

# Bishop O'Gara Released By Chinese Reds

Hong Kong — (NC) — Bishop Cuthbert O'Gara of Yuanling, Canadian-born Passionist who had been thrown in jail by the Chinese communists in the early summer of 1951, has reached this British colony and was immediately taken in an ambulance to St. Francis hospital here.

He was expelled with two U. S. "Passionist" missionaries who were also deported under guard. At St. Francis Hospital, the 67-year-old Bishop was reported in "good" condition.

BISHOP O'GARA had been "detained" by the communist authorities that he and his Vicar General, Father Paul Ubinger, C.F., of Pittsburgh, were to be expelled last March 22. They were moved from their place of confinement on that date, and when they failed to reach Hong Kong in a reasonable time there was apprehension that they had merely been moved to another Red prison.

Actually, however, the Bishop had been taken to a hospital in Changsha, where he was treated for five weeks before being sent out of the country. He finally was expelled with Father Ubinger and Father William Westhoven, C.F., a native of Liberty Center, O.

# Bishop Denies Rites To Former Communist

Perigueux, France — (NC) — A pro-communist member of the French National Assembly who died here several days ago has been denied a church funeral by Bishop Georges Louis of Perigueux.

He was Charles Serre, a former Christian Democrat who left his party to join a small communist-front group.

To protests in the Red press Bishop Louis has replied that his decision was based on the Holy See's decree barring from the Sacraments all "who knowingly and willingly join the Communist Party or aid it in any way."

The Bishop added that he had given the pastor of Serre's parish, permission to recite the prayers for the dead at his grave.



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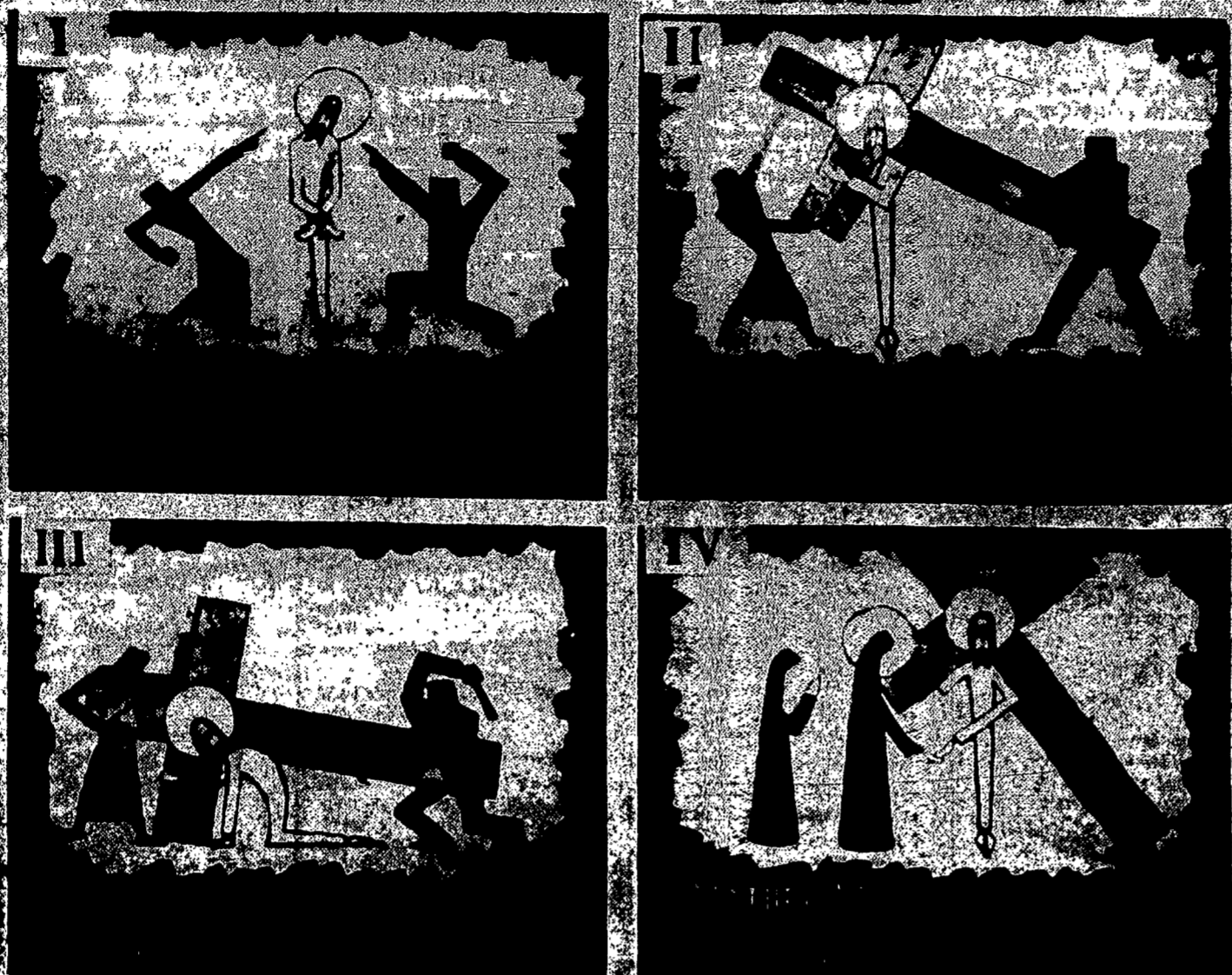
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# REFLECTIONS OF A SINNER



