

Monsignor Connors Heads Same Parish 50 Years

(Continued from Page 1)
 Monsignor Connors has officiated at the life-span, baptism, marriage and funeral of several of his parishioners. His delight through the years has been daily visits to the parish school and chats with the children.

BORN IN ROCHESTER July 12, 1870, one of ten children of Thomas and Mary Powers Connors, he was graduated from Immaculate Conception School in 1889. After a business course at the former Rochester Free Academy, he worked for nearly three years, until he was 17, as head bookkeeper for a local clothing firm.

He then entered St. Andrew's Seminary, completing his studies at St. Bernard's Seminary before ordination June 21, 1896, by Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

His first assignment was as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church, South St., where he

What Attracts Converts?

Christopher Hollis: Miracles

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

Christopher Hollis—historian, educator, economist, member of Parliament and author of more than a dozen books—was educated at Eton and Oxford and reared in the Episcopal Church. While at Oxford he made a careful study of the miracles recorded in the New Testament. These miracles, especially the Resurrection, convinced him of the divinity of Christ. They were wrought in testimony of the truth of His teachings and of His claims to be the Son of God.



Christopher Hollis

THE RECORD of such miracles was clearly recorded in the Scriptures which were proven by historical evidence to be authentic records of the events about which they purported to treat. The Apostles were witnesses of these events and proved the sincerity of their divine Master. The most painstaking research had failed to find any loophole through which one could escape from the conclusion that Christ had climaxed the evidence of His divinity by the Resurrection.

Once Hollis had satisfied himself on this central truth of the Christian religion, he was not long in finding the answer to the question: "Which is Christ's true Church?"

THE "CHURCHES" were all agreed, he noted, that Christ founded a Church, but none ventured to assert that He had founded the present variety of "churches." All were agreed, too, that His Church was imperishable, that the gates of hell would not prevail against it. That being so, the "one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church," of which the Creed speaks, must be in existence somewhere today, and must have been in existence continuously ever since the times of the Apostles.

"There seemed to me," he concluded, "to be nowhere that Church could be found save in the obedience to Rome. The very definitions of the Church, as given by those outside this obedience, are a denial of her unity. She also is Catholic. And, if she be not apostolic, certainly no other is, for all others can trace their ancestry back to the Apostles only through her. If Christ was God, the Church must exist, and if the Church exists, the Church of Rome cannot but be the true Church."

Soviet Zone School Law Hits Catholics

Berlin—(RNS)—Roman Catholic circles expressed "alarm" here over a new Soviet Zone school law aimed at bringing all youth in Eastern Germany under the Communist educational system.

PASSED BY the Soviet-German People's Chamber (Volks-kammer), the law stipulates that attendance at schools located in the Soviet Zone area is mandatory for all children from 6 to 15 whose parents or tutors are residents of the (Eastern) German Democratic Republic.

As a consequence of this law, Catholic parents from Eastern Berlin and the Soviet occupation zone will no longer be allowed to send their children to any of the seven Catholic private schools, or to any other educational institutions, in West Berlin.

"THE LAW constitutes a rigorous violation of the parents' right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children," Petrusblatt, official organ of the Berlin diocese, declared, adding that "in the Soviet Zone, parents will find no school which would meet their requirements for a Christian education of their children."

"It is heartbreakingly painful to imagine," Petrusblatt complained, "what confusion will be created in the souls of those youth who hitherto attended Christian schools in West Berlin and who will now be 're-educated' in the radically changed atmosphere of Soviet Zone schools."

Gold Tooth Saved Twelve Pakistan Nurs From Death

Washington—(NC)—The story of a gold tooth that saved the lives of a dozen nuns was recounted here by Bishop Francis Benedict Claes, O.P., of Multan, Pakistan.

The incident occurred during the bitter Hindu-Muslim strife in Kashmir in 1947, the Bishop related. During the violence and mass looting Muslim tribesmen attacked the hospital and convent of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary at Baramulla.

ONE WAS KILLED and about 12 others were lined up against a wall to be shot. It was at this point that one tribesman spotted a front gold tooth in the mouth of a nun.

He argued with his tribesmen that he wanted that tooth and urged them to halt the execution until he had secured it in some way. It was while the tribesmen were engaged in a confab as to how the gold tooth could best be removed, Bishop Claes related, that a superior Muslim officer arrived on the scene.

Conscious of the extensive charitable activity of the nuns, this officer reprimanded his less informed co-religionists for having attacked the Sisters, and warned them that they could never secure the blessings of God through harming virgins dedicated to God's service.

THE NUNS WERE immediately set free and the tribesmen expressed their sorrow for what they had done. As a token of reparation, Bishop Claes said, one tribesman even offered to marry one of the nuns.

The hospital had been erected at Lyallpur by a wealthy Hindu as a memorial to his father. But when the rioting broke out the Hindu fled the country. Both Bishop Claes and an American Protestant group requested authority from the Pakistani government to take over the hospital.

The hospital was turned over to the Bishop.

Bishop Claes arrived in the United States in November and intends to visit various parts of the country until April. He is seeking mission aid for the establishment of primary, agricultural and trade schools for his impoverished flock.

Church School Aid French Election Issue

Paris—(RNS)—State aid for Church schools, a topic which has been debated by anti-clericals and Roman Catholics for the past fifty years, looms as one of the major issues in the national elections for the French Assembly to be held this fall.

Always revived at election time, the issue is expected to take on particular importance because Catholic parents have complained they are no longer able to meet the financial burden involved in the upkeep of Christian schools.

At the last elections in 1948, the Popular Republican Movement received the support of Catholics because it promised to campaign for State aid to church schools. This support made the party one of the three principal groups in the country and gave it nearly one-third of the seats in parliament.

Charges have been made, however, that MRP has not done anything to help the church schools. For this reason, the party appears to be in danger of losing the Catholics backing which helped to create it.

Ex-Banker, Ordained At 61, Now Dead

London—(NC)—The Rev. he had longed to be a priest since he was 15 but he had to support his widowed mother Mrs. Dunlop, then 90, attended his ordination.

Fr Dunlop was buried in the monks' cemetery of the Quarr Benedictine Abbey, Isle of Wight, where he had often taken parties of scouts on camping vacations.

As a layman, Father Dunlop was for many years gentleman-in-waiting to the late Cardinal Francis Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster. He founded the "Cardinal's Own" troop of boy scouts in the Westminster district and was its scoutmaster for 11 years.

After ordination at the age of 61 he revealed to friends that

Franciscans Find Churches in Bethany

Jerusalem—(RNS)—Franciscan archeologists excavating in the vicinity of the traditional tomb of Lazarus at Bethany, three miles east of here, have uncovered the ruins of three churches, two of them superimposed on the third.

Brazil Stops Stalin Rallies

Rio De Janeiro—(NC)—Brazil police and civil authorities broke up a series of communist rallies to commemorate Stalin's birthday in various cities of the country. Communist plans, it was reported, included acts of violence against textile and metallurgical industries. Communism was outlawed in this country several years ago.

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