

Bishop Asks Youths Who Took Statue Be Forgiven

COLUMBUS, (NC)—Bishop Michael J. Ready of Columbus has asked "full forgiveness" for three Ohio State University students who confessed to taking a statue of St. Joseph from a Christmas crib erected on the lawn of St. Joseph Cathedral, here.

Bishop Ready noted that the youths on their own initiative had reported their implication in the matter to the university officials, and that the university had taken immediate steps to return the property and to arrange appropriate discipline.

The three young fraternity members, who admitted taking the statue from a Nativity group in front of the Cathedral on December 22, called upon Bishop Ready to apologize for their action.

The university was reported to have placed the youths on a period of probation, the terms of which require them to donate to a blood bank, to take a course in ethics and to pay for any damage that may have been done to the statue.

Paralyzed, Bedridden Girl Fills Bill On Catholic Newspaper

By ROBERT KELLY
(Written for N.C.W.C. News Service)

CROOKSTON, Minn. Paralyzed for 15 years! A handicap? — yes and no. Physically, she can only move her head, neck, arms and shoulders. Mentally, she's right on top with the best of them. There, in part, is a general description of Miss Vivian Murphy of Felton, Minn., contributing editor of Our Northland Diocese, official publication of the Diocese of Crookston.

This is a woman who was forced by illness to give up plans for a college education, the pleasures of life and a normal everyday program to face the future from a sickbed and wheel chair. But it didn't stop her from leading a useful life.

VIVIAN DROPPED her plans and turned to her typewriter. She began to write. Since she couldn't attend college, she did the next best thing. The University of Minnesota heard from her, and she began taking correspondence courses in creative writing.

It took her six years to place her first national magazine article — eight years to make a national sale that scored any success. By now she has contributed articles in the Extension, the Marianist, the Messenger of the Sacred Heart, the Catholic Digest and the Valley Farmer.

Miss Murphy was born in 1910 in Ada, Minn., where she attended grade school and high school. She planned to enter college in the summer of 1936 but was stricken with paralysis due to a spinal abscess. She spent the next year in hospitals in Fargo, Minneapolis and Rochester.

SHE BECAME associated with Our Northland Diocese after a visit from Bishop Francis J. Schenk of Crookston, who told her he planned a diocesan newspaper and asked her to contribute articles to it. She became a regular contributor in July, 1947.

For the sake of comfort, Miss Murphy has to be placed on her side with her knees flexed as far as they can be. Occasionally a sandbag is placed in position to still the involuntary movements of her legs. In a wheel chair her legs are bound to the chair to keep them flexed and quiet. She very seldom uses the chair except when making a trip, or leaving the house.

HER MOTHER, Mrs. Edward J. Murphy, has been in constant attendance since she returned from the hospital in 1937. Her two brothers, Daniel and Vincent, have been a source of transportation for her whenever she has traveled.

While her mother is a valued critic, Vivian does all her writing unassisted. In spite of her handicap, Miss Murphy is well groomed and, in her own words, "tries to dress as attractively as possible."

Once a dressmaker who often sews for Miss Murphy was making a colorful plaid taffeta dress for her. She showed it to a woman who knew of her illness but hadn't seen much of her. The woman said to the dressmaker: "But can she wear that sort of thing?"

"OH," SAID the dressmaker, "She's not dead." Miss Murphy considers that one of the nicest, most loyal things ever said about her.

As for being confined to her



Many readers of her diocesan paper, Our Northland Diocese, Crookston, Minn., will be surprised to know that their favorite columnist, Vivian T. Murphy, of Felton, Minn., has to do all her writing in bed. That she makes light of her work can be seen from her smile. She is also a contributor to several national Catholic magazines.

bed, she has a philosophy about life that she speaks of more than most of us: something interesting keeps happening to her out more clearly: "She really lives all the time."

Catholic Church Employees Up 50% in 21 Years

WASHINGTON — (NC) — During the 21-year period ending in 1950 full-time Catholic Church employees, religious and lay, increased by over 50 per cent, while employees of non-Catholic denominations declined more than 25 per cent.

THESE FACTS were disclosed through analysis of figures compiled by the Department of Commerce, whose statistics on Catholic Church employees are based upon the Official Catholic Directory and the last tabulated census of religious bodies in 1938. The figures on other denominations are based on the 1936 census and on statistical samplings taken since that time.

