

Ex-Textile Worker, Bishop Canonized

Vatican City — (NC) — Canonization at St. Peter's last Sunday of Blessed Antonio Maria Claret marked the raising to the dignity of the altars of one of the first priests in modern times to recognize the immense apostolic value of the press.

A Spanish national pilgrimage of about 6,000 persons attended the canonization ceremonies at St. Peter's, pilgrims from the Diocese of Vich including 103 textile workers, whose expenses are being paid by the Spanish Textile Society.

THE NEWLY-CREATED Saint and Founder of the Claretians was born December 24, 1807, in Sallent, near Barcelona, in the Diocese of Vich. His parents, who were workers in a textile mill, gave him a good Christian education. At the age of 17 Antonio went to Barcelona to work as a weaver. Exceptional skill soon raised him to foreman and his kindness and goodness won the esteem of his fellow workers.

In his free time the young man devoted himself to studies, mastering Latin and French and gaining extensive knowledge in other fields. After a few years he went to the episcopal residence at Vich to take up his studies for the priesthood. In 1835 while in his second year of theology the Bishop of Vich discovered in the 28-year-old seminarian signs of an extraordinary vocation and gifts of exceptional virtue and, on June 21, 1835, ordained him as a priest.

THE YOUNG PRIEST began immediately to devote himself to what had been his desire through out his life: the missionary apostolate. For several years he traveled throughout the diocese. He also engaged in missionary work in Catalonia and the Canary Islands.

In addition, he devoted his gifts to another activity, writing and publishing. Recognizing the immense apostolic value of the press, he became the founder of a Catholic publishing house and established the great religious library at Barcelona.

He began his greatest work in 1894 — the founding of the Congregation of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, generally known as the Claretians — on one of his returns to Vich. Despite many obstacles, the young congregation rapidly developed under the leadership and inspiration of its founder.

Lutheran Hospital Votes Federal Aid Acceptance

Vicksburg, Miss. — (RNS) — The Lutheran Hospital here will apply for \$1,724,666 of Federal assistance under the Hill-Barton Act and for \$607,400 from the Mississippi State Commission on Hospital Care.

Announcement of the hospital's application for public aid was made by Homer J. Fitzpatrick, of St. Louis, chairman of the hospital board appointed by the Lutheran Laymen's League which controls the Lutheran Hospital here. The League is an independent organization affiliated with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

