

Construction of New Diocesan St. Andrew's Seminary Will Start This Month

C-J Editor Reviews 25-Years' Progress Of Catholic Press



THOMAS H. O'CONNOR
Twenty-five Years a Catholic Editor

By REV. PATRICK J. FLYNN

Catholic newspapers in the United States have come a long way and made incredible progress during the last quarter of a century, according to the optimistic view of Thomas H. O'Connor, the Courier-Journal's general news editor, who has just completed twenty-five years as a Catholic journalist in the city and diocese of Rochester.

"Tom," as he is known to his host of friends has been a "working journalist" during all of his years in the Catholic press field and today he is the respected dean of the Courier-Journal's editorial staff.

WHEN YOUNGER COLLEAGUES grow impatient with difficulties which still beset the path of a Catholic newspaper, Tom laughs and encourages them by pointing out all the progress that has been made since the day he started.

He recalls that when he first joined the Courier-Journal seventeen years ago the editorial staff consisted of only one person and that was himself.

"And we didn't even have an office," he recalls. "All we had was one double desk in the hundred-year-old Abendpost Press Building where our paper was printed."

"Our one desk represented the editorial and business departments and we were crowded against chattering linotype machines. Mixed with the smell of printer's ink was the smell of onions from a nearby apartment."

LACK OF FINANCIAL funds, too, was one of the serious hardships which then haunted the life of a struggling Catholic newspaper, even more so than such a factor does today according to the veteran editor.

For a long time we couldn't even afford to buy a news service," he recalls. This meant that each week the one-man editorial staff had to find and write every piece of copy going into the paper. And for year after year Tom did everything. He wrote all the copy and all the heads, did all the proof reading and laid out all the pages. All alone he once produced a special forty page edition.

Of course, he had to work "until four o'clock in the morning for a couple of nights but we got the edition out all right," he tells with justifiable pride.

THOSE WERE LEAN years for Catholic newspapers and Catholic journalists, as the Courier-Journal's newsman will remember. "There were weeks," he says, "when there wasn't enough money to pay the printer."

IN GRANTING the injunction, Judge Desout admitted that he lacked "much legal precedent" for his decision. However, he explained that whenever a dispute between parents over children is brought to a court the children become wards of the court.

As a judge, he added, his first consideration must be the children's welfare and on that basis he was well within his legal rights.

The shaking of a child's faith in God disrupts the home and upsets the child emotionally," Judge Desout stated. "Teaching of a religion to a child is in the best interest of any child and of society."

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THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

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60TH YEAR

Harbor The Harborland's (See Editorials)

Return Visa Denied to Fr. Laberge

Bishop Kearney Going to Rome April 28

Will Report To Pontiff On Diocese

'Papal Astronomer'

Work of Vatican Scientists Aids U. S. Atomic Research

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will make his official "ad limina" visit to the Holy See next month. He will depart from New York on Thursday, April 28, aboard the S.S. Saturnia.

Accompanying him on the Rome trip will be his secretary, the Rev. John E. Maney, S.T.D., and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward M. Lyons, president of St. Andrew's Seminary.

THE VISIT "ad limina Apostolorum" (to the threshold of the Apostles) is the periodic visit

Finding stars, not in Hollywood but in the vast regions of the Heavens, is the fascinating business of Jesuit scientist Father Walter J. Miller, a native Rochesterian and the only American among the select group of Papal Astronomers who operate the world famous Vatican Observatory at Castel Gandolfo, Italy.

CURRENTLY VISITING relatives in his native Rochester, Father Miller has come to the United States to secure specialized laboratory equipment for the Astrophysical Laboratory connected with the Vatican Observatory.

Father Miller revealed that spectroscopic researches carried on in the Astrophysical Laboratory of the Vatican Observatory have gained wide recognition in technical circles and have become particularly important to American atomic energy projects.

He cited specifically a series of atlases of atomic spectra of iron, rare earths and rare metals which were published between 1933 and 1949 by the Vatican Observatory. Included among these two volumes, published in 1945, which illustrate and tabulate over 40,000 spectral lines of the "rare earths."

THIS WORK was intended as pure research, Father Miller said, but was published just in time for the atomic age.



