractors.

## Midnight Mass Broadcasts Slated for Christmas Eve

Five Rochester radio stations and one Auburn station will broadcast Midnight Masses and sermons to the Rochester Diocese on Christmas Eve, as follows:

WHAM (1180 kc.) — Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral — Solemn Pontifical Mass and Christmas sermon by His Excellency, Bishop James E. Kearney.

WHEC (1470 kc.) — Old St. Mary's Church — Rev. George Kettell, celebrant and preacher.

WVET (1280 kc.) — Holy Rosary Church — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles F. Shay, celebrant and preacher.

WSAY (1370 kc.) — St. Monica's Church — Very Rev. Msgr. Gerald C. Lambert, celebrant and preacher.

WARC (950 kc.) — St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans — Most Rev. Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel, celebrant and preacher at Pontifical Mass.

WMBO (1340 kc.) Auburn — St. Mary's Church — Rt. Rev. Msgr. William E. Cowen, celebrant.

## President Truman Praises 'Great' Dominican Sisters

Vatican City — (NC) — President Truman, in a letter to a Religious in Italy, has paid glowing tribute to the "great Dominican Sisterhood."

The letter was addressed to Sister Mary Eunice of the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, Wis., directress of the Plus XII Institute at Villa Schifanoia in Florence on the occasion of the formal opening of the Institute as a graduate school in the fine arts.

Villa Schifanoia was donated to the Pope in 1941 by Mr. and Mrs. Myron C. Taylor, President Truman's personal representative to the Holy Father.

In his letter, which was made available here by the Vatican press office, President Truman referred to the beauty of the villa and its surroundings and commented on Mr. Taylor's "characteristic munificence" on behalf of the arts and education.

EXPRESSING GREAT interest in the work of the Institute, Mr. Truman wrote that he believed that Mr. Taylor's gift "will become a center of culture unique among educational institutions."

"It is particularly fitting," he wrote, "that the great Dominican Sisterhood, with roots deep in the culture of the past, should be chosen to administer this trust. I congratulate you upon the opportunity which is yours in launching so great a work."

## Church Liberty Tied to Future Aid for China

Shanghai — (NC) — Violation of religious freedom will disqualify any new Chinese government for aid from the Economic Cooperation Administration, Paul G. Hoffman, ECA administrator stated here.

Mr. Hoffman's replies in a press conference dealt with a possible coalition government resulting from the present crisis in China.

"If it was a coalition that represented all the people, I would recommend that ECA relief be continued," he said. He made clear that a coalition "completely communistic... with customary communist tactics of denying free speech and purging enemies" would be denied ECA aid.

"Will religious freedom be regarded as an essential part of the liberty expected from a coalition government?" Hoffman was asked.

"Definitely yes," he answered. "We would certainly not go along with any coalition that suppressed religious freedom."