

Rota's Suit Against Red Press Delayed

Rome — (NC) — For the fifth time since the beginning of the year the Roman Rota's suit against the communist papers, L'Unita and Il Paese, has been postponed.

The latest reason is that there is a possibility of a compromise between the litigants based on the papers' proposals to publish satisfactory retractions.

THE ROTA is presently examining proposals made by the papers to retract allegations they made last year that annulments of marriages could be bought from the Rota by those having sufficient money. If the retractions are unsatisfactory, one Rota official stated today, the trial is scheduled to resume on June 10.

On May 11 of last year both communist papers published articles openly alleging "divorcements" called "annulments" could be obtained from the Rota by those having several million lire (625 lire equal \$1) to pay for them.

The Rota filed a suit against both papers for defamation. Under the Italian penal code the case has been opened once a month since January. Each time it has been postponed for various legal reasons, such as further study and examination.

Definitive statistics concerning Rota decisions during 1949, published this week in Acta Apostolicae Sedis, showed a total of 1,235 cases heard on pleas of nullity of marriage. Of these, 87 were decided negatively or in favor of the validity of the marriages, while 48 cases were sustained as having been invalid marriages.

Forty of these 135 cases were handled without any charge, even by lawyers who presented the cases before the tribunal. Of these forty, 17 received favorable decisions while 23 were decided negatively.

Of 93 cases which were presented by persons capable of sustaining normal expenses, 64 were decided unfavorably, or in favor of the validity of the marriages, while 29 were given affirmative decisions.

ACCORDING to authoritative information, during the years from 1936 to 1949, inclusive, the Rota heard 1,165 cases concerning alleged nullity of marriages and has rendered negative decisions in 486 cases. It has given affirmative decisions in 479 cases.

Of the 1,165 cases admitted for trial 486 were accepted without expenses paid by the petitioner. Of the latter 227 were decided affirmatively. In the cases in which fees were paid, 252 affirmative decisions were given.



Among the Holy Year pilgrims flying to Rome with the Irish National Pilgrimage, was 98-year-old Canon Thomas Langan, Vicar General of the Diocese of Ardsagh, shown presenting His Holiness Pope Pius XII with an ebony walking stick. Canon Langan has lived the reign of six popes and was present in Rome for three Holy Years, 1910, 1935 and 1950. (NC Photos)

Holy Father Gets Irish Cane

Two Nun Foundresses Named Saints

Vatican City — (NC) — In the presence of thousands of faithful His Holiness Pope Pius XII raised to the honors of the altar Blessed Bartolomea Capitanio and Blessed Vincenza Gerosa, the first double canonization of the Holy Year.

A thronged St. Peter's Basilica saw the impressive spectacle of the canonization of the Foundresses of the Institute of the Sisters of Charity of Lovers, Italy especially was honored in the canonization on Ascension Thursday of these two daughters of Italy and the Faith.

SAINT BARTOLOMEO Capitanio was born January 11, 1807, in Lovers, a town in northern Italy on Lago d'Isseo, not far from Bergamo. Her childhood was clouded by family quarrels.

She showed early signs of exceptional virtue and devotion. At the age of eleven she was sent, for her education, to a Clarisse Convent in 1824. She returned to her home and succeeded in restoring peace within her family.

AFTER HAVING obtained a teacher's diploma at Bergamo she gave herself wholly to apostolic work, planning activities in behalf of orphans, the sick and the imperiled youth.

Following the counsel of her spiritual adviser, she patiently planned, waited and prayed for six years. Then she appealed for cooperation to Vincenza Gerosa, a pious and generous woman, together with whom she had already worked as nurse in a hospital founded by the latter.

SAINT VINCENZA Gerosa, much older than Saint Bartolomea, was also born in Lovers, on October 29, 1794. She grew up, child of a rich family. In the stormy days of the French Revolution, from earliest childhood, her life was directed toward Christian perfection. She patiently bore family misfortunes, assisted her old mother, and helped the sick and poor.

When she fell heir to the considerable family fortune she gave it all for aid to those in need and founded a hospital. It was there that she met Bartolomea Capitanio and both decided to join efforts in apostolic labor for the needy.

Vincenza Gerosa was 40 years old and Bartolomea Capitanio only 18, yet it was the latter who drew up the rules and fixed the scope for the new religious Institute of the Sisters of Charity of Lovers, dedicated to spiritual and corporal works of mercy for those in need. In November, 1832, the first convent was founded.

Fled Communist Domination



Here for higher studies, four nuns of the Franciscan order from China, are shown being greeted by Rev. Athanasius McInerney, O.F.M., upon arrival at New York International Airport aboard a Pan American World Airways double-decked Clipper left to right, Sisters Mary, Gloria Theresa and Antonia, are staying in the United States for two years to study our educational methods at Stella Niagara College, in Stella Niagara, New York. The Sisters were brought up as orphans by the Franciscan Mission in the city of Shant, Hupeh Province, China, which now is Communist dominated.

Vienna Prelate Consecrated In Rite At Rome

Rome — (NC) — Archbishop-elect Franz Jachym, of Vienna, whose declaration of renunciation during the ceremonies consecration in St. Stephen's Cathedral there near the end of April, caused a world-wide sensation, was consecrated here May 19, by His Eminence Theodore Cardinal Inuitzer, Archbishop of Vienna.