During a visit to the Courier-Journal office, Fr. Walter Miller, Rochester born Jesuit scientist and only American member of the world famous Vatican Observatory, explains his work as a Papal Astronomer to Fr. E. Torney (left) Courier associate editor.

Msgr. Hart Asks Public Housing Unit

A demand that the City Council officially consider a Rochester public housing authority, made in a communication by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, P.A., vicar general of the Rochester Catholic Diocese, and representatives of the Protestant and Jewish faiths, will be taken up at a council caucus Monday, according to City Clerk Thomas P. O'Leary.

The letter was received "too late for formal action" by Tuesday night's Council session, O'Leary explained. He said it was not received in time for the Council caucus on Friday (Mar. 4) and therefore did not come before Tuesday, (Mar. 8) meeting.

THIS DEVELOPMENT is a setback as to whether, in the event the City Council were to reverse its long stand against a housing authority at its Mar. 22 meeting, there would be time for action by the State Legislature, which is expected to adjourn about Apr. 1.

Co-signers of the communication with Monsignor Hart were Rabbi Philip S. Berman of Fifth Street Synagogue and the Rev. Edward J. Kelly, D.D., pastor of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church.

"Experience in Rochester is elsewhere," the communication asserted, "has shown that without responsible public action we cannot clear slums and provide adequate housing for the families so displaced at rents they can afford."

"A housing authority," the letter continues, "which is accountable to the city government, can most effectively carry out the public responsibility for relieving the miserable conditions caused by substandard housing and overcrowding, and for helping to solve the broader housing problems of the entire community."

Expressing "our concern over a serious lack in one of the basic needs of our community," the appeal declared, housing, to be not only the framework which gives its physical reality, but it is also one of the most important factors affecting our social and individual well-being."

"THE FAMILY," the letter continues, "is the basic unit of our society. We should do all to strengthen that unit by providing a favorable environment for

(Continued on Page 11)

Official

The Most Reverend Bishop dispenses the faithful of the diocese from the laws of fasting and abstinence on St. Patrick's Feastday, Thursday, March 17.

to the Vatican required of all Bishops ruling a diocese.

In Rome Bishop Kearney will celebrate Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Tomb of the Holy Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul. In a private audience with His Holiness Pope Pius XII, he will report on the condition of the Church in the Diocese of Rochester.

HE WILL also present in person the "Quinquennial" or five year report on the condition of religion in the diocese to the Sacred Consistorial Congregation. This report, which every Bishop must make every five years, includes a record of new projects erected or planned in the diocese.

While in Rome Monsignor Lyons will also present the recent completed plans for the new St. Andrew's Seminary to the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries.

St. Pat's Mail Via Missouri

St. Patrick, Mo.—(NC)—St. Patrick's unofficial postmaster, Rev. Francis O'Duignan, is getting ready for another avalanche.

Father O'Duignan is pastor of St. Patrick's Church here. For some years Father O'Duignan has been receiving letters and postcards from all parts of the world, to be stamped with a bright green shamrock and mailed out with the St. Patrick postmark.

Card. Spellman Hopeful Of Settlement in Strike

New York — (Special) — His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman today expressed happiness over the fact that striking New York cemetery workers had disaffiliated from their C.I.O. parent union which the Cardinal had charged was Communist-dominated.

He also expressed hope for a prompt solution of the other issues in the eight-week deadlock between trustees of the Gate of Heaven and Calvary cemeteries and the striking workers.

TRUSTEES ARE presently offering the workers \$64.20 for a six day week. The workers are demanding \$71.10 for the same work week. Both figures represent substantial increases over the \$9.40 paid the workers at the time they went on strike.

Apparently to meet one of the Cardinal's objections to settlement with the strikers, who had been members of Local 291, United Cemetery Workers of the C.I.O., Food Tobacco and Agri-

Parents Urged To Write Pleas On School Aid

An urgent appeal for letters to congressmen urging that federal aid legislation be extended to guarantee transportation and welfare services to pupils of Catholic and non-public schools has been voiced by the Rev. Dr. Charles J. Mahoney, Superintendent of Schools of the Rochester Diocese.

"Serious loss of prestige will result to Catholic schools if they are not included in the forthcoming appropriations for Federal Aid for Education," Father Mahoney said.

