

Chinese Postulants Show Martyr-Like Courage

Maryknoll, N. Y.—(NO)—The faith demonstrated by two Chinese girls tortured by communists is "worthy of the early martyrs," according to a report received at Maryknoll headquarters.

The two girls, both under 20 years of age, were postulants studying to become native Sisters. After their school was taken over by communists, they were ordered to renounce the Church and the Catholic hierarchy of China. When they refused to do so, the Reds decided to make an example of them.

Before an assembly of the entire school, the two girls were forced to kneel on broken boards for four hours. A group of communists took turns striking them over the head, while the crowd insulted and ridiculed them. The girls said their Rosaries throughout the ordeal.

Fearing that the communists would attack the convent if they stayed there, the two girls returned to school the following day. The same per-

formance was repeated, for four hours in the morning and four more in the afternoon. But the girls again returned to school the next day. This time they were kept kneeling on the broken boards all day and night. When they fainted, their tormentors revived them with water and then resumed the abuse.

"To call the persecutors of these young ladies she-wolves," states the priest who reports the event, "is an injustice to the wolf, for what they did no animal would do. Through it all the girls maintained silence."

When, finally, the constancy of the young women could not be broken, the Reds drove them from the school.

Pacific Mission

Brooklyn — (NC)—The Very Rev. Edwin G. McManus, S.J., of Brooklyn has been appointed Superior of the Jesuit Missions of the Caroline and Marshall Islands, succeeding the Very Rev. Vincent J. Kennally, S.J.

Red German Zone Stays Priest Ban

Frankfurt — (NC)—Following representations by the German hierarchy, the communist-ruled East German government has stayed for the time being enforcement of its order under which Catholic priests residing in Western Germany would no longer be permitted to take up residence in the Soviet zone of occupation.

THE ORIGINAL order was issued last month by Dr. Karl Steinhoff, East Zone Secretary of the Interior. In view of the serious consequences enforcement of this order would have had for the Church, Otto Grotewohl, East Germany premier, was approached on behalf of the German hierarchy and he consented to stay execution of the order, at least for the current year. Further negotiations are to take place shortly.

The serious effects of this measure arise from the fact that since the end of the war it has been practically impossible to operate seminaries in Eastern Germany.

CANDIDATES for the priesthood in the dioceses of Berlin and Meissen are being trained in Western Germany.

The order specified that those seminarians in Eastern Germany who apply for an exit permit to receive their training in Western Germany would thereby automatically lose their right of residence in the eastern provinces.

Political Club Adopts Prayer

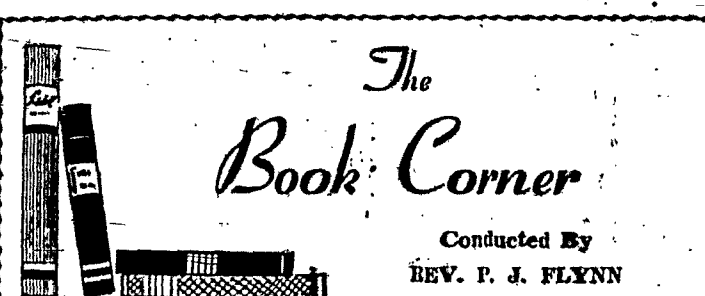
Albany, N. Y.—(RNS)—The Albany Republican Club has voted to start its meetings with a prayer patterned after the one recommended by the New York State Board of Regents to open public school days.

Harold E. Hartman, recently elected president of the club, said the new policy will go into effect Feb. 28, date of the next meeting.

KOREAN POW'S AT MASS



A Maryknoll priest, Father John F. Coffey, of Detroit, former missionary at Pyongyang (Helo) says Mass in a tent, for Prisoners of War at the enclosure on a Korean island, "Some-where in Korea." U. S. Army Photo. (NC Photos)



THE END OF THE AFFAIR, a novel by Graham Greene, Viking Press, New York \$3.00. This unlikely story of adultery is the current best seller of the able craftsman Graham Greene, a Catholic engaged in the perilous profession of writing modern novels.

Admittedly adultery is modern but Mr. Greene's detailed and realistic account of the sordid affair between Sarah Miles and Maurice Bendrix (a pair of moral rotters!) is even more modern. Literary preoccupation and exploitation of lust is the hallmark of many modern novelists. As a result their stories read like clinical reports which psychiatrists wisely keep locked up in steel cabinets.

Mr. Greene's Catholic conscience tries, of course, to wind his story up on the side of the angels and in the end he does show us a faint vision of God, but after many pages of association with Mr. Greene's depraved characters, the reader is almost ashamed to meet God.

Mr. Greene's apparent purpose is to show that all human love, even sinful love, must surrender to the love of God in the end, but the sordid realism which he employs in the telling of his story constitutes a serious moral danger for all readers. Preoccupation with the theme of lust makes for morbid and unhealthy reading.

Despite the author's good ambition we sincerely doubt that "The End of the Affair" will bring anyone any nearer the Kingdom of God. Readers, therefore, will be wise if they do not BEGIN this affair.—P. J. F.

IN THE SHADOW OF PETER by Very Rev. Henry B. Shaw, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Medina, N. Y. St. Anthony Guild

Press, Paterson, N. J. \$2.00

Here is a book that can supplement the information that the increasing number of non-Catholic inquirers are gathering from lecturers, classes and correspondence courses. Catholics, too, can read it to appreciate their Faith better.

