

U. S. Army Chaplains In Korea



Members of the St. Columban's Mission Society... in Chaplain Robert A. Sherry, priest of the Cincinnati Archdiocese, who in headquarters chaplain of the U. S. 8th Army. Others in the picture are not identified. Rev. Patrick O'Connor, St. Columban missionary and correspondent in Korea for NCWC News Service, conducted the services. (NCWC)

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Baptist Minister Admits Guilt In Libeling Knights

Watonga, Okla. — (NC) — The Rev. John M. Berentschot, pastor of the Zion Baptist Church in Okene, Okla., pleaded guilty to charges of libel against the Knights of Columbus and was ordered by the county court here to pay a fine of \$10.00 and costs of \$27.50.

HE WAS charged with distributing a bogus "oath" of the Knights of Columbus. The pastor's public apology to the Knights of Columbus was published on Dec. 21 in the Watonga Republican in a conspicuous position.

In his apology, Berentschot declares he is solely responsible for the distribution of the false oath and exonerates his church members and others for the distribution of this false piece of literature.

"THE FACT that the alleged oath was printed in the Congressional Record does not prove its authenticity," Dr. Berentschot said in his apology. "Upon investigation, I find that the 'bogus oath' is printed in the Congressional Record for the purpose to prove its falseness and libelous nature in connection with an elec-

tion contest in the year 1922." After asserting he sincerely regrets "the misinformation and non-substantiated authority of the American Protestant League of Englewood, Colo., as publisher, in leading me to assist in the distribution" of the false oath, Berentschot quotes in his apology the full text of the obligation taken by Fourth Degree members of the Knights of Columbus in the United States.

Liquor Permit Lost At Church Request

Sacramento, Cal. — (RNS) — At the request of Roman Catholic Church officials, the state board of equalization denied a Los Angeles man a license to sell bottled beer and wine on his premises.

The churches said the premises were located near schools and churches in an extremely poor section of the city. Among those who opposed the granting of the license was Magr Thomas J. O'Dwyer, director of hospitals and health of the Los Angeles archdiocese.

Cincinnati Gets Lenten Bingo Ban

Cincinnati — (RNS) — Archbishop Earl J. Alter of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cincinnati has notified all clergy of his jurisdiction that there is to be no sponsoring of bingo games in the archdiocese during Lent. The order covers both churches and affiliated organizations. "They are not to conduct 'parties or socials of any kind during the entire period of Lent.'"

While the Archbishop gave no explanation for the directive, it was interpreted to mean "strict observance of the spirit of Lent."

Some Catholics lay leaders speculated that the bingo order might be extended beyond the Lenten period. It was understood that when the Archbishop was Bishop of Toledo he frowned on, although he did not ban, such activities, fearing they might cause scandal.

Help of Sisters
Cairo (NC) The Egyptian Ministry of Public Health has issued an appeal to all Catholic religious Orders and Congregations to secure the services of Sisters in government hospitals here.

Catholic Census In England Cites Three Million Total

By JOHN GREAVES

London (NC) — The practicing Catholic population of England and Wales now must total at least 3,000,000, according to figures in the official Catholic Directory for 1951 just issued here.

The directory gives the Catholics as numbering 2,260,596 compared with 2,734,249 at the end of 1949—an increase of 74,347. But it gives no estimate for the tens of thousands of Poles and other European refugees employed here as voluntary workers, and who are sufficiently numerous to require 123 priests of their own. Nor does the total include a very large number of children who have left school.

BRITAIN'S TOTAL population at the last census was 49,577,482. Catholic marriages during 1949 (last year for which figures are as yet available) numbered 36,084, an increase of 294 over the previous year. Children's baptisms dropped by 3548 to 88,735. Conversions in 1949 numbered 11,517—three fewer than in 1948. The net increase in the number of diocesan clergy in the 19 dioceses in the past year was 46,

making a total of 4,363, religious clergy dropped by one to 2,363.

PUBLIC CHURCHES and chapels now total 1,982, which is 11 more than last year. Of these 923 are not registered for marriages.

The directory this year for the first time lists the 132 Polish and European refugee priests serving the European voluntary workers. They are in addition to the 4,363 already mentioned.

STATE-AIDED Catholic schools number 1,038 with 360,262 pupils. There are an additional independent 545 schools.

