

Geese, Kentucky Monks Coming To Genesee Valley

People throughout the world gained a new idea of the life of monks of the Order of the Claretians of the Strict Observance through the widely-read book, "Seven Storey Mountain," by Thomas Merton (now Trappist, Father M. Louis).

THE RULES OF ST. BENEDICT under which the monks and lay brothers live imposes on them a life of exclusion from the world and of union with God through prayer, mortification, study, spiritual reading and manual labor.

They rise daily throughout the year at 2 a.m. The early morning hours are spent in communal and private prayer, in spiritual reading and at Mass. After breakfast those who have no clerical work go into the fields or workshops for two hours' labor before returning for prayer and a brief luncheon.

THE AFTERNOON'S schedule is similar, with from two to three hours' manual labor, followed by supper and prayers. All retire at 8 p.m. They sleep regularly in their habits on straw-mattressed wooden beds.

The monastic diet consists of one full meal daily of bread, milk, vegetables and fruit, with collations at breakfast and lunch. Abstinence prevails at all times (except in the infirmary) from flesh-meat, fish and eggs.

Their communal prayer consists in the recitation and singing of the canonical hours of the Divine Office and the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin. Only on Sundays and holidays is manual labor foregone.

Chicago Cardinal Aids 100 Boys

Chicago -- (NC) Through the generosity of His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, Christmas camps early for 100 boys from parochial schools here.

Carrying out a custom inaugurated by the late Cardinal George Mundelein, his predecessor, Cardinal Stritch had two deserving boys selected from each of 50 parochial schools, and brought to The Fair department store.

There each was outfitted with two suits of underwear, two shirts, two pairs of hose, two suits of pajamas, two ties, a suit, an overcoat and a pair of shoes. The youngsters also were entertained at a luncheon by the store.

Maine's Former Bishop, Georgetown Head Part Negro, Dominican Nun Reveals

River Forest, Ill. -- (NC) The booklet published by Rosary Rives Forest, Ill. -- (NC) The second Bishop of Portland, Maine, and a president of Georgetown University who served as O.P. is author of the 51-page booklet on "The Herway of Race," sons of an interracial marriage. It bears the Imprimatur of His

Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago

"AMONG THE priests of an uneducated Negro stock in the United States, the first three were brothers -- the Fathers Healy of Boston who were ordained before the Civil War the Dominican nun writes. They were the sons of a Catholic interracial marriage, their father being a native of Ireland and their mother of mixed stock from the deep South.

"One of these priests, James Augustine Healy, became Bishop of Portland, Maine. The second Father Healy, the Rev. Patrick Healy, S.J., became President of Georgetown University. Healy Hall, still the main campus building, is a monument to his memory.

"During my recent visit to Georgetown the Reverend Archbishop, a native Washingtonian, made many complimentary remarks about Father Healy who, he said, was the 22nd Rector of the university. Speaking of this Rector's gifts of mind and spirit, he said that it was Father Healy who made Georgetown University. His period of rectorship was continuous from July 31, 1874 until his death in 1901.

"THE THIRD Father Healy, the Rev. Sherwood Healy, died during his pastorate at St. James Church, Boston. As pastor of this church, he was successor to his brother, Father James Healy, when the latter was consecrated Bishop of Portland.

"A fourth brother, Michael Healy, became a famous ship captain. Of this family of mixed ancestry, there were also three daughters, Eliza and Josephine became religious, and Martha married a Mr. Cashman of Boston.

"THE HEALY family were born in Macon, Georgia, their parents' marriage having occurred before any of the laws which might have prevented it were promulgated. Later the family lived in Boston.

Bishop Healy was consecrated in 1875, and died in 1900.

Turning to the present day, the booklet's author reports that "within the last few years there has been a significant number of ordinations of Negro American young men to the priesthood in various parts of the United States."

"The considerable number, too, who are now studying in the seminaries and novitiates is also encouraging," she added.

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AWARD FOR POET-DIPLOMAT



The Setsu Azard of the Americas, bestowed annually by the Academy of American Franciscan History, is presented to Gabriela Mistral, Chilean poetess and diplomat, 1945 Nobel prize winner for literature. The ceremonies were held at the academy's annual convocation at Catholic University of America. Pictured, left to right: Rev. Alexander Wyse, O.F.M., academy director; Auxiliary Bishop Patrick J. McCormick, rector of the University; Miss Mistral and Ambassador Nietro del Rio of Chile.