Manchester, N. H.—These are the first four Stations of the Cross as executed by Gerard Doyon, instructor at St. Anselm's Catholic College and the Institute of Arts and Sciences, both in this city. Mr. Doyon has departed from the traditional, not only in the use of formalized-silhouette type figures but also in the legend accompanying each station. Instead of the regular iconography, they consist of the reflections of a sinner face to

face with actuality of every step along the road to Calvary. Each station is done on the rough side of massive panels, the base being painted with silver and the picture with oil. A recent Fallbridge scholar in France, Mr. Doyon previously executed 50 canvases on the Passion of Our Lord. The paintings were acclaimed in Europe. (Religious News Service Photo).

# Christopher Award Given To Popular Song Writers

New York — (RNS) — For the first time a popular song won for its writers Christopher awards.

Dr. James Keller, M.M., founder and director of The Christophers, presented bronze medallions to song-writers Erwin Drake, Jimmy Shirl, Irvin Graham and Al Stillman, for the nationally popular "I Believe." They were among 28 writers, producers, and directors who received the group's quarterly awards for works that "reflect the power for good that can be exerted, with God's help, by one individual in the literary and entertainment fields."

Awards in the motion picture field went to Walt Disney for "Peter Pan" (RKO); and to producer Sol Baer Fielding, director, Gerald Mayer and writer Emmet Levery for "Bright Road" (MG M). The latter film was based on the 1951 Christopher award winning story by Mary Elizabeth Vroman which appeared originally in the Ladies Home Journal.

# TWO TELEVISION programs

Vocations Exhibit London — (RNS) — A large-scale Roman Catholic exhibit on religious vocations will be held in Olympia Exhibition Hall here July 5-12. It was announced by Msgr. Derek Worlock.

# Young Women, Lay Missioners, Go To Africa

Loveland, O. — (NC) — Four young women from the Grailville Lay Mission School here are enroute to Africa to serve the Church as lay missioners.

They are: Mary Inez Beckley of Brooklyn, N. Y., a member of the Grailville staff, who will join the faculty of Pius XII University in Basantoni; Marie Therese McBurnell of Nanty, Pa., graduate nurse and nursing instructor, who will join a Grail medical team in Uganda; Rita Jordan of Wauwatosa, Wis., who will be stationed at the Grail center in Rivonia, Union of South Africa; and Mary Emma Kuhn of Bradock, Pa., who has been granted a scholarship to continue her studies at Pius XII University.

# Pope Praises Czechs On Patron's Feast

New York — (NC) — A message from Pope Pius XII highlighted the recent 900th anniversary ceremony of the death of St. Procopius, patron saint of Czechoslovakia.

His Holiness, in congratulating the American-Czechs — for their zeal, said he "earnestly prays the glorious Procopius to continue to watch over your monastery with his powerful patronage and inflame the souls of all with that ardor with which he himself most vehemently burned in the pursuit of holiness."

# Nun Scientist Wins Fellowship

Livonia, Mich. — (NC) — A nun-scientist here has received a General Electric Fellowship in recognition of outstanding teaching. It was announced here by the Felician Sisters Congregation.