HE CALLED upon all individual Catholics and Catholic groups for prompt action to enlist the aid of their congressmen in insuring equitable treatment for Catholic children under Federal School Aid legislation.

Pointing out that the fight for equal health and transportation services for Catholic children will be fought in the House of Representatives (Continued on Page 11)

Non-Christian Philanthropist Builds 1st Church in Kyushu

Nobeoka, Japan — (NC) — When Father Antonin of the Salesian community was sent to Nobeoka shortly after the end of the war he had nothing

— and a wonderful story. The story was the one about what St. John Bosco had done for underprivileged boys in Italy a century ago.

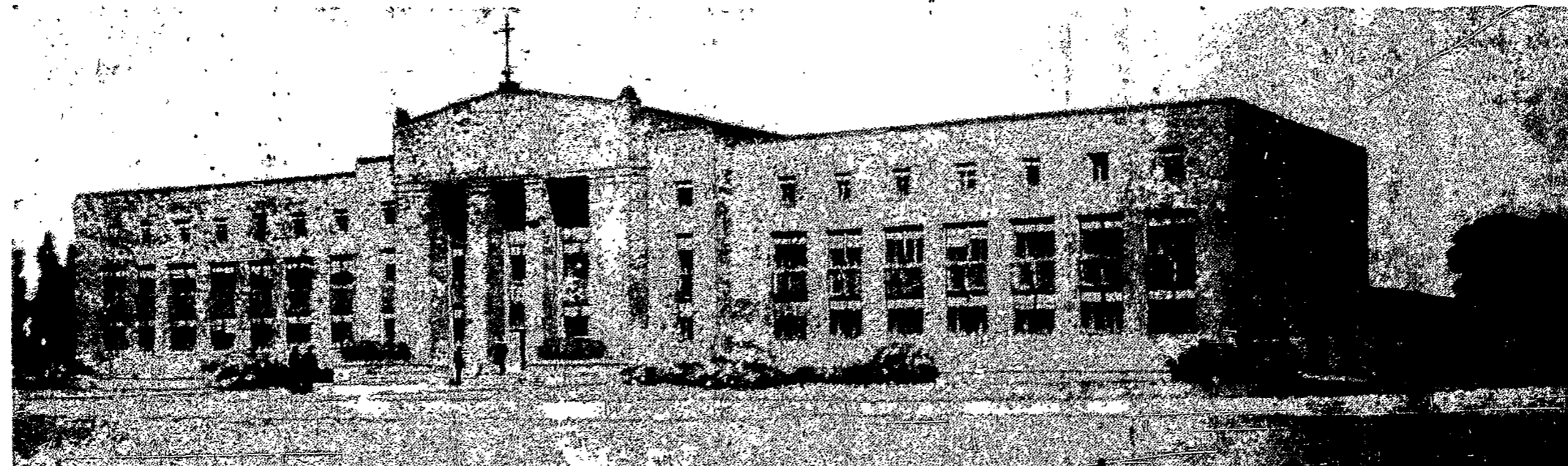
It was not long before Father Antonin found his way to a Mr. Kayano, a well-known philanthropist of the city who made it a practice to set aside a portion of his income each year for the benefit of the underprivileged.

WHEN MR. KAYANO heard what Father Antonin had to say about St. John Bosco and his program of the Salesians, he offered the priest a plot of ground. Moreover, he also provided much of the building material for a house and invited the priest to remain with him as a guest until the new house was ready for occupancy.

IT WAS NOT long before not only Mr. Kayano but a sizeable group of others came to listen to the strange priest and Mr. Kayano's house became in effect the first church in Nobeoka.

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Architect's Front View of St. Andrew's Seminary Planned For Buffalo Road Site



Construction on the above 3-story structure of which Joseph P. Flynn and H. H. Bohacquet are architects will begin before April 1, according to the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward M. Lyons, rector. The fireproof building will have a brick and limestone exterior. On basement level will be separate lockers, showers and toilets for high school and college students. A two-story gymnasium and auditorium is on the basement floor level. First floor will have administrative offices, chapel, faculty room, infirmary, parlors and kitchen; second floor, high school classrooms and study hall; college class rooms and study hall; third floor, dormitory of 100 capacity and faculty suites.