

# Card. Stritch Favors Religious Freedom Set-up In U.S.

Rome — (NC) — The United States has the mission of preserving, defending and expanding genuine human rights at home, and of seeking peacefully the enjoyment of the same rights for men everywhere in the world, His Eminence Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, declared here.

The Cardinal also said that the U.S. constitutional definition of religious freedom "the only practical one in present or foreseeable circumstances in the United States."

Cardinal Stritch was one of five members of the Sacred College of Cardinals — two others also were from the United States — who were guests at a dinner given in the new North American College in the Janiculum Hill to commemorate its solemn dedication on the previous day by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

**THE AMERICAN** Cardinals, who offered toasts of loyalty to their country, "our Holy Father," and "our College," included Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, and Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York.

The toast to "our country" was offered by Cardinal Stritch, who declared that "for us, our country, above everything else, is a land of free men, conscious of their rights and dignity, collaborating together in a brotherly spirit for the common good of all."

**THE CARDINAL** spoke before a gathering of 500 that included members of the U.S. hierarchy and clergy, many of whom were alumni of the North American College; seminarians now attending the college; members of the American colony in Rome, both laymen and priests; and a number of distinguished American and Italian guests.

"Carefully," Cardinal Stritch said, "we distinguish between freedom and license, and insistently we demand that every citizen take his responsibility of defending under the law his God-given freedom. There are times when it may seem to others that we are weak and to tolerant, but we know that our solemn scrupulous insistence on the rights of every man before the law of

our land is just the jealousy of free men to preserve their native rights and dignity."

American prelates and priests, cheered Cardinal Stritch when he said "long, long ago, in one of our basic documents it was written that for the success of our experiment in free institutions, religion, morality and education must forever be encouraged."

"THERE NEVER has been in our political tradition an antagonism to religion," Cardinal Stritch declared.

"Peculiar circumstances and conditions brought about our constitutional definition of religious freedom," the Cardinal said, adding however, that "rightly interpreted, we accept it as the only practical definition in the circumstance in which we find ourselves and foresee in our future."

"Full well," Cardinal Stritch continued, "we know that man and society are under the Divine Law of which Holy Church is the infallible teacher and interpreter. There are ideals to be prayed for, but in our circumstances and conditions, the provisions of our Constitution offer us neither a Catholic nor a moral difficulty. Never have we been found wanting to our country in any crisis, and never shall we be found wanting."

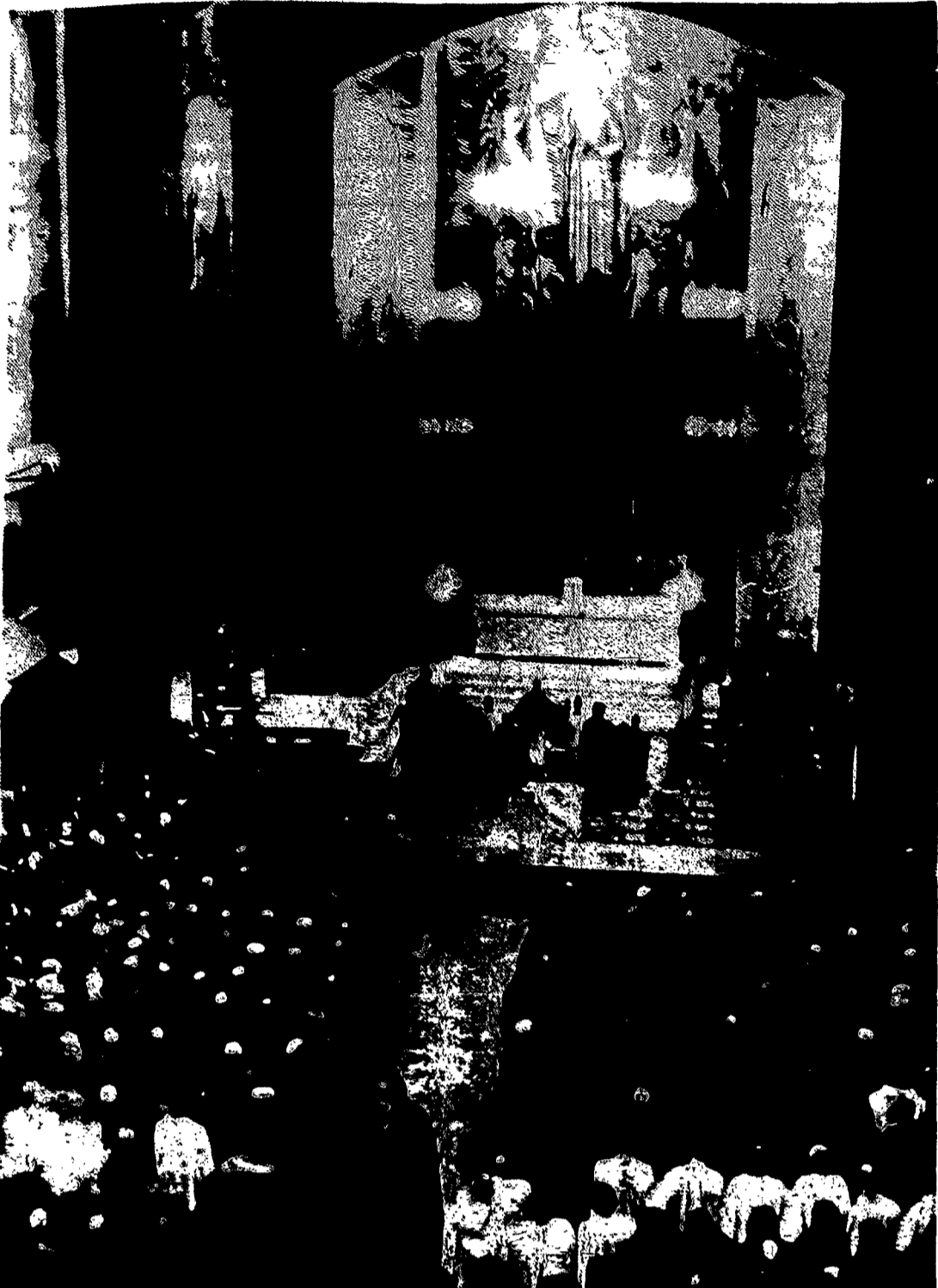
Cardinal Stritch declared that "a greater difficulty presents itself today to us in the purely secularistic notion of society which dominates the minds of some new leaders among us."

