

British Bishop Study English for Mass

London (NC)—The British Hierarchy has seriously considered the question of a greater use of English in certain ceremonies and, without reaching any definite decision, has requested a new official English translation of the Roman Ritual.

The English Liturgical Catholic monthly, announced this in a current issue with the permission of His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster.

The discussion was held at the hierarchy's last week meeting.

There are grave reasons and well-founded arguments for the retention of one universal language for the whole Church," the English Liturgical states. "We have never denied these reasons or belittled them.

"We have challenged them on one count only — the good of souls; and if we can establish the contention that permission to use the vernacular will be, in practice, beneficial, then no arguments based on convenience or liturgical, no reasons of artistic or musical tradition, can in the long run be allowed to stand in the way of reform.

"At the same time, it is equally obvious that where the good of souls is not in question the contention can have no force."

THE LONG REPORT, approved by Cardinal Griffin, says that "there may be, at least in some cases, reasons for retaining a Latin liturgy, but among those reasons we cannot admit the contention that a vernacular liturgy would be a threat to the unity and universality of the Church.

"The statement is demonstrably false, and if we can succeed in making this falsehood the counter, we shall have secured well of those who wish to argue the question on its proper merits; in other words, to examine whether it may not be to the greater good of souls to have a liturgy in which one use, in the words of the Pope, 'holily and intelligently' is permitted in place of another."

"Once it is granted that the good of souls is the supreme test we are content that the argument shall run its course; it will be determined by those who have the care of souls in the fullest and most authoritative degree — the Bishops.

"THERE IS MUCH prejudice and misunderstanding to be cleared away, before the arguments pro and con can be put fairly and squarely one against another. The arena is littered with half-truths and ill-considered slogans.

"Take, for instance, the contention that the one universal Church should have one universal language.

"If this means that the Church ought to have one definite and official language in which all her decrees, ordinances and prayers are framed, which shall be supra-national so as to form a medium by which her children, clergy and

lally, may if they so wish communicate with one another, then the answer is, so far as the Western Church is concerned, she has such a language and no one wishes it changed or curtailed.

"BUT IF IT means that all Catholics, in addition to their own must learn another language before they can understand her message or take part in her liturgy, there anyone making such a demand is living in a land of fantasy far removed from all reality.

"A few enthusiasts may entertain the notion that such a plan is feasible, but they are very few and their numbers must be getting less for the trend of

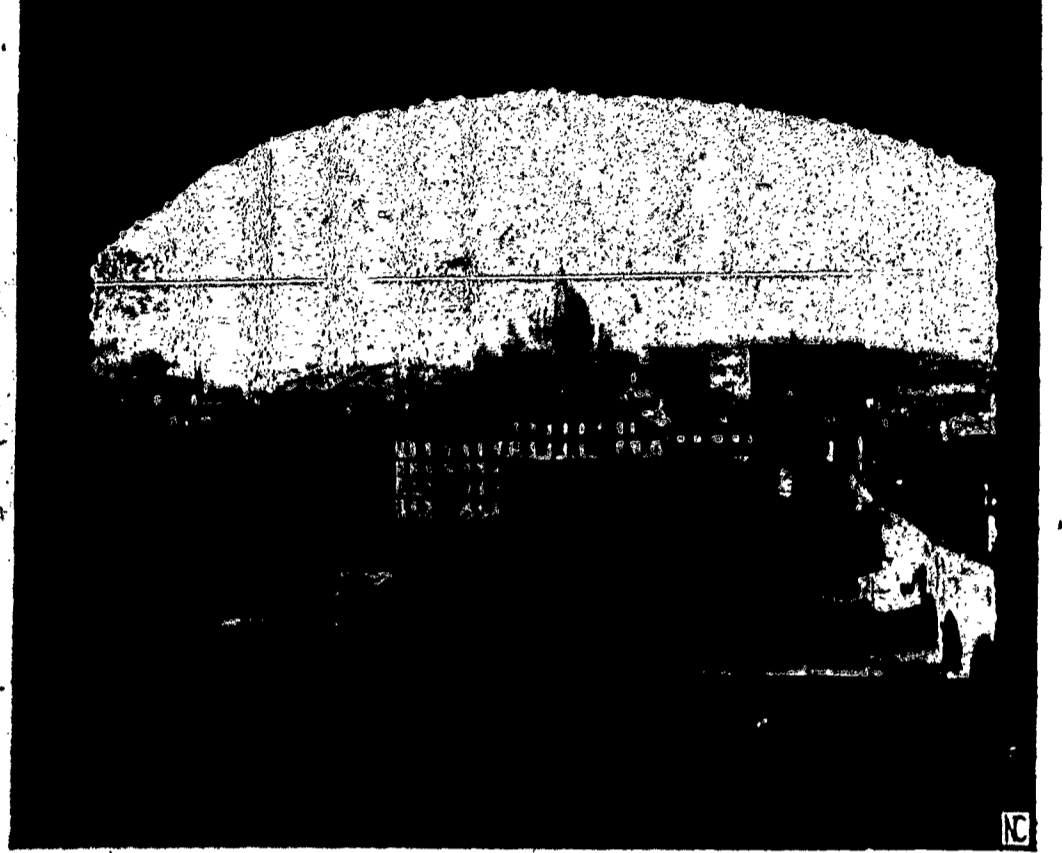
modern education is destroying their hopes. In spite of the spread of popular education there are probably fewer people learning Latin now than there were a hundred years ago.

