

What Attracts Converts? Dale Francis: 'Little Things'

By JOHN A. O'BRIEN, Ph.D.
Dale Francis, a journalist, editor, lecturer and freelance writer, is director of the University Press at Notre Dame. After graduating from a Monmouth college, Dale entered the ministry in the Methodist Church. He experienced an aversion to the shouting type of fundamentalist religious services and doubts about the divinity of Christ. It was his service in the army which brought him for the first time into sustained contact with Catholics, particularly with Catholic priests.

LITTLE THINGS HELPED him move toward the Church, a soldier making the sign of the cross in a mess hall, the Catholic Digest on newspapers and the pamphlets in the army chapel. More important was the wholesome influence and the edifying example of the Catholic girl whom he married.

"Marriage," Barbara explains a lot," he observes: "As a good Catholic. During the years when my decision was being made, hers was the major influence. She knew her faith and it was a prime importance, she attended daily Mass and she lived a good Catholic life. Further study convinced Dale of the Divinity of Christ and that He must have provided some effective means for the transmission of His revealed truth to all generations.

THIS COULD NOT be through revelation to each individual since persons claiming such revelation contradicted one another. Neither could it be through the medium of churches which disagreed with one another as to the meaning of Christ's teachings. Therefore it must be through a Church which, for more than 1900 years, had been teaching the truths revealed to her by Christ, her Founder.

"I had through my studies made out the dim outlines of the True Church," he says, "but the light of grace had brought the truth of the Church into blinding clarity. . . . On the day I knelt in an army chapel and became a Catholic I was certain that mine was an intellectual conversion. I'd come to the Church through pure reason, I would have said, and believed what I said. Now, five years later, I know how small a role my intellect played, how great was the role of grace."

\$30,000 Collected For St. Joseph Nuns

A total of \$30,000 was collected in the Diocese of Rochester as a Thanksgiving gift to the Sisters of St. Joseph, according to the Chancery, today. The money was raised in answer to an appeal of His Excellency Bishop Kearney made prior to Thanksgiving Day.

Top parish in the collection was Holy Rosary of Rochester which turned in \$1,750. Highest outside the city and second in the diocese was St. Patrick's of Dansville reporting \$1,428.86.

Other parishes reporting more than \$1,000 were St. Monica's \$1,225.21; Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral, \$1,150; Blessed Sacrament, \$1,137.39; St. Augustine's, \$1,017; Corpus Christi, \$1,030.92. St. Mary's Parish in Elmira turned in a total of \$1,017.60.

Occasion for the collection was pointed out by Bishop Kearney in making the appeal. The Bishop said that the St. Joseph Community celebrated this year the 300th anniversary of its founding, and that "for close to 100 years the Sisters have been actively engaged in every phase of Catholic service in the diocese."

Totals reported follow:

Pro-Cathedral	1,150.00	St. Mary	750.00
St. Ambrose	800.00	St. Michael	324.50
St. Andrew	401.00	St. Monica	1,225.21
St. Ann	474.75	O.L. Good Counsel	1,225.21
Annunciation	352.00	O.L. Lourdes	
St. Anthony	244.71	O.L. Mt. Carmel	125.00
St. Augustine	1,017.00	O.L. Perpetual Help	345.00
Blessed Sacrament	1,137.39	O.L. Victory	100.00
St. Boniface	423.25	St. Patrick	
St. Bridget	184.45	St. Peter & Paul	201.00
St. Charles	347.52	St. Philip Neri	161.00
Corpus Christi	1,030.92	Precious Blood	15.00
St. Francis Assisi	104.00	St. Stanislaus	300.00
St. Francis Xavier	201.15	St. Theresa	44.65
St. George	46.50	St. Thomas	207.40
St. Helen	125.00	AUBURN	
Holy Apostles	322.70	St. Alphonsus	392.23
Holy Cross	251.00	St. Francis	129.44
Holy Family	634.50	Holy Family	432.23
Holy Redeemer	185.50	St. Ignace	161.27
Holy Rosary	1,750.00	St. Joseph	568.25
Immaculate Conception	608.10	St. Joseph	225.00
St. James	350.25	Cayuga	12.40
St. John Evangelist	511.50	CORNING	
St. Joseph	323.75	St. Mary	250.00
St. Lucy	118.00	St. Patrick	213.50
St. Margaret Mary	487.10	St. Vincent	227.00
		Dryden	13.00
		McLean	2.85
		W. Bloomfield	40.50
		E. Bloomfield	24.50
		St. Rochester	197.50
		Elmira Heights	71.65
		Elmira	330.00
		Gale	65.00
		Genesee	284.50
		Grand View Beach	62.38
		Greece	25.00
		Groton	16.40
		Hammondsport	21.50
		Prattsburg	18.00
		Henrietta	56.75
		Rush	9.00
		Honeyoy Falls	54.85
		Medon	13.20
		Northville	58.43
		Port Jervis	13.20
		St. Ann's Home	
		National Home, Bath	
		State School, Industry	
		Divine Word, Sonyea	
		Total	\$30,000.00

