

Japanese Recall 26 Martyrs

Nagasaki, Japan — (NC) — Crowds estimated at 8,000 persons braved exceptionally cold weather to take part in the celebration marking the 353rd anniversary of the martyrdom of the Twenty-Six Martyrs of Japan.

ASSEMBLING at an early hour at the four churches of the city, the people walked in separate processions, three of them through the city itself, on their way to the Holy Hill. The fourth, starting from Urakami, followed the actual route taken by the martyrs when they marched from Togiwa to Nagasaki.

Led by a cross-bearer and with the banners of the Martyrs waving, the participants sang hymns and prayed along the route. On the Holy Hill itself, the assembly heard the sermon of Bishop Paul Yamaguchi of Nagasaki and attended his Mass and Solemn Benediction. The combined Catholic Choir of Nagasaki sang the Mass and Benediction which was broadcast over the local radio network.

A CAPACIOUS crowd jammed the Catholic Center auditorium in the afternoon to witness a performance of the play, "The Twenty-Six Martyrs," given by

U. S. Farmers Shoek Chinese

Kwelle, China — (NC) — Chinese farmers think Americans are unskillful!

The Rev. Irwin D. Nugent, Maryknoll missionary from Rochester, Mass., found the poultry farmers here convinced that Americans are at least barbarians when it comes to killing chickens.

"In China," a farmer told Father Nugent, "we get the chicken intoxicated on a special rice wine before chopping off its head. This relaxes the victim, making the meat more tender and more tasty when cooked."

"In your country, the chicken is first chased around the yard by a man with a cleaver. How can a chicken relax with a barbarian running after him to cut off his head?"

The students of Tokyo Catholic High School. A talk about the martyrs was given by Father Yamaguchi, who for nearly a decade, did considerable research in Rome on the history of the Catholic Church in Japan. A concert was rendered by the Catholic choral group and the Catholic orchestra.

Pope Who Was A Cobbler's Son Has New Biography

New York — (NC) — "The Great Mantle," by Katherine Burton, a life of the cobbler's son who became Pope Pius X has been published here by Longmans, Green and Co., Inc.

Two great sorrows overwhelmed the Pontiff during his reign, as described by Mrs. Burton: France's separation of Church and state and the outbreak of World War I. He defied the French action with encyclicals denouncing it, and by consecrating 14 new French Bishops to replace those who obeyed the government and not the Church.

HIS BORNHOLE over World War I led to his death in 1914. "It was true that his death on the threshold of terrible years was caused not so much by illness as by grief," Mrs. Burton writes.

Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto was born in a village in Upper Venetia. His father had three acres "a good cow," and three jobs: janitor of the city hall, village postmaster, and his trade as a cobbler. That the man who became Pope never felt he had outgrown his humble beginnings was shown in one of the first statements in his will:

"I was born poor, I lived poor, I die poor."

TO THE END "a holy old country pastor," in the author's words, he nonetheless shattered precedents during his reign. In 1914 his creation of 12 Cardinals eliminated the Italian majority in the College of Cardinals for the first time in over 500 years.

He approved establishment of Maryknoll, although it surprised him that Americans, themselves from a mission country should wish to go to convert pagans in foreign lands.

Thankful!



Children throughout the Near East and Far East were overjoyed to receive new shoes, through the generosity of Catholic Americans. Many roam the streets barefooted and in rags. War Relief Services — National Catholic Welfare Conference continues to send to the victims of war, huge shipments of clothing, shoes, food and medicine.

Sisters Pray for Vocations To Carry On 300 Year Work

By A SISTER OF ST. JOSEPH

The Sisters of St. Joseph, who teach in the majority of the Rochester diocesan schools, direct Nazareth College and St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, trace their origin back three hundred years to the town of Le Puy in Southwestern France.

The recent picture "Monsieur Vincent" vividly painted the European scene in 1650, when the Congregation was established, "to minister to the neighbor as Saint Joseph served Jesus and Mary."

In all the misery of that day convents rose by magic in all parts of France. Children were saved, the sick and old were helped, poverty and suffering were alleviated. Schools and orphanages were performed all the spiritual and corporal works of mercy and became centers of Christian living.

IT IS NOT surprising that the Revolution of 1789 sought the Sisters' support, for they were friends of the poor. However, the irreligious leaders were rebuffed by the spirit of the carabomb.

Secretly carrying with them the Blessed Sacrament, the Sisters were driven from their convents and imprisoned in large numbers. Nine were guillotined and Mother Saint John Fortbonne, ready for martyrdom, was saved only by the fall of Robespierre.

To her belongs the glory of reviving and spreading the Congregation in the days of Napoleon and continuously until her death in 1842. She opened two hundred houses in France alone, sent missions to Italy, Spain, Denmark and India and saw with rare vision the potential religious field in America.

THE SAINT LOUIS foundation of 1836 has multiplied with the expansion and needs of the Church in America. Education has been the most important work of the Sisters in this country.

In 1854, four Sisters arrived from Saint Louis at the famous Saltontail home in Canandaigua. They were the first religious to serve in that area of the diocese which was not formally established till 1868. In 1950, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Diocese of Rochester number over 800 living members and 379 gone home to God.

Today there are 2000 Sisters of St. Joseph in Philadelphia 1850 each in Brooklyn, Boston and Saint Paul, and many smaller groups throughout the country in Selma, Alabama, in India, in China and just arrived in Kyoto, Japan.

TWENTY ADDITIONAL sisters were sent into the Rochester diocese school system this year. Today the Sisters of Saint Joseph are teaching 900 more children in the elementary grades than in 1949-50.

Moralists Restrict H-Bomb Use

(Continued from Page 1)

was always. The bomb is thus not immoral in itself. But the moral question is whether the bomb's destruction can be controlled.

Father Connell said that the H-bomb might be lawfully used in the vicinity of a large city if the citizens were given a proper warning that the attack was to come. He declared that this warning would have to name the city or at least a few cities, that were to undergo the attack, a general warning would not be enough.

FATHER CONNELL said that moralists would have no quarrel with President Truman's decision to go ahead with the manufacture of H-bombs, since there is a possibility that they may be lawfully used. The fact that they are being made may actually be a deterrent to war, he pointed out. But he also said we should hope and pray that if we do go to war we shall not transgress God's law in our methods of attack on the enemy.

Father Schulte said that the proposal to attack the communists before they attack us is morally wrong. He said that a war of aggression can be sanctioned only when all other means of preserving peace have failed. Even admitting that the restoration of civil and religious liberties to millions of people would be a great good, it is hard to see how the risk of a horrible atomic conflict could be justified, he declared. He emphasized that it is never ethical to do evil that good may come of it.

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