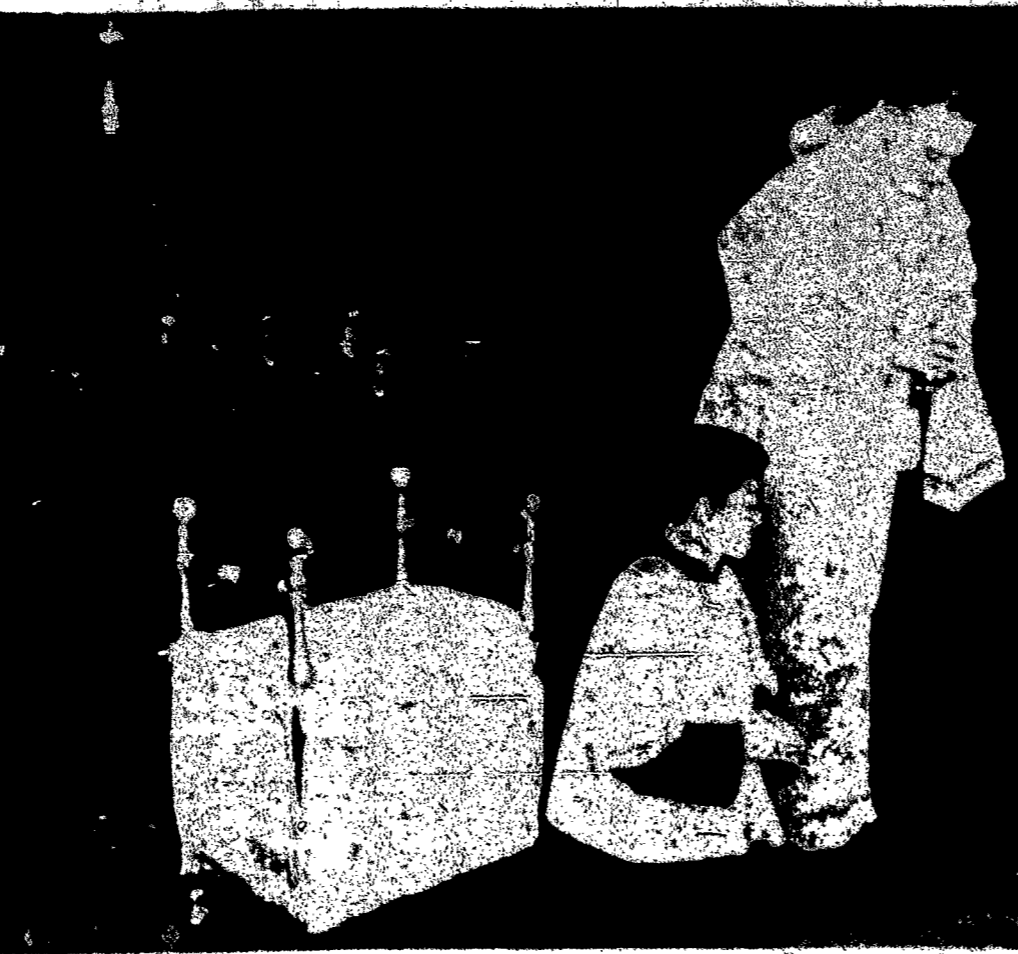
THE LUTHERAN Hospital is the only one of three Protestant hospitals in Mississippi to take advantage of a recent State Supreme Court ruling that non-profit, sectarian hospitals are eligible for grants under the state's hospital construction program.

The Lutheran Hospital specializes in cancer, polio, and spastic research, therapy and rehabilitation, and in the treatment of crippled children.

AS A COMMUNITY institution and a non-profit organization, Mr. Fitzpatrick said, "Lutheran Hospital is happy to cooperate with the government in providing better medical and clinical facilities to promote the welfare and health of all people and proper treatment of the sick."

Participation in the use of public funds by a welfare institution must result in the accomplishment of the public purposes for which the funds are made available. In performance of its public duty to the community, the Lutheran Hospital proposes to enter a formal agreement with the Mississippi State Hospital Commission, insuring required facilities and services in return for the funds to be made available.

U.S. Sailors Confirmed In St. Peter's



Rev. Thomas H. Reilly of Jersey City, says Mass in the Chapel of the Canons in St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, assisted by some 350 officers and men of the 6th U. S. Naval Fleet, the majority of them from the carrier "Midway." It was the largest Navy contingent to visit St. Peter's since the Holy Year and a mighty U. S. Navy cheer thundered through St. Peter's as the Holy Father received the pilgrims in audience. Thirty of the men of the Fleet received First Communion and Confirmation while there.

Sailors Receive 1st Communion In Rome Visit

By REV. JOSEPH J. SULLIVAN

Rome — A mighty U. S. Navy cheer thundered through the interior of St. Peter's basilica, when 350 officers and men from the carrier "Midway" and other ships of the Mediterranean Fleet joined 30,000 other Holy Year pilgrims for an audience with His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

It was the largest "invasion" of the U. S. Armed Forces in date during Holy Year. The special tour parties, together with the men who came to Rome on their own from Naples, numbered close to 1,000. Army pilgrimages from Europe have usually numbered 100 or under.

FOR AT LEAST 20 of the sailors, a never-to-be-forgotten event took place. They received the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist for the first time and also the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Peter's. Each of the 20 was presented with a crucifix by the Holy Father in remembrance of the occasion. These had been received into the Church after taking instructions in recent months from their Navy chaplains, the Rev. Thomas H. Reilly of Jersey City and the Rev. Bernard V. Cunningham of New York.