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Toledo Bishop Denounces Pagan Christmas Parties

Toledo, O. -- (RNS) -- Lashing out at what he called "pagan-like" behavior of persons at all-day parties held in offices, factories and homes just before Christmas, Bishop George J. Behring of the Toledo Diocese urged a campaign to "Keep Christ in Christmas."

He spoke at the annual communion breakfast of Holy Name Societies and Inter-parochial Catholic organizations.

The Bishop called for the re-spiritualization of the Christmas season, asking that the true spirit of Christmas be observed with a really Christian celebration.

He declared there often was excessive drinking, with resultant disruption of family life, at pre-Yulet parties and deplored this practice.

Bishop Behring then requested the men of the Holy Name Society to give Christ His place in the observance of the holiday season. As a result, the Toledo Deanery of Catholic Men is sponsoring a song festival featuring community singing of Christmas hymns at Ursuline Academy.

Vincent J. Warren, council president, said the program to Keep Christ in Christmas" also called for a series of billboard posters placed in prominent locations here depicting the scene of the Nativity.

U. S. Chaplain In Germany Made Monsignor

Heidelberg, Germany -- (NC) The Rev. John S. Kelly, Colonel and Army chaplain, has been named by His Holiness Pope Pius XII to be a Domestic Prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor. News of the honor was forwarded here by Bishop Joseph M. Mueller of Sioux City, Ia.

Monsignor Kelly, son of Mrs. J. M. Kelly, Arkshire, Iowa, was ordained at the North American College in Rome in 1910, where he also received his doctorate in sacred theology. After several years of duty in the Sioux City diocese Msgr. Kelly entered the Army in 1934. Since that time he has served with the Army and Air Force in various parts of the world. During the war he was staff chaplain of the 14th Air Force under Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault in China.

Chaplain Kelly has done specialized work on international relations at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., and was chaplain of the 4th Army at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., before coming to Germany as Chief Chaplain of the European Command in Heidelberg.

Monsignor Kelly was recently named as assistant Vice-Delegate of the Military Ordinariate for Germany. His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York is Military Vicar of the Military Ordinate.

Great Gains by Church In Africa Raise Problems

New York -- (NC) -- During the last 50 years, the number of Catholics has increased in Africa more than in any other place in the world, but the encouraging expansion has created a tremendous problem for the Church, according to a statement issued here by the national office of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The office issued the statement in calling attention to the January, 1951, mission intention of His Holiness Pope Pius XII "Increase of Missionaries in Africa."

THE STATEMENT detailed that Africa was the last continent that opened its doors to the Church, but "has made up for its tardiness by a greater response to the Faith. The Apostolic Delegations of British Africa, French Africa, South Africa, Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi report a most extraordinary increase in the number of the faithful."

The statement relates that in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, there are 3,282,000 Catholics out of a population of 14,000,000 with 848,000 under instruction who are served by 250 native priests and 1,500 foreign missionaries.

The statement continues: "Encouraging as these figures are, they place before the Church a tremendous problem. Considering the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi again, there is only one native priest for 13,500 Catholics. One priest either native or foreign missionary, has 1,800 Catholics and there is one priest for every 7,800 inhabitants.

"THE VAST EXTENT of this continent should be taken into consideration. The Catholics are not closely grouped together as they are in the northeastern area of the United States. For instance, parishes can be pointed out in this country where there is only one priest for 1,200 Catholics, but such a parish is highly organized and thickly populated with Catholics so that scarcely one of these is more than a quarter of a mile away from the parish church. Such is not the case in Africa. No matter how zealous the priests of Africa may be, there is a most urgent need and present need of more priests for this continent which holds so much promise for the Faith.

"The increase of the clergy in some regions from the year 1921 to 1948 has been four-fold, while at the same time, the number of Catholics has increased six times the number of 1921. In the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi the increase of the priests has been according to the average of four times but the number of the faithful has increased nine times.

"Notwithstanding this lack of priests, the number of Catholics continues to increase far beyond the powers of the priests to care for all of them

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