

What Attracts Converts? Katherine Burton: A Friend Argued

By REV. JOHN A. O'BRIEN, Ph.D.

Among the biographers of our day Katherine Burton has won a high place. She served as associate editor of McCall's Magazine and later of Redbook. At present she conducts a woman's page in The Sign. She is a contributor to the leading magazines and has written *Sorrow Built A Bridge*, the biography of Sister Rose Hawthorne, and about 150 other widely known biographies.



Katherine Burton

"There are two things," blurted out Katherine Burton to her Catholic friend, Patricia Jackson, "fixed firmly in the Roman mind: the Pope in heaven and Henry VIII in hell." Irritated at the persistent manner in which Patricia kept insisting that she track down the origin of Anglicanism and compare it with the far more ancient origin of Catholicism, Katherine had found in this explosion a temporary emotional release, but she knew it was no real answer to her friend's argument.

The Catholics with whom she discussed religion had one beginning and one end to every argument—the everlastingness of their Church. It was the first Church established by Our Lord, and there was no other and would be no other. Then one day a Catholic friend showed her a list of the various Christian Churches with their founders: Martin Luther, the Lutheran; Wesley, the Methodist; Henry VIII, the Anglican. Though irritated, she could not escape the stark simplicity of the record.

In her perplexity she consulted Dr. Delaney, the assistant rector at her parish church, St. Mary the Virgin. To her utter amazement he told her he was leaving the Episcopal Church to become a Catholic; more than that, he was leaving soon for Rome to study for the Catholic priesthood. He handed her the manuscript of a book, *Why Rome?*—all but the last chapter.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral she attended the ceremony of Dr. Delaney's reception into the Church; then she looked up the priest, Monsignor Joseph McMahon, who had received her friend into the fold and secured instruction from him. Under the guidance of this scholarly priest and with the assistance of Newman's *Difficulties of Anglicans*, all doubt vanished from her mind: the divine establishment of the Catholic Church stood out crystal clear.

It was not the work of man, but of God; into that Church she came with joyful heart. The outstretched arms of the statue of Christ on the altar seemed to symbolize the welcome the Master extended to her; it was as if He were saying: "Welcome home, my child." Supplementing this primary consideration were the beauty of the Church's services, the devotion and piety of the faithful, the edifying example of her Catholic friends, and the missionary zeal of a few of them in helping her to find her way.

NEXT WEEK: Bishop Hunt

Seoul Vicar General Reported Killed By Korea Communists

By REV. GEORGE CARROLL, S.M.
(Correspondent, N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)

Taejeon, Korea.—The Rev. Thomas R. Vicar General of the Vicariate Apostolic of Seoul, has been executed by North Korean communists, according to a report reaching here.

Father R., acting head of the vicariate in the absence of Bishop Paul R., it is reported, was asked by the Reds to put the Bishop's house at their disposal. When he refused, he was taken out and shot, the report states.

THIS IS ONE of many reports reaching here of suffering caused the Church at the hands of the North Korean Reds. However, many of these reports are difficult to verify.

Reports from various sources indicate that the Reds have taken over numerous Catholic buildings to serve as headquarters or billets for their troops. There is also indication of heavy damage to church institutions.

The Catholic Seminary and the Eastern Star Catholic Boys High School in Seoul were seized by the Reds to billet troops. It is reported that the buildings have since been bombed and partly destroyed by the fire that followed. It is also said that the Catholic Girls' High School in Seoul and the Cathedral parish auditorium were damaged when United Nations air forces struck at the cathedral which the Reds reportedly used as an ammunition dump.

LUCY FANG, Catholic principal of one of the largest girls' high schools in Seoul, has been reported killed by the Reds. She was one of five high school principals who visited the United States in 1948 on an inspection tour of American educational institutions.

Several stories have reached here that Magr. Thomas Quinlan, Columbus missionary and Prefect Apostolic of Choonchun, and the Rev. James P. Magr. Columbus missionary of Butte, Mont., were both killed. But there has been no confirmation. Both have been laboring in the area right below the 38th parallel.

