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9 in 1 Family

Anamosa, Iowa.—(NC)—There were 27 converts in a class of 78 confirmed by Auxiliary Bishop Loren T. Lane of Dubuque. Of these, nine were members of one family. A total of 11 members of the same family have entered the Church during the last year and a half. The mother is Mrs. Matilda Mickford. The father is deceased.

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Nun-Doctor Delivers 1,000 Babies At Missionary Hospital On Formosa

Taipei, Formosa.—(NC)—The Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have just celebrated the fourth anniversary of the start of their work in the Formosan port city of Kaohsiung. And Sister Hilda Meier, M.D., already has delivered her 1,000th baby at St. Joseph's Hospital there.

American-trained, Sister Hilda has made the small, 24-bed hospital known only throughout the island, but to the officers and men of the U. S. Seventh Fleet, whose ships call frequently at the southern port. During the past year, she operated on nine Navy men stricken with acute appendicitis.

While gynecology and obstetrics are Sister Hilda's special fields, the circumstances of her work have made the German-born Sister a competent all-around surgeon. In one 21-month period, she performed 260 major and 520 minor operations. In delivering 1,000 babies during the past four years, she lost but one mother, whose death was due to an appendicitis. Her babies included nine sets of twins in 1932 alone.

SOLE DOCTOR at St. Joseph's, Sister Hilda also has been responsible for the 3,000 in-patients cared for at the hospital, and the 145,000 outpatients treated in the dispensary. Paying tribute to her extraordinary work, Father Edward Riley, U. S. Navy Chaplain, who visited Kaohsiung in 1932, wrote: "Sister Hilda is a driving dynamo, brilliant, the essence of humility, truly one of the greatest missionaries I have ever met."

Born at Westphalia, Germany, in 1911, Sister Hilda entered the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception in Japan late in 1932. Sister Hilda may be a highly-efficient doctor, but she is ever China mainland by the communal of her religious vocations. Sister Hilda came to Formosa in 1934, and her medical degree attests her responsibilities include a George Washington University large kindergarten, classes in Washington, D. C., in 1938. After doctrine for Catholic students at a year's internship at Bon Se-tang the public schools, the St. Joseph's Hospital, Baltimore, and construction of catechumens, and year's residency at St. Jameshouse visitations.

Red-Imprisoned Bishop Pens Letter To Mothers

New York.—(NC)—From his residence in Shanghai he has been a virtual prisoner of Chinese Communists for the last two years, Bishop James E. Walsh, M.M., former Superior General of Maryknoll, has written a poignant tribute to mothers.

"The world would never wear its rubbers and brush its teeth and eat its porridge, were it not for mothers," the Bishop wrote. "The world would never say its prayers or get into bed on time—or get out of bed on time—were it not for them. The world would never grow up and branch out and reach man's estate at all were it not for the care it receives in its cradle years and its formative stages."

The Bishop's views were expressed in a Mother's Day editorial called "The Hand of the Mother," in the May issue of Maryknoll, The Field Affair magazine published here. Until he was restrained by the communists, Bishop Walsh had been serving as general secretary of the Catholic Central Bureau of China.

The Bishop characterized a mother as the world's "most valuable human asset. Its strongest single resource this side of heaven." He said the work of mothers is "the best and most necessary service performed for the human race by anybody." He added that this service is worth more than all the other services it receives from other merely human sources combined, and continued: "Service: Yes, and slavery; too, love, strength, sacrifice, sense and sensibility, solace and severity, all mixed together in a prescription that is just what the world needs."

The influence that the Blessed Mother has in a world where the unselfish devotion of mothers prevails in a society fashioned by selfish men also was emphasized by Bishop Walsh who wrote: "The mothers of the world could not make a good society, much as they wanted to. The sons of mothers would not make it, even if they could. But God gave His big human family another Mother who could and would and did."

U. S. Minister Quits Italy, Attacks 'Religious Freedom'

Rome.—(NC)—The Rev. Anthony Callandro, Italian-born American Protestant evangelist who had been ordered to leave Italy last January after failing to renew his visitor's permit, finally sailed for the United States.

Accompanied by his wife, the former Ernestine Fitzmaurice of Philadelphia, and his 8-year-old son, Victor, he left Naples on board the liner Conte Biancamano. The 54-year-old former director of the Evangelical Biblical Institute in Naples, a non-denominational institution sponsored by Protestant groups in the United States, departed for home protesting that there is "no religious freedom" in Italy.