"As we stand before the world today, the champion of human rights and dignity against the tyranny of atheistic Communism which violates human nature and malveas," he said, "we must be on our guard to keep fixed in our own minds that our free institutions rest on the Law of God, and whatever seeks to remove this fact from our minds is destructive of our freedom."

**THE TOAST** to "our Holy Father" was given by Cardinal Spellman, who spoke in Latin, as a mark of courtesy to the Pope, and as an acknowledgement of the ecclesiastical and academic character of his audience. Pledging "our undying loyalty, ardent love, deep reverence and humble obedience" toward the Holy Father, he said:

"When we see the disastrous upheavals that afflict human society everywhere in the world, when we behold the raging tempests in which the Church of Christ and good men throughout the world are being buffeted, we are filled with fear. We would surely lose all confidence and hope, did we not turn our eyes and our minds to the See and Chair of Peter, tranquil and stable when all else is transitory and changing."

# North American College Dedicated



Rome—Photo shows the scene in the chapel of the new North American College building here during the dedication ceremonies presided over by Pope Pius XII. The Pontiff, who made a special journey from his summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, is seen standing in front of the main altar as all the prelates around him. The chapel, which cost \$350,000, was paid for by College alumni in the U. S. Some 15 cardinals, including three Americans, and more than 200 U. S. archbishops, bishops and priests attended the ceremonies in the new building on Janiculum Hill, overlooking St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican. (RNS Photos.)

"The North America, like every other seminary we know and cherish at home," he said, "has its own spirit and traditions, which are one of its greatest assets. That spirit is strongly colored with the view of the Church that is Catholic in time and place. The setup of the Church is an ideal of what, for lack of a better word, I might term the self-reliant spirituality which must characterize the diocesan priesthood."

# Germ Tests Hinted In Red Prison Deaths

Vienna, Austria — (NC) — The death toll at the communist prison at Vas, Hungary, where Archbishop Joseph Gross of Kalocsa is jailed, has mounted alarmingly during recent weeks, according to reports reaching here.

Prisoners infected by an epidemic number more than 300, the reports say, and among those who have died are several Catholic priests. One has been identified as Father Istvan Fatka.

A WAVE OF desperation has swept over many thousands of Catholic families in Hungary over the news of more deaths. Relatives of the inmates have openly wept for that Russian and Hungarian medical teams engaged in research on bacteriological warfare have been using prisoners as human "guinea pigs."

Lending weight to this suspicion is a report that a Russian military medical team is now touring Hungarian political prisons.