The 168 pages are written by a priest who did not get the gift of faith at birth but received it only after a slow and tortuous journey. It presents the non-Catholic's approach to the beauty of the faith with no malicious reflection on other beliefs but with a steadily growing realization that the truth is to be found in the Holy, Roman, Catholic Church.

Father Shaw was a student at a university and an Episcopalian seminarian before his doubts grew that he was not in the true church. A convert friend introduced him to a Catholic priest, who helped resolve his doubts.

Convinced of his course, the author went to St. Bonaventure university and he pays tribute to the Franciscans "under whose inspiration my vocation was furthered."

The author appeals to others outside the fold to follow him; the appeal is convincing.—T. H. O'Connor.

Cubans Attend Eucharist Congress

Matanzas, Cuba—(NC)—The first Diocesan Eucharistic Congress which brought together over 30,000 persons, took place here on the 150th anniversary of the establishment in Cuba of the Nocturnal Adoration movement. The press called the Congress "the most extraordinary event... since the foundation of the city 250 years ago."

Catholic's Best Friend Is Jew (Christ), Says Priest Condemning Anti-Semitism

Chicago — (NC)—Counseling against anti-Semitism, the Rev. Thomas A. Meehan, editor of The New World, Chicago archdiocesan newspaper, in a sermon during the observance of the Chair of Unity Octave in Holy Name Cathedral, reminded that the "dearest and most intimate friend" of every true Catholic is a Jew—and His name is Jesus Christ.

He recalled that the Blessed Mother, the Apostles and all close associates of Our Lord were Jews. He asked: "How can any Catholic ever bear any prejudice or bigotry toward this noble race? And, if it wasn't for the Jews we would not have Christ since in a sense they gave Him to us."

Father Meehan cautioned his listeners against believing that the Jews openly rejected Christ and pointed out that the New Testament plainly shows it was their leaders—the priests, Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees—who brought about the rejection.

"Let no one tell you that none of the Jews accepted Christ or that all of the Jews rejected him," Father Meehan declared. "The infant Catholic Church was composed mainly of Jews. All the Apostles were Jews, all the Disciples were Jews, the 3,000 and then the 5,000 converts received by St. Peter on the first Pentecost Sunday were all Jews of the Diaspora who were gathered in Jerusalem for the Passover of that year."

"The first two Popes were Jews and St. Paul, the great Apostle of the Gentiles, was likewise a Jew. For these reasons if for no others there is a bond between Catholics and Jews which no one can understand. In a sense they are our blood brothers since God first gave His revelation to them through the prophets in the Old Testament and Christ clearly was no more than the fulfillment of the Old Covenant or Old Testament in the New Covenant and the New Testament of love."

Anti-Semitism is rooted in prejudice, ignorance, bigotry and racial hatred, Father Meehan said, and is "unworthy of any follower of Christ. He urged his listeners to pray earnestly for the conversion of the Jews."

City Council To Open With Prayer

Cleveland — (RNS)—Cleveland's city council will open its meetings in the future with prayer.

The 33 councilmen by unanimous vote, approved a resolution specifying that the council president invite representatives of the Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish faiths to take turns in asking Divine blessing upon the legislative body's deliberations.

It is believed to be the first time in the nearly 150 years of the city's history that such action has been taken.

History Led To Church, Convert Professor Reveals

Lexington — (NC)—A University of Kentucky history professor, whose studies led him into the Catholic Church, was installed as the 16th president of the Guild of St. Paul at the 15th anniversary banquet of the convert group.

Bishop William T. Molloy of Covington presented Dr. Carl Cone with the Guild gavel for 1952. Representatives of convert guilds in Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee and Wisconsin attended. Bishop Hohn P. Treacy of LaCrosse, Wis., was the guest speaker.

THE REV. LEONARD Nienaber, Lexington priest-founder of the Guild in 1937, announced that a survey revealed that convert Guilds of St. Paul were responsible for bringing 2,412 Catholics into the Church in 1951. Since the Guild was established the convert club idea has spread to 21 states in the U. S. and to Canada and England, Father Nienaber reported.

Dr. Cone, a graduate of the University of Iowa in his home state, entered the Church three years ago in Lexington. He came to the University of Kentucky in 1947 from a professorship in history at Louisiana State University.

"The study of history furnished answers to many of my

questions about authority in religious matters," he said regarding his conversion. "His story shows how the continuity of its long tradition helps give validity to the position of the Catholic Church in the Western World."

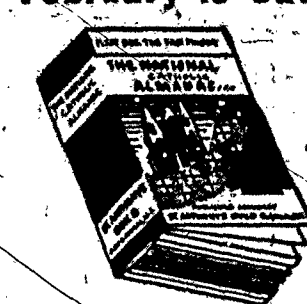
Installation as president of the Guild marked the beginning of a memorable week in the life of the young professor. On January 29, Feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron of the Catholic Press, the University of Kentucky Press released Dr. Cone's new book, "Tormentor of Freedom," a biography of a dissenting minister in 18th century England.

Dr. Cone recently spent three months at Yale University on a grant from the Ford Foundation.

Trade School

Madrid — (NC)—More than 150 students receive free education and training at the trade school of the Sacred Heart which has been opened here.

February is Catholic Press Month



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