

China Reds Free American Priest

(Continued from Page 1) — The Rev. Bernard Wieland, 42, a Maryknoll missionary, has been released by the Chinese Reds after having been held under house arrest for six months, according to reports received here by the priest's mother, Mrs. James Wieland.

Mrs. Wieland was notified that her son had arrived in Hong Kong and was in good health. News of his release came from Maryknoll headquarters in New York.

Father Wieland had served at an educational mission in Kwangsi province, South China, for the last 12 years.

CATHOLIC SOCIOLOGISTS



At the annual meeting of the American Catholic Sociological Society, held at Catholic University of America, Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara, of Kansas City, was named Honorary President. Pictured on that occasion are, left to right: Rev. Ralph A. Gallagher, S.J., Loyola University, Chicago, Executive Secretary; Sister Mary Gabriel, G.N.S.H., D'Youville College, Buffalo, N. Y., Second Vice-President; John A. Kane, University of Notre Dame, Ind., President; Rev. Joseph P. Fitzpatrick, S.J., Fordham University, New York City, First Vice-President.

IT HAS BEEN TWENTY-TWO YEARS

By MARY E. FITZGERALD
Executive Director—Catholic Family Service

We reminisce! January twenty-first marked the twenty-second anniversary of Catholic Charities, now Catholic Family Service in Elmira. Twenty-two years, filled with victories and failures, a happy program which includes almost every spiritual and corporal work of mercy, became a valuable auxiliary to our Agency, Camp Villa Maria, a Catholic supervised camp, was sponsored by Catholic Charities and the Ladies of Charity.

Almost a quarter of a century and yet not enough time to do even a small part of His work because the fields are ripe with so few.

1930 — The first year for the Community Chest in Elmira and the horrible onslaught of a depression. Catholic Charities with one paid worker, sharing a tiny room in the Federation building, frontally enough with the Humane Society.

1931-33 — Depression Years. Inflated Case Load. Subsidy from Public Funds. Staff and more staff but always an effort to continue Case Work Treatment — to do Catholic Social Work.

1934-40 — We returned to the role of a Private Agency. We pledged ourselves to the cause of Social Work that was different because it was Catholic. And so down through the years time has brought many changes, some of which are truly progress. Advisory Committees brought more people into direct contact with Catholic Charities and gave us the benefit of their experience.

THE LADIES OF Charity with

Page after page could be filled with a record of these changes and a careful omission of the incidents when the wheels of progress did not revolve rapidly.

To some of you it could be history, to others reputation and to us a challenge — but we question the effectiveness of such a record.

In loving gratitude, we must mention the long sought goal of our incorporation, bringing with it the license to place children in foster and adopted homes. Placing a baby or an older child in another Nazareth, is a privilege for which we can never be truly appreciative. It's almost like playing God and that is why we so carefully investigate every prospective adoptive parent. The evils of the bootleg adoptions which still prevail, the selling point of placements made in agency red tape are mistakes, in which we hope never to have a part.

OUR NEED of Foster Homes for temporary and long time placements, is a challenge to Catholic Action. We founder helplessly, as we face our twenty-third year, seeking a channel, closed hearts. Foster children who but for the grace of God might be stark children in whom you might recognize the face of Paul, and through whom you might save your own immortal soul. How can you and your relatives?

And as we look to the future, our faith is first, because of the loyal, helpful interest of our friends and supporters. Over and above even that great asset, is the true security of Catholic Social Work to which we are consecrated. It is work which is more than a profession, which is our vocation, our life and which has but one ultimate end, the good of our neighbor and the practical application of that emotion.

In the "Easier to be Handicapped" we find a measuring stick for our every action for each thought and word that is a part of our Catholic Social Work. God of mercy and compassion make us understand, in every man whom we "misfit" — has touched is our neighbor. Bless our efforts to persuade America to accept justice and equity to those souls among us who have been signed with the Seal of Charity.



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Father Kleintjes At Saturday Club

First Saturday luncheon will be held Saturday, Feb. 2, in the Powers Hotel Ball Room at 12:35 p.m.

Speaker will be the Rev. John Kleintjes, assistant pastor of St. Ann's Church. His topic will be part of the Litany of the Blessed Virgin.

The luncheon is open to all Catholic women who are interested in the words of Our Blessed Lady at Fatima. Reservations may be made by sending a card to the First Saturday Luncheon Group, 30 Northwood of Rochester, N.Y. The price of the luncheon is \$1.50.

The moderator of the group has announced that the luncheons will begin promptly at 12:15 and will be over by 2:00 p.m. Outstanding speakers have been selected for future luncheons. The luncheon is sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Women.