Communist officials have stated that the cause of the epidemic is poisoned food.

Vac. 40 miles north of Budapest, is one of the largest political prisons in Eastern Europe. It holds more than 100 priests arrested and held on various spurious charges. Prisoners sent here are assaulted by Hungarian red regime as arch enemies of the State.

# Mother, Daughter Both Nuns, Go To Japan Mission

Ottawa — (NC) — A mother and her daughter, both Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, are en route to the mission fields in Japan.

Following the death of her husband, Henri Grant, in 1944, his widow, the former Marie Embree, devoted herself to the work of the Catholic Centre of the University of Ottawa. Her daughter, Marie Therese, also was an employee of the Catholic Centre.

In 1948 the daughter entered the novitiate of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary at St. Hyacinthe. The following year, her mother entered the same order.

# Germans Launch Prayer Week For Red-Held POWs

Bonn, Germany — (NC) — A week of prayer for German prisoners of war who have not yet been released from captivity is being observed in all German dioceses. This is done in accordance with a resolution adopted by the German Bishops at their last Fulda Conference.

On Sunday, October 25, the bells will ring from all German Catholic churches, calling the faithful to prayer for these captives, the great majority of whom are being held by the Soviet Union and its satellites. A similar week of prayer is also to be observed by the German Protestant churches.

IN RECENT weeks, the Soviets have released a total of 574 prisoners, including 11 generals, who had been held by the communists for what they claim were minor war crimes.

Catholics among these released prisoners sent a message to His Holiness Pope Pius XII expressing their deep gratitude that "the father of us all has not forgotten his children in captivity."

The Pontiff acknowledged this message in a telegram imparting his blessing on the former prisoners now entering into a new phase of their lives.

His Eminence, Josef Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, and many other German Bishops also sent messages of welcome to the prisoners transfer camp in Friedland in the Soviet zone of the ex-prisoners as they arrived Germany.

**THE SOVIETS** claimed officially in 1950 that they were holding only 12,522 German war prisoners, most of whom are expected to be repatriated under the current release program. However, German authorities assert they have definite proof that at least 110,000 who were taken prisoners have not yet been returned.

In addition, German authorities are convinced that at least 130,000 civilians of German nationality are still being kept in the Soviet Union. These figures do not include 1,722,898 members of the German armed forces still listed as "missing."

It can be safely assumed that many of them had also been taken prisoners and died in captivity.

**THE OTHER** villages—Shugba and Budrus—were shelled by the Israeli troops, who carried mortars, machine guns, Bangalore torpedoes, grenades and demolition charges.

Qibya lies about ten miles north of the Trappist monastery of Latrun in a fertile section of Israel.

All three of the Jordan villages are completely Moslem. However, Qibya had a Lutheran medical dispensary, which was demolished together with forty homes and a school. There was no information as to whether any loss of life had resulted from the attack on the Protestant center.

Earlier reports verified by United Nations officials and by the British and American embassies in Amman were that 42 bodies had been identified in Qibya, among whom were those of 38 women and children.

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Here is a movie from "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" as put on by our darling deaf-mutes at "EFFETTA," our orphanage for them in Yehoram, Iran. Under the heroic efforts of our teachers they are making marvelous progress in articulating their voices. The institute is in great need of help. Your mile will do much. \$10 will keep a child for a month.

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Cardinal Mooney, who offered the toast to "our College," reviewed the history of the institution, recalling that as a former member of the staff he had taken part in negotiations for the purchase of its new site. He observed that he was probably the only person "now living who had a direct part in that transaction, which, despite years of depression and war, has finally led to the joy of this day."

"We now contemplate the finished task," Cardinal Mooney declared. "It rebounds highly to the credit of Bishop O'Connor, rector of the North American College and all who have collaborated with him in the reopening of the College in 1948 and the five-year building project, either as members of the faculty or as architectural or legal advisers."

Cardinal Mooney told the present students that they should see the challenges in the "vastly improved conditions in this modern building on an incomparable site overlooking the great dome that seems to rise the very tomb of Peter."

**Canon Seminary Returns To Social**

Rome — (NC) — Canon's six seminarians have returned to their studies here after nearly three years of refugee existence in the mountains.

Seminarians and students of the Canon Seminary have been here since they were rescued from the mountains of France and Italy in the summer of 1950. They were housed in the Canon Seminary in Rome, Italy, and then in the Canon Seminary in Rome, Italy, and then in the Canon Seminary in Rome, Italy.

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