

# U. S. Priest Leaves For Soviet Capital

New York (NC)—Father Georges Bissonnette, a 31-year-old Assumptionist priest left Idlewild International Airport by plane on the first stretch of his journey to Moscow.

Father Bissonnette was scheduled to fly to Helsinki, Finland, and then take a train to Moscow where he will replace Father Arthur Brassard, a fellow Assumptionist, Father Brassard has been in the Soviet capital since January, 1950, and is scheduled to return soon to the United States.

FATHER BISSONNETTE is the fourth American priest to go to Moscow in accordance with the stipulations of the Roosevelt-Litvinov agreement of 1933 when U. S. recognition was granted to the Soviet Union. The stipulations give Americans stationed in Russia the right to "free exercise of liberty of conscience and religious worship" and the right to maintain churches and have chaplains for that purpose.

Among those seeing Father Bissonnette off at the airport was Father Leopold A. Braun, A.A., the first American priest to serve in Moscow under the Roosevelt-Litvinov agreement. Also present was Father Henry Moquin, U. S. superior of the Assumptionists.

FATHER BISSONNETTE received a Russian entry visa in December after a delay of about six months. The Soviet authorities had at first insisted that Father Brassard should leave Moscow before Father Bissonnette takes up his duties there. A native of Central Falls, R. I., Father Bissonnette was ordained four years ago and spent most of his time since ordination as professor at Assumption College, Worcester, Mass. He studied Russian language and culture at Fordham University here.

## Soviet Zone Bishops Hit Red Schools

Berlin (RNS)—East Germany's Catholic Bishops have issued a joint pastoral letter denouncing the education of children in Communist-controlled schools of the Soviet Zone as "materialistic."

The Bishops' letter, read in all East German Catholic churches, appealed to Christian parents to "join forces with the clergy in erecting a protective dam around youth."

## Woman Physician To Become Nun

New Orleans (NC)—Dr. Nina Del Marmol, dubbed "Doctor Anesthesia" by her doctor friends here has gone to Germantown, Pa., to enter Ravenhill, the novitiate of the Congregation of the Assumption.

The nickname was given her while she was serving two years residency in anesthesiology at Charity Hospital here in her native city. Later she became head of the department of anesthesiology at the Denver General Hospital, leaving that post to enter the novitiate. After graduation from Newcomb College Dr. Del Marmol attended the medical school of Tulane University, interned at Charity and did advance work in pharmacology. Besides heading the department of anesthesiology at the Denver hospital she was an instructor in the medical division of Colorado University at the hospital.

## California Eyes Bible In Schools

Sacramento, Calif. (NC)—Two bills are being prepared for the California legislature which would approve reading of the Bible in the State's public schools.

The bills would write into law the action of the California Board of Education which has approved Bible reading in the schools. The board held public hearings in Los Angeles on the question and after listening to religious and school leaders, voted 7-to-3 in favor of Bible reading.

Among those who testified before the board was Magr. Patrick Dignan, superintendent of Los Angeles archdiocese schools, who said the Bible reading program was acceptable to Catholics, if necessary safeguards to the religious faiths of the various denominations were provided. He also insisted that the Bible reading program not be considered a substitute for the released time program, for religious instruction.

## Prelate Cites Red Moves In Bolivia

Sucre, Bolivia (NC)—Bolivian Catholics have been urged to form "a compact bloc" with the Hierarchy to combat the communist threat in their country.

The appeal was made in a circular letter by Archbishop Jose Clemente Maurer, C.S.S.R., of Sucre, who warned that this is "the only hope we have to stop the onrush of the Marxist regime, which is rapidly approaching."

THE ARCHBISHOP appealed also to those not belonging to the Church but who love God and their country to "join the bloc being formed against those who have neither God nor country."

Archbishop Maurer's challenge to Bolivian Catholics climaxed reports of what appears to be a thinly-disguised all-out communist offensive aimed at the country's religious, social and economic life, following the recent formal establishment of the communist party in Bolivia. Cataloging a number of "intestable facts" which, he said, cannot be ignored, Archbishop Maurer recalled the "Peace Congress" held at La Paz under the leadership of alien communists, and the petition on the part of certain groups to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

HE CHARGED also that Marxist teachings are being diffused in universities and State schools, and "unknown elements" are carrying on a systematic agitation among Indians on farms and in the mines.

At the same time, the Archbishop warned, certain civil officials are betraying the best interests of their country and thus "paving the way, consciously or unconsciously for the rapid rise of an anti-Catholic and anti-Bolivian communist regime."

## University Offers Police Courses

Dayton, O. (NC)—A course in police administration will be added to the University of Dayton's sociology department in the coming semester. The university is operated by the Fathers and Brothers of the Society of Mary.

The old-fashioned fellow who thought nothing of walking 10 miles a day now has a grandson who never thought of it either.