Sisters and novices of the St. Paul of Chartres convent in Seoul, numbering about 50, are said to have been ordered by the Reds to march up and down near the convent and orphanage where Red troops were billeted in order to prevent United Nations bombing.

THE CATHOLIC church in Andong in North Kyung Sang province, which was completed less than six months ago, has been destroyed, according to reports. The church at Ko Chang in the same province was destroyed by fire. The church in Taryon was also destroyed. However, the priest and a community of Franciscan Sisters were evacuated safely.

The entire church compound at Wonsan in South Ching Chung province, including the church, rectory, boys' high school and convent, has been destroyed by fire.

The Catholic church at Chingju is reportedly being used by the Reds as an office. The priest's rectory and Sisters' convent have been taken over for the same purpose.

Nine Honored San Francisco.—(NC) The Spanish Government has conferred the Blue Cross of the "Orden del Merito Civil" on Mother Dolores Sarre, head of the Religious of the Sacred Heart, head of the Spanish Department of the San Francisco College here.

Irish Missionary Shouts: Korean Reds Surrender

Pusan, Korea.—(NC)—A rifle-carrying Irish missionary suddenly brought about the surrender of 45 armed communists on the southern Korean front, according to reports reaching here.

The priest, the Rev. Francis Woods, from County Louth, Ireland, shouted at a wounded North Korean soldier across a rice field. There was a pause and then 45 North Koreans, who had been on the attack, came out to surrender, their arms held high above them.

GI's who had expected a battle to the death were dumbfounded. But they rounded up the prisoners and collected their rifles and machine guns.

A missionary in Korea for 15 years, Father Woods is now serving as an auxiliary chaplain. "Father is always there when things are tough," one of the men commented.

Balancing The Books

By Father Kennedy

Monsignor Sheen

Monsignor Fulton Sheen's "inspirational books" (to quote the jacket of the latest, *Lift Up Your Heart*) are in a class by themselves.



The author knows the times of which and for which he writes. He has a firm and comprehensive grasp on the ill-tormenting out-temperatures. Those who read his pages find themselves and their plight in his descriptions of the unhappy human beings of 1950. They perceive that the author understands their problems and is speaking directly to them.

In other words, this is no automatic repetition of an outmoded estimate of the human predicament. *Lift Up Your Heart* is divided into three sections. In the first the author discusses the conflict between the "ego" and the "I" in every human being. "The ego," he says, "is what we think we are; the I is what, in fact, we are. The ego is the spoiled child in us—selfish, petulant, clamorous, and spoiled—the creation of our mistakes in living. The I is our personality made to the image and likeness of God." To live merely on the level of the ego is to live superficially and frustratingly. The aberrations and the toll of this kind of warped and stunted existence are here graphically pictured.

TO LIVE ON the I level, the second section shows, is to be more truly human, for it involves "inwardness." It is to go past the sensual world, to set one's heart on something more substantial and lasting than excitement, diversion, pleasure, and possessions. It is to apprehend what are the chief elements in human nature and to concentrate on their capacities; "it involves what might be called a natural spirituality."

The third section treats of the third and highest level: the divine. Here the destiny of man is set forth. This destiny is "beyond the merely human." It is supernatural. Man is called to share the very life of God, to be

incorporated into the Incarnate Son of God. When, under Monsignor Sheen's expert tutelage, we see what man is meant to be, we realize the absurd inadequacy and indeed impotence of the most well-meant but fragmentary diagnoses and prescriptions by the peace-of-mind books.

The book abounds in good things, of which I should like to cite some samples. "Every sin has a death element, material and formal. The material element is sin . . . the stuff of which it is made, and this is always good . . . Alcohol,

flesh, sex, gold, wine—all these are good and therefore are desirable . . . The sin element is a sin in its evil and perverse abuse of a good thing."

"Those who make mistakes find the essence of religion is not some of God's creatures as evil; generally they become proud. But detachment, properly practiced, is only a means of attachment to God."