# Signs and Wonders

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA

Professor of Literature, Nazareth College

SIGNS AND WONDERS: A Novel, by Leo Brady, Dutton, 1952. THE REASON FOR ANN, AND OTHER STORIES, by Myles Connolly, McMillan, 1952.

Leo Brady has grown since The Edge of Doom; for all its adaptability to Samuel Goldwyn's feature standards, it was too simply a Crime and Punishment concentration in modern dress. In Signs and Wonders he still has story, and he creates varied, growing characters. His hero is so crushed, so deeply buried in a lifetime of self-worship that you think it the inner corruption of the elder Barrett of Wimpole Street, and you feel like protesting, "Oh no, not this character, not such a good, devout Catholic, used to examining his conscience — he wouldn't expect God to appear to him on request, or unexpectedly either."

You are sure such a one would be sound at the core, would not go to such ludicrous extremes, must be overdrawn or else is consummate villain, irremediable. But Leo Brady is more penetrating; his hero is sound deep within, yet goes to far more ludicrous extremes than these, even perpetrates casually and against the urging of grace a major cruelty, risking his own salvation and his daughter's happiness.

AND WHAT in the first pages seemed the author's Compton-Mackenzie picking of flaws in any and every character emerges as tender realism, an intimacy of perception; the knife cuts, revealing now wholesomeness, now malignancy.

No member of the family is built up to knock down; the boy home from the Sem, the older son arranging a divorce, the girl on guard against hypocrisy, the mother endlessly deviating ways to love, all are full to and growth of the parent stock.

That mother, the darling! She "lay concealed from many of her acquaintances behind incessant talk; few people are prepared for total utterance and Elizabeth left nothing out.

"All the weeping and un-

diver forays and circling hesitations of her mind she poured into her speech, which was a river lovingly saluting all its converging tributaries."

"THE QUALITY of listening was in her . . . she reacted thus invariably when the issue was large and frightening; when gibberish was not the answer, she was not glib."

"He waited for her voice to begin . . . at some irrelevant, neutral point off somewhere and work in, like an approaching plane, to touch the significant spot. Her garrulity was an insulation, a way of dealing with the razored edges of crisis and humiliation."

"He had the feeling that the casual bumble and flow of her conversation was the disguise of a sharp mind. . . . Her disorder of mind and his disorder of manners met and touched somewhere . . . her thought was continually knocking its shins as he literally banged his."

Chapters eight, nine, and ten (the last) are overflowing measure of good story-telling.

MR. CONNOLLY'S six stories in The Reason for Ann collection (from the Saturday Evening Post, Sign, and others) are "taste after taste upheld with kindest change" — love story, divorcee's-child story, Communist-tale, juvenile delinquent case-history, story of a loyal dad.

I omit one anybody could live without, "The Pigeon of St. Bartholomew's," a story that somehow puts the author too many sophisticated Hollywood years away from Mr. Blue, who is Mr. Connolly. But The Bump on Braunigan's Head and most of Reason for Ann are written by Mr. Blue.

One more complaint must be entered, a small one: angels that swoop, get over-excited, and have misgivings about their vocation should be dropped, into the intense inane, and let the record read, "Wings Failed to Open." Angels are angels; there are authors who can't present them. C. S. Lewis, for example.

# Minister Resigns In Protest Against Strapless Gowns

Oxford, N. C. — (RNS) — The Rev. Homer Nichols resigned as pastor of the West Oxford Baptist church when the congregation refused to support his edict against strapless gowns at church weddings.

He was replaced by the Rev. E. G. Uary who announced that he has "no objection to what people wear in church so long as they are decently dressed" and that he believes "the law won't allow them to go out any other way."

The dispute arose when Ruth Hedgepath, a public school teacher, said that attendants at her May 17 wedding would wear strapless gowns with net stoles and Mr. Nichols told her he would not permit the bare-shoulder dresses in church.

Upon Miss Hedgepath's declaration that the dresses could not be changed in time for the wedding, the pastor referred the policy question to the church body, saying he would resign if it permitted the "immodest" attire.

A. D. Dillehay, chairman, said the board of deacons then decided to put the matter to the congregation and "only a very small minority" of the latter agreed with Mr. Nichols' views.

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