## AIDING KOREA ORPHANS



Air Force Chaplain (Major) Jerome R. Merwick, of the 49th Fighter Bomber Wing now in Korea distributes food to the orphans of that war-torn country while a native nun looks on. Father Merwick, a Reserve Chaplain, was stationed at St. Benedict's Abbey, Atchison, Kans., prior to his recall to active military service in March, 1951. Photo courtesy of "The Air Reservist." (NC Photos).

## Hong Kong Relief Works Varied Tasks

Hong Kong (NC)—From buying a peddler his license to checking baggage is all part of the diversified job being done for the poor and needy by the Catholic Welfare Committee here.

THE EXTENT of the agency's work is revealed in the year-end report released by Father Paul Duchesne, a Maryknoll missionary from Cohoes, N. Y., and director of the committee.

"During the year 3517 bales of clothing were received and distributed in 40 centers," reports Father Duchesne. "Likewise three shipments of medicine, worth more than \$15,000 were given out."

The aid given by the Welfare Committee here is as diversified as the demands made upon it. For one person a coffin will be obtained, for another seeds to start a garden, for a third the money to buy a peddler's license. "We have provided scholarships," adds Father Duchesne, "located housing, aided expelled missionaries, paid hospital bills, checked baggage, found jobs and acted as a post office. Whatever the need is, we want to fill it. To us social welfare is nothing more than living the corporal works of mercy."

## 36-Hour Drive Exceeds Goal

Grand Rapids, Mich. (RNS)—In a campaign that lasted only 36 hours, members of the 20 parishes in the Grand Rapids Roman Catholic diocese exceeded their \$1,000,000 goal for a Catholic Central High School building fund by at least 30 per cent, or approximately \$300,000.

The official tally at the end of the drive showed \$1,267,000, but pledges that came in after the campaign report swelled the total.

Proceeds of the campaign will be used to complete a five-story addition to Catholic Central High School here, providing 20 new classrooms, laboratories, a library, administrative offices and a cafeteria.

An unknown author has said: "This country was founded by the bold and cannot be maintained by the timid"

## Girls Attention!

### 'Let Your Head Guide Your Heart'

New York (NC)—Father Joseph Manton, Catholic Hour radio preacher, offers these practical hints to marriage-minded girls:

"Let's begin by agreeing on this: when you decide to marry, by all means give him your heart. But first use your head to decide just who is going to get that heart. Only when your head is as cool as dry ice, can you let your heart go on fire."

"... The important thing is to love and marry a man, a personality, not just a set of circumstances, because as a rule the man himself will not change, while circumstances very easily may."

"... Of course there is no objection to marching down the middle aisle with a handsome man, whose handsome jacket is buttoned over a handsome wallet (a slight bulge you will tolerantly excuse)—provided you are genuinely in love with the man and not with his wavy hair... his trim profile... or his wallet."

"The question you want to ask yourself is not, 'Isn't he a glorious dancer?' or 'Doesn't he look divine in a tux?' but 'Can I live with him for ever after and be happy?'"

"... It is also a pretty good idea to ask your mother what she thinks of the boy... Call it intuition, call it experience, mothers are pretty keen in this regard. Of course if mother objects to the first boy, rejects the second, vetoes the third, wants to arrest the fourth, such a mother is not opposed to her daughter marrying any particular boy. She is just against her daughter marrying, and as such she should be pleasantly, affectionately, effectively disregarded."

"But that is the exception, and normally if a mother turns thumbs-down on a boy, the girl should think twice of putting her finger out for the ring. She might end up wearing it in her nose."

"If now he is a heavy drinker—and I didn't say drunkard, I said heavy-drinker—do yourself a favor and forget him. If you built a new home on a swamp you expect the swamp to dry up just because you built your home there?"

"... It is hanging neon lights around the obvious to remind you that a gambler is a bad bet... If he has heavy inclinations in this direction and you still insist on taking him 'for better or for worse,' you can be pretty sure that if he is a better you are taking him 'for worse.'"

"... IT IS ONLY COMMON SENSE TO PASS up a boy who is considerably younger than you are. Otherwise some day he may want to rhumba and by that time you may be rheumatic."

"I have been mentioning boy, boy—but please marry a man! Steer clear of those young fellows who, when they marry, want all the privileges of marriage and all the freedom of bachelors. Make sure that your man puts his home before any club or lodge or game or hobby. After all you want a hubby not a hobby. And, oh, make certain that he loves children! The sphere of a husband is not recreation but creation and a life centered inside the golden circle of the wedding ring."

"... Only the Mounties have to get their man. I am begging you, if you have grave doubts about his character, let him go!"

"... And isn't it better to break off an engagement now than to break up a marriage later? Better say you will not than follow again, after years and years, and you will look after him as he passes down the other side of the street, and you will have a deep breath and say, 'Thank God, that man was not my husband!'"

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