LIFT UP YOUR HEART by Fulton J. Sheen, 300 pages, New York: McGraw-Hill, \$3.00.

Copyright © 1950 by McGraw-Hill, Inc.

Toronto Cardinal Press On Moral Policy

Toronto.—(RNS) — Bishop of Toronto, John Joseph Cullen, has issued a statement on the moral policy of the Catholic Church in Canada.

The statement, which is the first of its kind in Canada, sets out the moral principles which the Church believes should guide the government in its policy on social and economic issues.

The bishop states that the Church's moral teaching is based on the principles of the Gospel, and that it is the duty of the government to uphold these principles in its policy.

The statement also calls for a more active role for the Church in public life, and for a more just and equitable distribution of wealth and resources.

The bishop concludes by stating that the Church's moral teaching is not a static body of rules, but a living tradition which must be applied to the changing circumstances of the world.

Czech Priests Flee To Germany

London.—(RNS) — The West German Radio reported that two Czech Catholic priests had fled to Germany from Czechoslovakia.

The priests, who are named as Fr. Jan and Fr. Karel, are said to have fled because of their opposition to the communist government's policy on the Church.

Copyright © 1950 by McGraw-Hill, Inc.

Runner Plods Five Hours To Bring Wine For Mass

Paso, Peru.—(NC)—Arriving at the remote mountain village of Lahualbamb, to say Mass, the Rev. Donald C. Cleary discovered that his catchall-goose had failed to bring a bottle of wine. And the nearest town was a four-hour ride on horseback.

Father Cleary, a Maryknoll missionary from Newark, N. J., reluctantly told the disappointed villagers that he would be unable to say Mass. But two young men asked him to wait a few hours while they went for some wine. He agreed and they started running down a steep trail to the nearest town.

Some five hours later, the waiting crowd saw a small figure rounding a curve in the trail. A boy sped down the path to meet the runner. By the time Father Cleary was vested, he had returned with the wine.

"As I took the bottle from him," said Father Cleary, "I thought of the old Chasquis, the Indian runners who served the ancient Incas in similar manner. I also thought of the first Christians, who brought gifts to the altar. That particular Mass truly was an acceptable sacrifice from a humble and devout people to their God."

Catholic Women Convention, Oct. 14

Cleveland.—(NC) With all indications pointing to the largest convention in its history, the National Council of Catholic Women is speeding up its plans for the 25th National Convention to be held here October 14 to 18. More than a thousand delegates have already registered.

Four Archbishops and ten Bishops have signified their intention to participate up to the present. In addition, more than 50 diocesan council spiritual moderators are expected to attend. Special discussion and luncheon meetings are scheduled for these moderators. Among the women speakers slated to address the convention are the prominent Catholic writers, Gretta Palmer and Maise Ward Sheed.

Nine Honored San Francisco.—(NC) The Spanish Government has conferred the Blue Cross of the "Orden del Merito Civil" on Mother Dolores Sarre, head of the Religious of the Sacred Heart, head of the Spanish Department of the San Francisco College here.

New handy carry-home carton for Rochester's FASTEST SELLING ALE

In 12 No-deposit No-return Bottles!



STANDARD Dry ALE ORIGINAL

New!

BLACK-DAYLITE TELEVISION

It's RECTANGULAR

It's LIFELIKE!

\$259.95

FREE!
TV Comic Book! 16 Pages of Fun! All in color! Come in today for your copy! No obligation... nothing to buy.

Luxurious, big-screen performance at low cost. New G-E console Model 14C104 brings you the 14" G-E rectangular black tube for sharper, clearer pictures than ordinary TV with no eye-straining glare. It's like you'll feel you're right on the scene. Sound system. Decorative styled. All built-in features. Veneered in genuine hand-rubbed mahogany. Terrific TV buy! Easy terms.

You Buy With Confidence From Rodenhouse

Every house needs

RODENHOUSE

687 Titus, Opp. Cooper Rd. CLEVELAND, OHIO