

# U. S. Congress Of Religious Planned At Notre Dame

By REV. JOSEPH J. SULLIVAN

Vatican City (NC)—An All-U.S. National Congress of Religious, both men and women, will be held under the auspices of the Sacred Congregation of Religious at the University of Notre Dame, Ind., from August 9 to 13, it has been learned here on the highest authority.

The Congress will be the first of its kind in the history of the United States. It is believed here that the meeting will mark the first time in history of the Church that delegates of all men and women Religious in any one country are assembled in a common convention or meeting.

**THE SECRETARY** and Acting Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Religious, the Rev. Arcadius Larrosa, C.M.F., will go to Notre Dame to preside at the Congress which is expected to draw between 500 and 800 delegates from all over the country. He will be accompanied by two priests associated with him in his work in Rome as well as by the Rev. Edward L. Heston, C.S.C., Procurator General of the Holy Cross Congregation, who has been named secretary general of the Congress.

The scope and purpose of the Congress is described here as the deepening and strengthening of the religious life as an added element in the Holy Father's present crusade for the Christian renewal of the world. It will discuss problems of religious life and the apostolate in modern times, with the view to finding solutions which will leave intact the essential principles of the religious life itself.

Reputation — The size of a man's reputation depends on whether he's trying to hold it up or his friends are doing it for him. —O. A. Battista.

## Bp. Griffiths Hits American Aid To Tito

New York — Recognition and support of the Tito regime in Yugoslavia by the United States government was denounced here by the Most Rev. James H. Griffiths, Auxiliary Bishop to the Roman Catholic Military Vicar, Francis Cardinal Spellman.

Addressing a printers' Communism breakfast, Bishop Griffiths accused the government of "inconsistency" by "combatting" Communism in one instance and "underwriting" it in another. He said:

"If all religion, Christian, Jewish and Moslem, is being proscribed and liquidated in Yugoslavia so that Tito can prove to his ideologically pure Marxists that he is still keeping faith with Marx, Engels and Lenin, how can the American government call on its citizens to subscribe to the triumph of another type of Communism in the South Balkans?"

"It is disgraceful enough for our leaders to underwrite the installation and consolidation of pure Communism in Yugoslavia," he said, "but what shall we say of the savage persecution of religion which has been going on in the Free Territory of Trieste in Zone B, which is not Tito's sovereign territory but the territory of the United Nations entrusted temporarily to the good offices of Yugoslavia?"

## Negro Nuns Plan New Motherhouse

New Orleans (NC)—High tribute to the work of the Sisters of the Holy Family, a Negro community founded here 110 years ago, has been paid by Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans.