DANSVILLE—		
St. Mary	1,428.86	
St. Patrick	117.50	
ELMIRA—		
St. Anthony	117.50	
St. Catharine	168.00	
St. Cecilia	100.00	
St. John	105.00	
St. Joseph	1,017.60	
O.L. Lourdes	174.00	
St. Patrick	500.00	
St. Peter & Paul		
GENEVA—		
St. Francis	609.24	
St. Stephen	532.60	
HORNELL—		
St. Ann	323.00	
St. Ignace	81.21	
MT. MORRIS—		
Assumption	125.00	
St. Patrick	62.02	
Addison—St. Catherine		
Aurora—St. Patrick		
Union Springs—		
St. Michael	324.50	
Avoca—St. Agnes	1,225.21	
Bath—St. Mary	180.00	
Bradford—	300.00	
Catholic Chapel		
Campbell—		
St. Joseph	18.87	
Brookport—Nativity of	11.08	
Blessed Virgin Mary	275.00	
Caladonia—		
St. Columba	82.16	
Mumford—St. Patrick	11.66	
Canandaigua—St. Mary	28.00	
Cato—St. Patrick	20.00	
Red Creek—St. Thomas		
Churchmont—		
St. Vincent	66.00	
Chili—Fechan	40.00	
Clifton Springs—		
St. Ignace	81.60	
St. Felix		
Cly—St. John	108.15	
Saranac—St. Patrick	15.85	
Genesee—St. Plus	35.50	
Goldwater—Holy Ghost	136.00	
Coneaus Lake—		
St. William		
Dryden	13.00	
McLean	2.85	
W. Bloomfield	40.50	
E. Bloomfield	24.50	
St. Rochester	197.50	
Elmira Heights	71.65	
Elmira	330.00	
Gale	65.00	
Genesee	284.50	
Grand View Beach	62.38	
Greece	25.00	
Groton	16.40	
Hammondsport	21.50	
Prattsburg	18.00	
Henrietta	56.75	
Rush	9.00	
Honeyoy Falls	54.85	
Medon	13.20	
Northville	58.43	
Port Jervis	13.20	
St. Ann's Home		
National Home, Bath		
State School, Industry		
Divine Word, Sonyea		
Total	\$30,000.00	

Britain's Street Posters Display Nativity Story

London — (NC) — Three thousand three-color posters, ten feet by six feet, showing the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ and wishing the world a "Merry Christmas," are being displayed on street walls used for poster advertising in Great Britain.

A small group of Catholics decided that by the use of modern advertising methods they could bring home to the public that Christmas means more than "holly and hangers." They conceived the plan from a letter in the Catholic Herald, which described a similar campaign in the United States.

The campaign group, which is remaining anonymous, raised nearly \$20,000 in thousands of individual donations. The Knights of St. Columba, parish workers and convent school-children lent their active support. The funds moved slowly at first.

The poster advertising agency, which had originally donated 1,500 poster board spaces, doubled its donation to 3,000 when it learned that the funds were coming in faster, and the posters went up as Advent started.

The illustration is a simple one of the Nativity. The posters, surrounded by commercial advertisements, have caused considerable attention. It is the first time such

Give The Family A Holiday Treat!
SPECIAL
Famous Powers' **CHRISTMAS** AND **New Year's Day DINNER**

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ALL YOU CAN EAT \$3.00
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In Lounge & Grill
No Minimum, No Tax

Joseph J. Stewart, Mgr.
Hotel Powers
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

New Canada Mission Congregation Grows

Alexandria, Ont. (NC) — In 14 months Canada's first religious community of English-speaking women devoted exclusively to mission work in foreign fields has grown from five to 20 postulants. The Congregation of Our Lady's Missionaries was founded May 31, 1949, by Msgr. Donald R. Macdonald, here, center of historic Glengarry County.