The directory claims that the total number of Catholics in English-speaking countries now amounts to 67,949,243. The British Commonwealth and Empire having 24,075,079 and the United States 27,766,141.

Boycotts Ship

Havana, Cuba — (NC) — The Labor Confederation of Cuba and the National Maritime Federation have decided to boycott a merchant ship which is seeking sugar in Cuba for communist China.

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Annual Day Provided For Holy Childhood Association

Watonga, Okla. — (NC) — Pope Pius XII has granted the petition of the Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood to set aside a day each year dedicated to prayers and a collection of alms for the work of that worldwide mission aid group.

In a letter to His Eminence Pietro Cardinal Fumasoni Biondi, Prefect of the Propagation of the Faith, the Holy Fathers expressed the hope that the Holy Childhood associates may gain ever wider recognition in view of the enormous number of abandoned children in need of aid in mission countries.

The Holy Childhood society is dedicated to the task of ransoming pagan children and procuring for them Baptism and Christian training and to establishing and supporting asylums for orphans and abandoned babies.

"If all the faithful assist this enterprise by their prayers and offerings," the Pontiff's letter states, "they will do something which We highly recommend and which will earn them. We are confident, rich rewards in heaven."

CARDINAL FUMASONI Biondi was instructed to forward the Pope's decision to all the Ordinaries of the world in order that they may draw up plans for putting it into effect.

The American headquarters of the Holy Childhood society is located in Pittsburgh. Its national director is the Very Rev. Richard Ackerman, C.S.Sp. His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, is the protector of the American branch.

GENESEE VALLEY TRUST CO

Statement of Condition

December 31, 1950

ASSETS

Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$ 5,884,284.24
U. S. Government Bonds	17,836,221.10
State, Municipal and other Bonds	4,228,277.51
Loans and Discounts	15,103,206.39
Mortgages	2,401,438.74
Genesee Valley Trust Building	1,090,432.28
(Cost less depreciation reserve of \$1,014,142.50)	
Other Real Estate	None
Other Assets	310,810.28
	\$46,884,672.51

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 1,750,000.00
Surplus	1,750,000.00
Undivided Profits	500,955.25
	\$ 4,000,955.25
Reserve for Taxes, Interest and Other Liabilities	600,279.29
Deposits	42,283,437.97
	\$46,884,672.51

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London Balks Canada Bid For Vatican Representation

(Continued from Page 1)

A good example was provided recently at Lake Success by Canada's joint intervention with the Netherlands in putting forward a proposal for solving the problem of the Holy Places. It was known to be totally unacceptable to the Vatican as well as completely unworkable. Britain's desire to "lie low" on this issue, so as not to annoy either Arabs or Israel, was equalled only by her eagerness to find a compromise solution. Canada could speak at Lake Success from a brief largely inspired by Britain and which has since been denounced by the Vatican as a measure of expediency.

THROUGH THE United Kingdom relations with the Holy See are correct and formally cordial. British Socialist dislike of the still formidable Christian Democrat influence in continental countries, backed by the unofficial Foreign Office tradition of ecclesiastical secularism, are preventing Canadian authorities from making their own decisions on the question of direct representation at the Vatican.

Canada's strange sympathy to London Asian appeasement as against the firm United States policy is cited as another instance of Ottawa's one-sided sources of information doctored up by Whitehall to suit their policies.

This is an old problem which arose when Canada began expanding her own diplomatic services. London went quite some way to dissuade, for example, Canada's opening of representations in Chile as well as Buenos Aires, arguing that London's representatives were quite capable of looking after the "insignificant" Canadian interests.

ON THE OTHER hand, Britain has used Canada for certain diplomatic missions where Canada's neutrality was useful to Whitehall. Thus Canada maintained a representative in Vichy accredited to General Petain at Churchill's express wish.

A Canadian ambassador in Turkey certainly does not correspond to any serious Canadian need.

But nobody knows better than Whitehall the tremendous value for a country's world contacts which a Vatican diplomatic post represents. As long as Ottawa has to rely on the British minister to the Holy See, Sir Harry Perowne, Canada is "safe" for Whitehall's directives in many important matters.

Communists Lose
Montevideo, Uruguay — (NC) — The Communist Party in recent general elections polled only half the 32,000 votes it received in 1946.

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