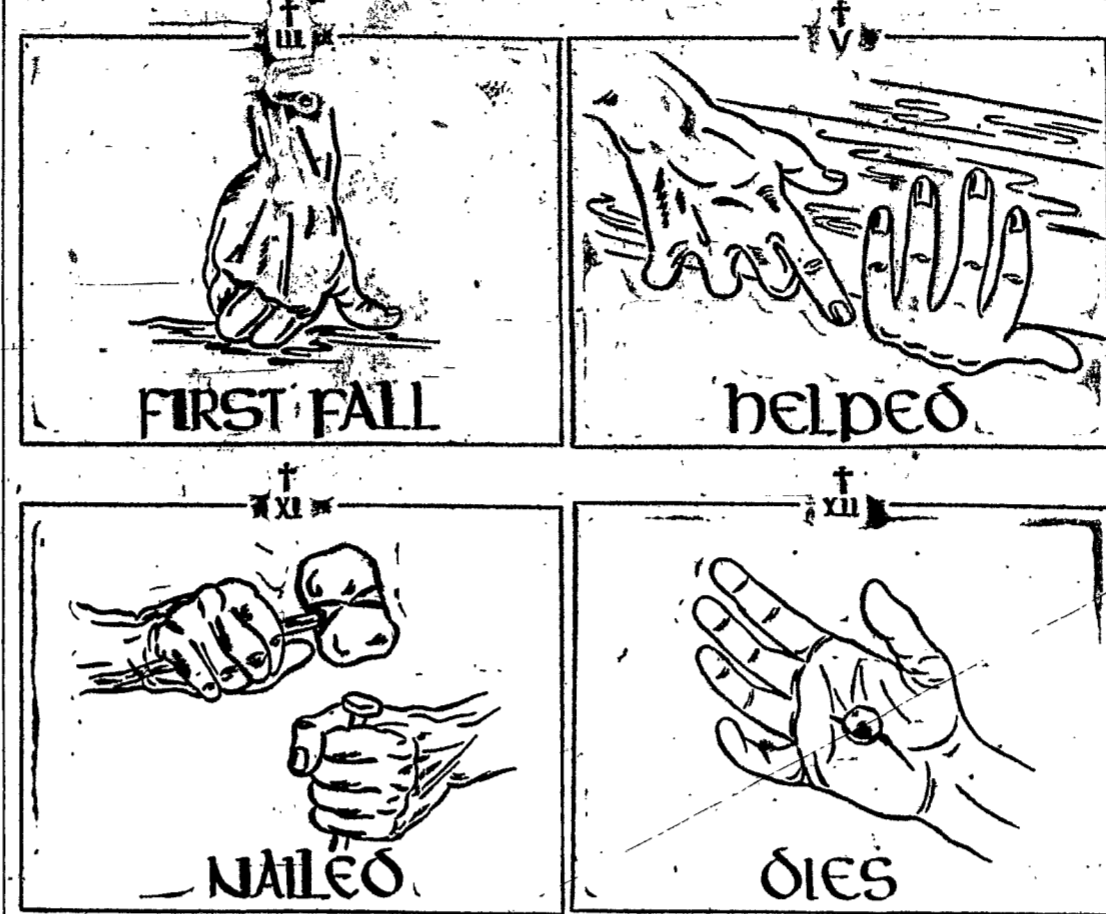
FROM A SMALL group of spiritual-minded souls, devoted to the welfare of their brethren of the colored race, Archbishop Rummel declared, the community "has grown to a membership of 300 virgins who, under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, seek to extend the Kingdom of Christ through their religious life."

Under the "wise and zealous direction of their superiors, the community has given education by the modesty, the simplicity, and the untiring striving of its members after Christian perfection. They have added dignity and luster to the Catholic Church and given encouragement to the members of their race in the pursuit of higher and better things that constitute the glory of the Catholic way of life."

ARCHBISHOP RUMMEL'S statement was issued in connection with the launching of an appeal by the Sisters of the Holy Family for funds for the construction of a new motherhouse and novitiate to replace the old quarters located near St. Louis Cathedral.

The community owns a block in a less crowded part of the city and estimates the cost of new construction at \$700,000, including larger quarters for St. Mary's Academy which will enable the Sisters to accept an additional 100 pupils. Approximately 200 girls are presently attending the academy which is in a building adjoining the motherhouse and novitiate.

## The Good Friday Story



STATIONS OF CROSS—The Art Anatomy class at Nazareth College had a problem: hands—to be studied and drawn. One of the students, Ann Holohan, suggested drawing the hand positions involved in the Stations of the Cross. The class, composed of eight sophomore art students, agreed. As far as they knew, this had never been done before. In addition to the practice it would afford them in drawing hands, the project would result in an original and inspirational set of stations. Each student chose one or two of the stations and under the direction of their instructor, Miss Betty LaRow, S.S.J., interpreted the scene in terms of the most significant hands involved. The resulting variety of styles were unified when one student inked all the drawings in a consistent technique so that the complete set of 14 stations were alike in mood and style. In keeping with the stark simplicity of the illustration, terse descriptions were selected. The stations were displayed in the corridor outside the college oratory during Passion week. Of those shown here, the third and eleventh were done by Julie Ruffino, the fifth by Marilyn DiStasio, and the twelfth by Nancy Wagner.

## Italian Leftists Explain Break With Communism

Rome (NC)—A statement was issued here by five Italian Catholic intellectuals, who recently resigned from the Communist party, declaring that their action was motivated by religious, and not political, considerations.