THE NAVY contingent had a place of honor at the audience close by the Holy Father's special throne. As the Holy Father was borne towards his throne, thousands of voices in various tongues began to swell into a roar. The Navy men present were all like 18-year-old Tommy Murphy, young gob from New York — pop-eyed — and almost "missed the boat." However, four officers, Lieut. Healy rallied the group quickly and soon a full-throated triple Navy cheer rang out above everything else and resounded throughout every cranny of the edifice.

THIS SUGGESTION was made by Dr. J. P. Allen, pastor of First Baptist church in an address before a Tennessee funeral directors' and embalmers' convention here. Dr. Allen spoke on "The Minister's Point of View."

"For the same reason," he said, "I would also discourage the practice of ministers shaking the hand of each family member upon completing the cemetery service."

World Medical Unit Scores Euthanasia

New York — (NE) — His Eminence Francis Spellman, Archbishop of New York, has announced the resolution of the Council of the World Medical Association condemning the practice of euthanasia.

Canonization



Bl. Antonio Maria Claret, canonized in Rome, April 13, 1938. The canonization ceremony was the first of its kind since the death of the Holy Father, Pius XI, in 1938.

THE COUNCIL, meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, April 13, adopted a resolution condemning "the practice of euthanasia under any denomination" as being in conflict with the formally adopted moral principles of the World Medical Association.

THE ASSOCIATION'S code adopted last year against a resolution in Geneva, stipulated that "if there must always be in mind the possibility of the suffering human life, the loss of which is humanly intolerable, the physician must not resort to euthanasia."

CARDINAL SPELLMAN'S statement condemning the resolution reads: "The condemnation of euthanasia by the World Medical Association should be highly commended by all conscientious people because it is, in fact, a reaffirmation that the members of this Association accept as valid the teaching of God. They shall not kill and the physician which they seek in the euthanasia code."

LABOR RELATIONS Code Advocated

New York — (NC) — The urgency of stabilizing industrial relations in the United States within the framework of the moral principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights, as a necessary step toward securing and safeguarding our American democracy, was stressed here in a talk by Justice McLaughlin, Federal Commissioner of Mediation and Conciliation in Washington, D.C., before a two-point program toward this stabilization. He suggested that first labor and management must realize their duties as a third order of American life, paralleling by analogy, domestic and civil society. Essentially, he said, they should recognize the necessity of an moral bond in union both within and between, and inspire fraternal cooperation in the pursuit of their common goals, the welfare of each other and of the community.

Catholics Ask PTA Back Aid For Parochial Schools

Kalamazoo, Mich. — (RNS) — A demand that the Michigan Congress of Parents and Teachers voice opposition to the national PTA's support of a federal aid to education measure which would apply to public but not parochial school children was made here by a group of Roman Catholics.

The Catholics were PTA delegates to the 33rd annual convention of the Congress here. They represented six Grand Rapids PTA units those at St. James, St. Mary's, St. Isadore, St. Francis, St. Andrew and Holy Name schools.

"WHY SHOULD we uphold a measure that aids only public school children?" asked one of the parochial PTA delegates. The Parent-Teachers Association is supposed to function for the good of all children. While PTA organizations in 36 states have already given the national body authority to endorse the aid-to-education proposal, the Michigan PTA has not, as yet, taken a stand on the matter. Mrs. Burelign T. Downey, legislative committee chairman of the Michigan PTA, said the state group feels the matter requires more intense study before a stand is taken. She added, however, that her committee favors the bill.

Advices Ban Of Ashes At Grave

Knoxville, Tenn. — (KNS) — The symbolic "ashes to ashes" sprinkling of dirt on lowered caskets could well be omitted from the grave-side service in the interest of maintaining the solemnity of the occasion.

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