"FOR THOSE WHO dislike the idea of a vernacular liturgy there are two ways of escape from the hard logic of these facts, one by way of wishful thinking — 'It is quite easy to learn enough Latin to follow the liturgy intelligently' — and one by way of a tacit and perhaps unconscious acceptance of an egotistic theory of worship — 'It is not necessary for the worshipper to know what he is saying; the priest knows and the worshippers

join their intention with his... 'Nobody sees any danger to the unity and catholicity of the Church in an English Bible, an English Catechism, or an English prayer book; all these are handed to us by the Church with her warranty, sanctioned by her authority and so commended to our use...'

"Only when we turn to God to praise His name and ask His mercy in the forms prescribed for public worship must we clothe our thoughts in an alien language; only then (so we are asked to believe) is the unity of the Church endangered should we attempt to utter our thoughts in the language in which they came to us..."

As Rome Builds For Holy Year



From the Castle of St. Angelo, Rome, the photographer has framed this picture of a building now under construction near St. Peter's. Part of it will be used as a hotel for pilgrims expected to visit the Eternal City during the Holy Year of 1950. The building which will have 400 beds, will also have offices for the various Catholic Action organizations, an information center, a printing plant for Catholic Action newspaper and a theater seating 2,500. (NC Photos.)

'Help Others' Pontiff Tells Rome Nobility

By REV. JOSEPH J. SULLIVAN

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII told members of the Roman nobility, whom he received in special audience, that their real place of honor, their noblest precedence lay in being always first in service to their neighbors, the Church and God.

RECALLING THAT LAST year he told them of the three-fold duty of fortitude of spirit, readiness of action, and generous adherence to the precepts of Christ's Doctrine and life, he used the parable of talents.

"Without doubt," said the Pontiff, "this triple duty binds all always; nevertheless, it binds differently, according to ever changing events and special conditions, those whom it obligates."

The Holy Father observed that although, according to the constitution of Italy, the titles of the nobility are not recognized, the people, whether favorably or hostilely disposed, look to them as exemplars.

THEREFORE, it behooves you to correspond to such expectations and show in what manner your conduct and acts may conform with truth and virtue, particularly in points we have recalled in our recommendations.

All classes of mankind are suffering the Holy Father went on, and if some escape misery, that should move them to support the miseries of others.

"Isn't it true," the Holy Father asked in speaking of readiness of action "that those who have more time and more abundant means should be the most eager and the most solicitous to serve?"

FRATERS BUILD BLOOD BANK



Commemorating the first anniversary of the blood bank their college helped to build, ten students for the priesthood at Capuchin College, Catholic University, visited the blood donor center in the Nation's Capital and gave their blood that others might live. Pictured: Mrs. Helen Kemmerer, Red Cross nurse lets blood from the arm of Frater Theodorus as some of his confreres look on. (NC Photos.)

Belgian Parents Fight To Save Church Schools

By REV. ANTHONY COPPENS

Brussels, Belgium — (NC) — For the fourth time in slightly more than a century, Belgium's Catholics are facing a fight for the Christian education of their children. Steps are being considered by the liberal and socialist elements of the legislature to halt the partial State aid given ecclesiastical, or "free" schools as they are called in Belgium, or to bring them under tighter State control.

IN A COUNTEROFFENSIVE the Belgian Hierarchy issued a joint pastoral, reminding parents of their grave obligation to provide their children with a Christian education. The pastoral was read in all Catholic churches throughout Belgium on five consecutive Sundays.

In a recent address to Catholic Action men, His Eminence Ernest Cardinal Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines, declared that "the one hour of catechism a week in State schools is incapable of preventing children from becoming morally degenerate in later life."

CHILDREN IN THE Church schools considerably outnumber those in public schools. The number of Church school pupils is increasing while that in public schools is declining. The growth of the Church schools must be attributed mainly to a higher birth rate among the Catholic population. In the predominantly Catholic regions of Flanders and Campine the birth rate exceeds the death rate by about 40,000 each year, while in the less Catholic sections of Brussels and Wallonia the birth rate exceeds the death rate by only about 4,000 annually.

Statesman's Nephew Heads New Priory

Brussels (NC) — A nephew of the president of the Belgian lower Chamber, Franz Van Cauwelaert heads the first Olivetan Benedictine priory to be opened in Belgium. He is Dom Robert of the Churches.

Church Asked for Hideout of Hitler

Munich — (NC) — A "Church of Atoneement" will probably be erected on the site of Hitler's mountain retreat near Berchtesgaden if the suggestion of His Eminence Michael Cardinal von Faulhaber, Archbishop of Munich and Freising, is carried out. The priory will mark his 80th birthday in March.

The church of atoneement, however, will be a future project since it has been decided for the present by the Berchtesgaden municipality to erect a huge cross on the spot "as a symbol of victory over godlessness." The cross is to be lighted at night on Good Friday and other special occasions, permitting it to be seen from considerable distances in Bavaria and Austria.

Hong Kong College Jesuits Sponsor Shoeshine Urchins

By REV. NEVIN O'DWYER, S.J.

Hong Kong — (NC) — Among higher seats of learning in China, Wah Yan College here has a very distinctive club — the Poor Boys Club, an organization of mostly shoeshine boys sponsored by a priest on the college staff and operated and financed by graduates and students of the college.

AS I WATCHED 70 emerald faces spread their hungry eyes over tables laden with heaping bowls of rice and steaming side dishes, perhaps I should have thought of what these little citizens both of China and the British Empire will make of their war-worn heritage. But I didn't. I thought only of their few hours of happiness at the Christmas party of the Poor Boys Club, which the college gives free quarters.

The program consisted of a short entertainment, dinner, games, a battle for balloons and as gifts the boys got warm pull-overs, stockings and sweets.

NOW IN ITS third year, the club is the brain-child and constant care of the Rev. Joseph

High Schools Ban Capitalist Children

Vienna — (CIP) — Hungary's most recent educational reforms include a decree under which sons and daughters of landowners may not attend any schools after the age of 14. It has just been learned from a Hungarian source.

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