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

YOU CAN SHOP LEISURELY — NO PARKING PROBLEM OR CONFUSION
AND YOU'LL FIND A LARGE SELECTION OF USEFUL GIFTS

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FREE! a genuine 24-K gold-plated **SCATTER PIN**

It's yours without cost. There's nothing to buy. All we ask is that you take a look at the new 1950 LEWYT Vacuum Cleaner. There's NO MESSY DUST BAG TO EMPTY! (It's QUIET — no roar! No unhealthy fumes! Many other exclusive features.)

The New 1950 **LEWYT** VACUUM CLEANER ONLY \$7.25

DOES YOUR COMPLETE WASH CLEANER, QUICKER AND EASIER

EASIEST TERMS ALWAYS AT Pommerening's

MODEL ILLUSTRATED

\$179.95

Others from \$124.95 up
SMALL DOWN PAYMENT 15 Months (to pay)

Cool, Easy-to-Use **Sunbeam** MIXMASTER

Sunbeam DOUBLE AUTOMATIC IRONMASTER NOT in 30 seconds

PRICED FROM \$39.50 to \$46.50

\$14.95

WE HAVE IT!

Frigidaire Automatic Electric Ranges

the NEW **Sunbeam** RADIANT CONTROL TOASTER

Automatic Bread Baking! All you do is drop in the bread. Bread loaves itself automatically. Switch turns on current. When perfectly toasted, current turns off automatically. Toast releases itself without popping or banging.

• Radiant-tube 5-Speed Units
• Large Even-Heat Oven
• Thermistor Deep-Well Cooker
• Cook-Master Oven Control

\$179.95 and up

\$26.50

Presbyterian College Group At Catholic Abbey Retreat

Conception, Ont. (NC) — Twenty-five students and teachers from a Presbyterian institution, Park College, made a retreat at the Benedictine Conception Abbey, here.

First Protestant group to give a special retreat at the center, the Presbyterians did not come as prospective converts. The Rev. Dominic Lavan, O.S.B., guest master, stressed that the retreat was for spiritual profit and for enlightenment on the teachings and practices of Catholics.

Assisted by a text and written commentary, the retreatants attended Mass in the abbey church where the Gregorian chant is sung by 300 monks and seminarians. They had spiritual reading at table and attended a special series of conferences. Subjects at the conferences included the sacramental system, the Rule of St. Benedict, the Papacy, Christian education and the Middle Ages.

Candy Cupboard

Exclusively with McCurdy's in Rochester! Select your own favorites or make up assortments: Vanilla, chocolate, coconut, peppermint, maple walnut, or coffee walnut buttercreams! Molasses, peanut butter, peanut, almond butter crunch chips! Honey almond nougates or cream caramels for the candy-lover who chews! Orange, raspberry, Brazil nut, opera, peppermint, wintergreen, cherry creams! Coffee or peppermint parfaits, chocolate nut fudge, walnut tops or vanilla nut fudge! Pound, 1.10

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GOLDEN Mildness!
GOLDEN Flavor!

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Real New England style candies that appeal to everyone's sweet tooth because they're made with rich cream and fresh dairy butter and coated with specially blended dark or milk chocolate. They'll make delicious gifts... and have plenty on hand at home 'cause they're sure to go fast!

2-pound gift box, 2.10 3-pound gift box, 2.95

Candy Cupboard Bulk Chocolates

Exclusively with McCurdy's in Rochester! Select your own favorites or make up assortments: Vanilla, chocolate, coconut, peppermint, maple walnut, or coffee walnut buttercreams! Molasses, peanut butter, peanut, almond butter crunch chips! Honey almond nougates or cream caramels for the candy-lover who chews! Orange, raspberry, Brazil nut, opera, peppermint, wintergreen, cherry creams! Coffee or peppermint parfaits, chocolate nut fudge, walnut tops or vanilla nut fudge! Pound, 1.10

Other Holiday Candy Favorites

Sevigny's Ribbon Candy—really "thin!" Delicate satin ribbon colors in old-fashioned flavors. (Too fragile to deliver.) Box, 1.10

Schrafft's Crystal Mixture, fancy hard candies that are traditional Christmas favorites. Pound, 59c

Betty More 100% Filled Hard Candies. Pound, 59c

Betty More Assorted Chiptles, thin, flavorful hard candy wafers, Pound, 49c

Bunte's Diana Stuft Confections, all filled hard candies. 3-pound tin, 1.49

Old-Fashioned French Creams. Pound, 39c

Quality Street imported English toffees and chocolates individually wrapped. Colorful gift tin. Pound, 1.00

Two-pound tin, 2.00

McCurdy's Candy, Street Floor

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- ✓ Ranges
- ✓ Radios
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