Apparently reflecting a proportional increase in Catholic religious whose pay, if any, is nominal, the Department of Commerce study showed that pay of church workers, above average in 1929, had become below-average in 1950. Average church-worker pay in 1929 was \$1,610, or about 14 per cent more than the average for all occupations of \$1,431. In 1950 according to Commerce estimates, it was \$2,276, or about 25 per cent

less than all-occupation average of \$3,024. THE Department of Commerce reported that in 1929 churches and other religious organizations had 222,000 employees, of which 54,000 were lay and religious Catholic Church workers and 168,000 workers with non-Catholic denominations. By 1950, according to department estimates, there was a dip to a total of 218,000, with a rise of Catholic employees to 85,000 and a drop in non-Catholic employees to 133,000.

During the same period the department said the Nation's population increased by approximately 25 per cent. This indicated that the number of Catholic Church employees, jumping over 50 per cent in the same years, has outpaced the population rise.

Judge of Rota — (NC) — Msgr. Giovanni Maria Piumi, defender vinculi (defender of the marriage bond) of the Sacred Rota, has been named a judge of that body by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Modern Home For Care Of Aged Started

NEW YORK — (NC) — Bishop Joseph F. Flannelly, Auxiliary of New York, blessed the first of three modernized buildings here which will comprise the \$2,110,000 Mary Manning Walsh Home for the Aged, scheduled to provide New York with one of its first modern geriatrics clinics as well as up-to-the-minute recreational facilities for hundreds of men and women over 65.

Named in memory of Mrs. Thomas J. Walsh, who bequeathed funds for use by the New York Archdiocese, the home will have accommodations for 370 guests, Sisters and staff. It also will feature a day-care center for hundreds of non-resident aged, who will be able to obtain treatment at a clinic with divisions for physical medicine, occupational therapy and physiotherapy.

Recreational facilities will include an auditorium with a stage and motion picture screen, a men's billiard room and den with a television set, arts and crafts shops, a snack bar, a coffee shop and sun decks on every floor. There will also be a barber shop and a beauty parlor.

The group of buildings, formerly the New York Orthopedic Hospital, was purchased last summer by the New York Archdiocese. Carmelite Sisters of the Aged and Infirm, under the immediate supervision of Mother Bernadette de Lourdes, will staff the home. It will be operated under the direction of the archdiocesan Catholic Charities.

New Orleans School Head Listed For 'Church Of The Air'

THE Very Rev. Msgr. Henry C. Bezou, pastor of St. Patrick's Church of New Orleans, La., will speak on CBS Radio's "Church of the Air" Sunday, Jan. 13, (CBS Radio, 10:00-10:30 a.m., EST).

Msgr. Bezou is Superintendent of the Catholic Schools in New Orleans and director of the Catholic Committee of the South Summer School.

Music will be sung by the Holy Name of Jesus Choir, directed by the Rev. George Francis of Loyola University and accompanied by Guy Bernard.

Refuses Opinion Concerning 'Anti-Religious' Broadcasts

OTTAWA — (NC) — A special parliamentary committee investigating radio broadcasting in Canada has refused to give an opinion on certain Canadian Broadcasting Company broadcasts which Catholic and Protestant groups have attacked as anti-religious.

IN ITS REPORT to the House of Commons the committee said it could not express an opinion because it recognizes the right of every Canadian in our democracy . . . to adhere to his own beliefs, religious or otherwise, and that on many matters Canadians hold divergent views.

The Ottawa Journal, commenting on discussions in the Commons and before the special radio committee under a heading of "Confusion About Free Speech," asked how "anybody can hold that we have some obligation to use the costly facilities of the CBC to circulate the speech of Brock Chisholm or Bertrand Russell—or of anybody else . . ."

(Both Dr. Chisholm and Mr. Russell have been accused by

the 75,000-member Catholic Women's League of Canada of making "open attacks on basic principles and doctrines of Christianity in CBC network broadcasts.")

"THE RIGHT of free speech does not include any right by anybody to have others provide facilities for his speech," the Ottawa Journal said.

"There is no more obligation upon the CBC to put on Brock Chisholm with his doctrines, whether about psychiatry or Santa Claus, than there is obligation upon it to put on Mr. Joe Louis with his theories about prize fighting."

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N. Y. Rabbis Oppose Prayer In Schools

NEW YORK — (RNS) — Opposition to the proposal of the State Board of Regents that a prayer be offered daily in public schools was expressed in a resolution adopted unanimously here by the New York Board of Rabbis.

The resolution praised the motives of the Regents but expressed belief that the proposal would "do violence" to religious liberty if carried into effect.

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