

Catholics Lead In Africa Area

White Father mission area of the Uganda Protectorate of Britain, according to figures released by Bishop Joseph Cahana, Vicar Apostolic of a total population of 439,000 in the mission territory, 136,226 are Catholics, 142,782 Protestants, 31,127 Moslems, 54,683 pagans and the balance of other or no beliefs.

Officers Elected By Rosary Group Of St. Alphonsus

Asbury - The Immaculate Heart of Mary and Rosary Society of St. Alphonsus Church at its December meeting in the Catholic War Veterans Hall in Water Street elected officers and held a Christmas party. Officers elected were: President, Mrs. Lawrence Salzer, vice president, Mrs. Mildred Woods; secretary, Mrs. Louise Gamble; treasurer, Mrs. Karl Koenen. Mrs. Mary Gill is to act as secretary pro-tem, pending the return of Mrs. Gamble who is out of the city. Mrs. Frank Steigerwald co-chairman, reported for the nomination committee.

Mrs. George Snyder, president of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, sketched the purposes of the organization and reminded the society of the coming of Clare Booth Luce and Gretta Palmer. The former is to speak in Emerson Auditorium on January 19 and the latter on January 20.

The Christmas party program included entertainment by the Girl Scout Troop 12, under the direction of the Misses Katherine Anton and Carline Casper. On the program were the singing of Christmas carols, dance numbers by a group of young Scouts, Nancy Conkright, Marilyn Doyle, Joan Mitchell, Katherine Ward, and Sandra Yatch, with Joan Pfeiffer at the piano; piano selections by Joan Pfeiffer and Nancy Cimprl.

Santa Claus, represented by Rev. Clarence Gardner, appeared at the playing of "Jingle Bells" by Mrs. Frank Steigerwald. Santa distributed Christmas gifts from the tree.

The committee in charge of the event consisted of Mrs. Carl Anton, chairman; Mrs. Charles Berry, co-chairman; Mrs. Edward LaMola, Mrs. Mary Gill, Mrs. Fred Olenberg, Mrs. John Offenberger, Mrs. Edward Vanderloo and Miss Grace Rlesler.

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University Quits FM Radio Station

St. Louis - (NC) - Saint Louis University has notified the Federal Communications Commission that it will discontinue the operation of its FM Radio Station WEW-FM at 10:30 p. m. on December 30, 1949. The decision was due to the fact that FM has not been accepted by the general public, the Very Rev. Paul C. Rehner, S.J., president of the University, announced.

"Consistent with the policy of Saint Louis University of serving the people of the greater Saint Louis area, it was decided that it will be in the public interest to concentrate all efforts on the operation of Station WEW," Father Rehner's statement said. WEW-FM began operation May 17, 1947, operating on Channel 236, 95.1 megacycles. Radio Station WEWAM will continue its operation as in the past with all programs being heard as previously at 770 on the dial.

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OPENED CHRISTMAS EVE



The walled-up Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, which will be the scene, on Christmas Eve, 1949, of the opening ceremonies of the Holy Year of 1950, in impressive rites introduced on Christmas Eve, 1400 by Pope Alexander VI. The Holy Father will use a golden hammer for the ceremony. (NCWC)

Chicago Catholic Charities Use Federal Food Surplus

Chicago - (NC) - Chicago Catholic Charities received 300,000 pounds of potatoes and 100,000 pounds of canned peaches from the U.S. Department of Agriculture this year. It has reported here.

Catholic charitable institutions in several other dioceses are taking advantage of these grants, which also involve such commodities as cheese, apples, butter, dried eggs and milk, concentrated orange juice and canned tomatoes.

Msgr. Vincent W. Cooke, supervisor of Chicago's Catholic Charities, declared that the program has been of considerable value to Catholic charitable agencies in the Archdiocese. The commodities are distributed to the Charities through the Illinois Public Aid Commission.

The Department of Agriculture wishes to make these commodities available to a larger number of the charitable institutions and parochial schools which are eligible to participate in the program. It has cited Catholic Charities of Chicago as one of the organizations which fully utilizes this aid.

British Action On Tito Tyranny Asked

London - (NC) - The Governments of Britain and the United States may soon be in a position to demand the cessation of current persecution of the Church in Yugoslavia, asserts Douglas Hyde, former news editor of the Communist Daily Worker here, writing in the Catholic Herald.

Because of Marshal Tito's sharpening dispute with the Cominform, says Mr. Hyde, his regime is fast reaching a position where it cannot continue to survive without the aid of Britain and America.

"There are signs," says the writer, "that the British Government is anxious to take advantage of this situation and that a Yugoslav protest against Soviet interference in her internal politics brought before the U.N. General Assembly would be welcomed and supported."

"Unless Christians here make their views known now, they may find their Government in effect responsible for the perpetuation of the very persecution which has outraged the conscience of the West."

"Catholics and their organizations, who often feel frustrated by the communist rulers' apparent unresponsiveness to outside pressure, can legitimately now demand that any assistance given to Yugoslavia by the British Government shall at the very least be conditional upon the ending of religious persecution there."

GREETING CARDS

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7 Basilian Fathers Donate Blood As Christmas Gifts

Seven Basilian priests, all teachers at Aquinas Institute, made important additions to the lists of gifts they gave for Christmas this year, on Thursday, Dec. 22.

The gifts were pints of blood donated to the Rochester Regional Red Cross Blood Program to help some injured or sick person back to health this holiday season.

Heading the group was the Rev. Eugene A. Cullinane, C.S.B., principal of the school, who said he and his fellow priests were glad of the opportunity to do something of real meaning for their fellowmen at the Christmas season.

"IN THESE DAYS of so much distress and suffering," Father Cullinane said, "Americans have learned to give generously of their wealth and resources. Few

Priest Makes 100th Blood Donation Gift

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. - (RNS) - The 100th blood donation made by the Rev. Alexander Butkowsky will go to young Susan Ciardina, 3, of Brooklyn.

Father Butkowsky, pastor of St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic church here has made the donations over a period of 11 years.

When he goes to Brooklyn, Father Butkowsky will be accompanied by William Kurdi, a student at Syracuse University, who was the first person to receive blood from the priest.

The student is making the trip so he may donate his blood to his nephew, Vincent Kurdi, 2.

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Surgeon Resigns To Become Monk

New London, Conn. - (RNS) - Dr. William T. St. John, a member of the staff of Lawrence Memorial Hospital here, has forsaken a promising medical career to enter the Trappist monastery of Our Lady of the Valley, Valley Falls, R. I.

Dr. St. John, 26, served as assistant resident in surgery at the hospital. A native of Albany, N. Y., he graduated from Albany Medical College two years ago.

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