Before leaving, the Rev. Mr. Callandro addressed a letter to U. S. Ambassador Clare Boothe Luce recounting steps he said the Italian authorities had taken to force him to leave the country. In a dockside interview, he again protested against his treatment by the police, and said he hopes to return to Italy some day when "the freedom that is the basis of the rights of man is respected in this country also."

The Rev. Mr. Callandro had been in Italy since 1935 and was ordered to leave only after he had failed to renew his residence permit when it expired last December. An ouster order was issued by the Italian authorities on Feb. 13, but he remained in the country after obtaining a medical certificate stating he was too ill to travel. Meanwhile he made direct appeals to Premier Alcide de Gasperi for an extension of his permit.

Recently an Italian official complained of Protestant missionaries who come to the country as tourists, and then "set up shop" and request repeated extensions of their residence permits. Such individuals, the official said, should properly inform the Italian authorities of what they intend to do before actually coming to Italy.

Fashion Note: Priests Get 'New Look'

Tokyo.—(NC)—Catholic priests in Japan have a "new look" all their own. Bishops recently decided to make a concession to the heat, and agreed on a uniform summer style of dress for the clergy.

So now the dapper clerics will be donning beige suits and sports shirts of the same color. The shirts—which have full-length sleeves—can be worn with or without the coat, and have crosses of burnished silver (not unlike those of U. S. Army chaplains) attached to the lapels.

Cardinal Cites Upsurge In U. S. Missions

Bay St. Louis, Miss.—(NC)—Missions activity can be taken as a barometer, measuring the spiritual level of an era in a diocese or a nation. There now is a "tremendous upsurge" in zeal for the missions in the United States. These observations were made here by His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, who remarked:

"Contributions are generous; vocations are increasing and many missions are thriving. While it is true that the supply of funds and vocations does not meet the needs of the Church, the future of missionary activity throughout the world is promising. The Church is reaching the position where she can put forth a determined and sustained effort to win back lands and people who anciently were under her watch and ward and who profess the Faith of the Apostles."

CARDINAL SPELLMAN expressed his views in an address at a luncheon in honor of Bishop Joseph Oliver Bowers, S.V.D., following his consecration as Bishop of Accra, Gold Coast, Africa, in Our Lady of the Gulf Church, here. The luncheon was held in St. Augustine's Seminary, conducted by the Society of the Divine Word. Bishop Bowers is the second prelate of Negro blood to be consecrated in the United States.

The Cardinal observed that Bishop Bowers was taking up duty in what has been called "darkest Africa." He added that Africa is not dark today. He said: Signs already appear that indicate a rebirth of Africa. The sleeping giant that is Africa is awakening to the sense of its dignity, its duty and its destiny. Blow by blow Africa is striking off the chains that enlaced its mind and heart and spirit.

LITTLE BY LITTLE it is becoming conscious of its unity, its power and its common purpose. The shadows are lifting from this land; the mists are rolling out to sea. A new day is ushering in a new order when Africa will take its place in the council of nations to contribute its share to the progress of the world and at the same time a sacred trust is committed to the Church."

Dancing Banned In Quebec Cafes

Quebec.—(NC)—Dancing again is forbidden in the cafes and night clubs of this city after a three-weeks respite which occasioned a furore. On April 2, the city council authorized dancing in such establishments if they included a dancing area at least 25 feet long and 15 feet wide.

The decision aroused considerable discussion. The French-language daily newspaper, L'Action Catholique, led the opposition against the council decision. The result was that the administrative committee of the city killed the original decision of the council by a vote of 4-to-2. Thus Quebec will maintain its ban on dancing in cafes and night clubs which has been in effect for 120 years.

Father Jordan Warns On 'Peace Moves'

Philadelphia.—(NC)—A warning not to put too much faith in recent Russian friendship offers was given to 1,200 members of the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Holy Name Union by Father Max Jordan, at the 6th annual banquet of society.

"These desires for peace... they emanate from the Kremlin are sincere only as far as the leaders in Russia realize that they are not ready for war," Dr. Jordan, priest, lecturer and N.C.W.C. correspondent asserted.

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Priest Dies At 71
Chatham, N. Y.—(NC)—Father Robert J. Williams, who has successfully practiced the professions of law and medicine before being ordained to the priesthood, died here at the age of 71. He had been ill for the past few years.

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