The consecration ceremony was held at the Church of Santa Maria Dell'Anima Assisting Austrian Cardinal were Bishops Michael Keller of Muenster and Aloisius Hudal, Rector of the Saint Anna church and head of the German College here.

The newly consecrated Coadjutor of Vienna made his dramatic declaration of renunciation during what was scheduled to be a consecration to this high office in Vienna on April 23. He declared at that time that he believed himself unworthy to accept the highly responsible office of Coadjutor to Cardinal Inuitzer. The Holy See after examining Monsignor Jachym's full statement which led up to his consecration today.

ON THE EVE of the consecration the Catholic Action daily Quotidiano, issued a statement rectifying some erroneous interpretations circulated in connection with the renunciation. Referring particularly to the reports that "the Supreme Pontiff has nominated" the Austrian prelate following his declaration at the ceremonies in Vienna, the paper wrote that "this is incorrect." It continued:

"Considering the fact that he did not feel himself from a spirit of Christian humility suited to the high office, Monsignor Jachym did not however refuse the Apostolic mandate and considering the fact that the Holy See as is obvious, did not take action on a non-existing resignation, the first mandate has always retained its force."

German Boy Gets Suit From Grandma's Shroud

Frankfurt, Germany — (NC) — A priest attending a meeting at Germany's National Charities headquarters here told the following story as an example of some of the privations German Catholic refugees endure.

The priest questioned a boy dressed in a shirring white suit, who came to church for his first Holy Communion.

"Why so nice," he said, "I have never seen a boy dressed up in white for this occasion?"

SONNY GRINNED. "I know Father," he said bashfully, "but I have no dark suit."

"Where did you get the white suit?" inquired the priest.

"It's Grannie's shroud, Father," said the boy.

"Grannie's shroud?"

"Yes You see, Father, she had saved it as the only piece of linen in the house when we escaped from the Russians. Now we are so poor we have not much left, you know Grannie just kept that piece of linen. She said she wanted to be buried right when she died. But then came the day I was to receive my first Holy Communion and Grannie could not stand the thought of me going in my only suit, the one I wear all the time. It's kind of run down. So she made me a suit from the shroud. Do you like it?"

Father smiled. "Of course."

Berlin Bishop Denied Trip Permit

London — (RNS) — Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop Paul Kotsch of Berlin has been refused permission by the Communist-controlled East German government to leave the country for a Holy Year visit to Rome according to a Vatican German language broadcast.

The Vatican station said that no reasons were given for the refusal.

In the same broadcast the station reported that Bishop Peter Legge of Meissen, Saxony, located in the eastern zone is being held a prisoner at his episcopal palace and has been denied all facilities for "fulfilling his ecclesiastical duties."

Thieves Kill Watchman, Rob Famous Costa Rica Shrine

San Jose, Costa Rica — (NC) — Thieves broke into the Shrine of Our Lady of the Angels at Cartago, killed the watchman and stole the venerated stone image of the Blessed Mother known as "La Negrita," together with a reported \$350,000 worth of jewels.

The sacrilegious robbery which took place some time before midnight has caused the population to be stunned. The Government ordered the national shrine closed pending investigation by local police and United States detectives who were summoned to work on this case.

BISHOP VICTOR Sanabria of San Jose, who has jurisdiction over the sanctuary, is at present on his way back from Rome where he went on his ad limina visit.

Tradition has it that in 1835, a young girl, Juana Pereira, found a little stone image eight inches high, a likeness of the Blessed Mother with the Christ Child in her arms. The image disappeared several times when it was taken away from the spot where it was found over a big stone. The local curate, having learned of the desire of the Virgin to have a church built there, came in procession to bless the site and start erection of a humble chapel.

IN LATER YEARS the image was placed in a rich ostentatious shrine of gold and silver set with precious stones. A golden mantle with many fine jewels covers the image of the Virgin and Child. The patroness of Costa Rica was solemnly crowned on April 25, 1926, with a crown of gold jewels.

Stolen Statue Recovered

San Jose — (NC) — Peeling church bells told of the recovery of "La Negrita," venerated stone statue of Our Lady of the Angels, patroness of Costa Rica, after its sacrilegious theft.

Complete details were not immediately made known. The statue was reportedly found on the pulpit of the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels at Cartago, where it is traditionally kept. According to one report, the recovered image had apparently been returned by the thieves who were said to have kept the precious jewels which adorned the statue.

When she fell heir to the considerable family fortune she gave it all for aid to those in need and founded a hospital. It was there that she met Bartolomea Capitanio and both decided to join efforts in apostolic labor for the needy.

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Berlin Prelate Warned

Berlin — (RNS) — Cardinal von Preysing, Bishop of Berlin, has warned priests in his diocese against signing Communist-sponsored "peace declarations." In a pastoral letter sent to all pastors, he denounced Communist efforts to obtain priests' signatures to peace statements as "an abuse of the Catholic Church for National Front propaganda."

New School in Japan

Kagoshima, Japan — (NC) — A new high school to be known as La Salle Kologakko has been opened here by the Christian Brothers from Canada.

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