PUBLISHED IN Osservatore Romano, the statement by the five took sharp issue with leftist periodicals which had described their decision variously as a "political" move, or "mere electioneering." The group's original statement also was published in Osservatore Romano.

In their second statement the five former Communists asserted that their action was of "a strictly religious character" and "a profession of faith and obedience to the Church."

They said they had announced their decision publicly because they had previously openly and publicly upheld condemned doctrines before Catholics.

REFERRING TO claims that Catholics can "do business" with Communism, the group added that there is no chance of dealing with Communism because its practical policies derive, even in the smallest details, strictly from the ideology itself.

The five ex-Communists, former members of the short-lived "Party of the Christian Left," who later joined the Communist Party, are: Felice Balbo, Sandro Fe d'Orsani, Mario Motta, Ubaldo

## Jewish Converts Reveal Careers

New York (NC)—The reasons why seven noted Jewish thinkers become converts to Catholicism are studied in "Walls Are Crumbling: Seven Jewish Philosophers Discover Christ," by the Rev. John M. Oesteraeker.

The book is to be published here this month by the Devin-Adair Company. Father Oesteraeker, himself a convert from Judaism, tells among others the stories of the French philosopher Henri Bergson and of Edith Stein, Carmelite nun killed by the Nazis.

Associate Editor: New York (NC)—Miss Mary Ellen Evans has been appointed associate editor of P. J. Kenedy & Sons, publishers, is was announced here.

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## FATHER KENNEDY Solid, Sober Witness To Truth

When Paul Blanshard's last book was reviewed here, I remarked that although it was a work of respect, its publication might, paradoxically, be a good thing for it made clear the totalitarianism which is the author's philosophy of life.

Fr. Kennedy and which he (and others) would make the exclusive and compulsory American philosophy of life and, indeed, the official, established American religion.

I said then that the forceful repetition of this idea, coming so shortly after its presentation in Mr. Blanshard's first book, might awaken many non-Catholic Americans to the reality of what they were endorsing in endorsing Mr. Blanshard. This proved to be true, at least in some cases.

A Protestant reviewer in the New York Times, for example, perceived that the Blanshard target was not simply what some consider the errors and abuses of Catholicism, but religion properly so called, any and all supernatural religion.

A GREAT many more people are going to have their eyes opened to the truth about the Blanshard mind and methods, now that James M. O'Neill's devastating and unanswerable study, Catholicism and American Freedom (Harper, \$3.50) has been published.

Perhaps it will have fewer readers than Mr. Blanshard's two books, since it is solid, responsible, unemotional, a sober witness to truth rather than a hectic incitation to prejudice. But it will have tremendous effect nonetheless. For it will be examined by numbers of non-Catholics who will find it utterly convincing, and it will always be available for refutations of the Blanshard charges whenever anyone mouths them.

It may well, directly, or indirectly, arouse tens of thousands to a danger which might have gone unnoticed had not Mr. Blanshard started writing in the first place and provided the occasion for an expose of the positions and objectives of a minority of whom he is typical. It's an ill wind, etc.

MR. O'NEILL BEGINS with three meaty chapters on the beginnings of America and the constitution of the United States, showing Catholic contributions to the first, as well as the mind of the makers of the second, especially touching the first article of the Bill of Rights.

He then sets forth Catholic belief and practice regarding controverted questions such as the separation of Church and State, democracy, religious freedom, education, censorship, social policies, medicine, and papal infallibility.

Here he is concerned to pro-

sent the facts as contrasted with the fictions which Mr. Blanshard has foisted on the credulous and uncritical as the truth. A great deal of labor has gone into the writing of this section, not because it is difficult to locate or to state the Catholic position, but because anyone who would rebut Mr. Blanshard line by line must deal with the latter's almost endless tricks of misinterpretation, misrepresentation, distortion, illogic, misuse of sources, partial quotation, etc.

Mr. O'Neill has had the patience and industry to do this tedious work thoroughly and to marshal it most impressively for the reader's consideration.

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