

PRAYER RALLY



Los Angeles—James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles, raises the monstrance containing the Sacred Host during Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at a Mary's Hour rally in Memorial Coliseum here. The observance was attended by more than 60,000 persons who prayed for the conversion of Russia and peace on earth. It was organized by Catholic college students of the city and lay organizations of the archdiocese. Feature of the event was the formation of a living Rosary by some 100 students from 33 high schools of the Southland. (Religious News Service Photo.)

Custody Fixes Child's Religion Judge Rules

Trenton, N. J. — (NC) — Judge Sidney Goldman of the New Jersey Superior Court has ruled that a parent who has been granted custody of children in a divorce suit is the one to determine their religious upbringing.

The issue was raised by Mrs. Gertrude L. Boerger of Maplewood, N. J., a Protestant, who asked the court to restrain her divorced husband, a Roman Catholic, from interfering with the religious training of their two daughters.

The New Jersey ruling was made despite the fact that Mrs. Boerger had become a Catholic before her marriage and had returned to Protestantism only after her divorce. Both children were baptized Catholics.

Harry E. Boerger Jr., father of the children, said in his petition that the couple had agreed before their marriage to raise the children as Catholics and asked the court to order Mrs. Boerger to do so.

The New Jersey ruling is one of the first in the United States in which a policy has been set on the subject of the religious training of children of divorced parents.

Pope Receive Olympic Group



Rome—Pope Pius XII pins the Olympic Medal on the banner of the Italian Olympic Committee after blessing the flag during an audience the pontiff granted here to committee members and Italian champions in Olympic sports. The Pope also spoke briefly on the conduct expected of crowds in a "Christian" stadium. The banner was flown the next day at the inauguration of the New Rome Olympic stadium with a soccer game between Italian and Hungarian national teams. Seating 65,000, the stadium was completed by the Italian Olympic Committee in the hope that the 1960 Olympic games would be held in Rome. It was begun more than 15 years ago under Fascist regime. (Religious News Service Photo.)

United Nations Fail To Order Chaplain For War Prisoners

(N.Y. News Service)

Tokyo — The United Nations Command failed to specify in its counterproposal presented to the Communists at Panmunjon that the "custodial commission" should provide for religious ministrations for unrepatriated prisoners of war in Korea.

These prisoners, according to the U. N. Command's draft agreement, would be an estimated 14,500 Chinese soldiers who will refuse repatriation immediately after an armistice. These Chinese would certainly include Christians—Catholics and Protestants—as well as Buddhists.

The U. N. Command has been providing one Chinese-speaking Catholic, one Protestant and one Buddhist chaplain for these men in prisoner-of-war camps in South Korea.

THE SENIOR U. N. delegate at the armistice negotiations, Lt. Gen. William K. Harrison, accepted in principle the Communist proposal of a "custodial commission" comprised of representatives of Sweden, Switzerland, Poland, Czechoslovakia and India to take charge of unrepatriated prisoners. He proposed that these prisoners could not be held more than 60 days.

Communist spokesmen could "explain" to the prisoners during that time why they should return to Red China. However, he warned against any effort to intimidate or force the prisoners. If after 60 days these POWs still refuse to return to Red China, the U. N. command proposed that they be released to civilian status.

The U. N. plan stipulates that the estimated 34,000 North Korean prisoners who will refuse repatriation immediately after the armistice should be set free.

THE U. N. PROPOSALS—in effect a set of operating rules for the custodial commission—provides for "essential Red Cross service," medical treatment and hospitalization. But it fails to

mention religious service.

Point three of the draft says that prisoners shall be treated in accordance with the Geneva Convention which does require that the detaining power provide chaplains as requested by the prisoners. But it would have been far safer to insist explicitly in the draft on religious ministrations just as on medical care.

Priest To Offer First Mass In Sing Sing

Maryknoll, N. Y. — (NC) — A newly ordained priest will celebrate one of his first Masses in Sing Sing prison for a man serving a sentence of between 30 and 100 years.

Some three and one-half years ago, Maryknoll seminarian Theodore M. Kuschmann answered a call for an organist from Father Thomas J. Donovan, chaplain at the prison in the nearby town of Ossining. Afterwards, he asked Father Donovan to introduce him to one of the prisoners who might like to correspond with a seminarian. The chaplain did so, and the two kept in contact with each other throughout the ensuing years.

On June 15, two days after his ordination to the priesthood at Maryknoll Major Seminary here, Father Kuschmann will say a special Mass in the chapel at Sing Sing for the prisoner. The following month he will have for the mission of Japan.

For Grandson's Ordination

91-Year-Old To Serve First Mass

St. Marys, Kans. — (NC) — Martin Reinert, 91, of Los Angeles, Calif., hopes to set some kind of a record for grandfathers this June.

He already has served the first Masses of two grandsons, who now are university presidents, and wants to do the same after his third grandson, James A. Reinert, S.J., is ordained at St. Mary's College here June 17, with 28 classmates of the Society of Jesus. Archbishop Edward J. Hunkeler of Kansas City in Kansas, will be the ordaining prelate. The next day, Mr. Reinert will

now is president of Creighton University, Omaha.

Reinert learned to serve Mass as a boy of eight in his home parish of St. Martin, in Tinsdorf, Germany. He has been an altar "boy" ever since. He is now a member of Holy Spirit Parish in Los Angeles. He moved there from Boulder, Colo., in 1941.

Reinert was born in Tinsdorf, Germany, on Dec. 1, 1861. He came to this country in 1881, and opened a tailor shop in Sigourney, Iowa.

Mob Of Communist Youth Threaten Berlin Bishop

Berlin — (RNS) — Auxiliary Bishop Paul Tkotsch of the Catholic diocese of Berlin was several times threatened with physical violence by a mob of East German Communist youths when they invaded and seized a children's home at Saarow, near Frankfurt-on-Oder, early this month. It was reported here.

PETRUSBLATT, official organ of the Berlin diocese, said that Bishop Tkotsch was the leader of a delegation sent to Saarow by

Freie Deutsche Jugend, were holding a noisy meeting in front of the home and it was then that rowdier members of the group threatened the prelate. The young Communists shortly afterward burst into the home, took possession of it and hoisted the F.D.J. flag above it.

Several days later, East German authorities took over the institution and evicted the 12 sisters on its staff. The nuns are now staying at an East Berlin Communist youth organization, convent.

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