Manila KC Builds New Club House

Manila — (NC) — The Manila Council of the Knights of Columbus began this month the construction of a projected new club house here. Site for the club house, which will cost $125,000, was blessed by Archbishop Rufino J. Santos of Manila.

The building will house also the offices of the Catholic Youth Organization and the Daughters of Isabella. The Manila Council with 1,000 members, is the largest K. of C. council in the world.

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British Bishops

Predict Anglican Attack Will Bring Many To Catholic Fold

London — (NC) — Rather than harming the Catholic Church, a much-publicized anti-Catholic booklet published here by a group of anonymous Anglican clergymen will probably bring more persons than ever into the Catholic fold.

This seemed to be the consensus of British Catholic Bishops and priests who have replied to charges of intolerance and doctrinal error against the Catholic Church contained in a 32-page pamphlet, "Infallible" which was publicly praised by Dr. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury.

"Indolently inaccurate," "shrill," "juvenile" and "disgraceful" were some of the comments of the Catholic leaders on the pamphlets to which Dr. Fisher drew attention during a speech before the Convocation of Canterbury. In this talk, Dr. Fisher spoke in sympathetic terms of His Eminence Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, communist - ousted Primate of Poland, but went on to score the "intolerance" of the Catholic Church.

Prominent among those who commented on the Anglican booklet was Bishop John C. Heenan of Leeds, who wrote that "the Anglicans were moved to write this booklet, in my view, because so many of their brethren are returning to the ancient Faith."

THIS WAS THE opinion also of Father Francis J. Ripley of the Catholic Missionary Society, who said of the booklet: "This is one of the most damning indictments of the Church of England it is possible to imagine . . . Its effectiveness will probably lie in directing more sincere people than ever into the One Fold of Christ."

Contained in the pamphlet were charges that the Catholic Church is totalitarian, that it exercises "a spiritual dictatorship" over its faithful, and that it is intolerant toward non-Catholics. Other attacks were directed against what the authors called "a certain duplicity" in the Catholic official mind, and "objectionable" methods of proselytism, especially among the seriously ill and dying in hospitals. In addition, the booklet assailed Catholic doctrines on papal infallibility, indulgences, purgatory, and the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Father Joseph Christie, S.J., a leading Jesuit preacher and one of the first to criticize the pamphlet, declared that it represented "a lowering of intellectual standards in Protestantism." Calling it "one of the poorest publications it has been my distressing duty to sit down and read," he added that "these latest accusations against the Church constitute not so much an attack as an expression of interior distress" in the Anglican Church.

SEVERAL CATHOLIC commentators ascribed the unexpected Anglican outburst to a domestic crisis inside the State Church. The Church of England has a right-wing, calling itself Catholic, or Anglo-Catholic and following in detail the liturgy of Rome. Opposed to this group is a left-wing, which calls itself Protestant and insists on the strictest retention of the ritual and practices of the reactionary Reformers of 400 years ago. The split between the two groups—on the one side toward Catholicism, and on the other toward Methodism — is gradually becoming more pronounced.

Bishop Heenan made his reply to the Anglican booklet in an article in the Universe, Catholic weekly published in London. He prefaced his comments by stating that he accepted the good faith of the authors, "otherwise it would be necessary to assume the errors with which the pages abound to be deliberate falsehoods."

In their efforts to prove the Church of England to be Catholic, the authors of "Infallible Fallacies" had exposed their conviction that the Archbishop of Canterbury holds a different creed from St. Augustine of whom he claims to be the successor, Bishop Heenan wrote.

"I keep wondering how carefully Dr. Fisher read this pamphlet before giving it his enthusiastic commendation . . . But I am glad that the authors make this honest admission."

BISHOP HEENAN said he believed that the pamphlet was written not to answer Catholic attacks on the Anglican Church, but through resentment at the Church's increasing success in gaining converts and because so many Anglicans are returning to the ancient Church.

Another prelate who replied to "Infallible Fallacies" was Bishop Henry V. Marshall of Salford, who told 3,000 persons, at a Catholic Evidence meeting in Manchester: "We have the truth. Let us give our friends outside the Church the truth, and then there will be no necessity to answer uncharitableness—if it comes our way — by uncharitableness. We have no desire for conquest—all we desire is to win their souls."

At the same meeting, Father Bernard Bassett, S.J., protested against the charge in the Anglican pamphlet of Catholic proselytizing among the sick and dying in hospitals "at a time when there are 40,000,000 in this country who pay no regard to Our Lord at all." He said: "Only one person in ten goes to any church, and yet we are criticized if we seek to tell anyone about Our Blessed Lord."

One of the most detailed replies to the Anglican booklet came from Father Christie in a sermon at the West End Church of Our Lady of Victories. On the question of proselytism, Father Christie had this to say:

"To those who have experience in the instruction of converts, one point particularly will have struck them: we do not need to proselytize. The Church has but to be herself and the truth within her shines because she is free from doubt. In nine cases out of ten the first impetus of conversion comes from materialistic sources or as the result of doubt.

SOME OF THE contentions of the pamphlet to which Father Christie made specific replies were: that the Catholic Church is authoritarian, that Anglican orders and sacraments are valid, and that the royal supremacy in no way makes it impossible for the Church of England to be reckoned as part of the true Church of Christ. On these issues he replied:

Father Christie: "Let us face it—God is totalitarian. It is the object of the Protestant liberal mind that makes His revelation to man [illegible] God is not an object. He cannot change His moral precepts to suit a place or age."

Church and State: "Nor is the attempt to identify the supremacy of the State in the Church of England any more successful. That great State Church arose as a purely accidental to the religious settlement of the sixteenth century. Its supremacy depends on the supremacy of the State in the Church. The Church arises as a divine institution, has always existed, and will always exist, whether it is persecuted or not."

Nun Saves Child In Fall From Hospital Roof

Arcadia, Wis. — (NC) — Sister Mary Clare, a Franciscan nun at St. Joseph's Hospital and her niece, Carol, one, were hospitalized here after 40-foot fall from the hospital roof.

Sister M. Clare's condition is injuries, farctures about the left hip. Carol was released the next morning to her mother. Shock and surface bruises were her only apparent effects.

While members of the family were lining up for a picture, Sister M. Clare with the child in her arms, stepped back out of view of the camera. When her foot struck the low ledge of the roof, she lost her balance and fell to the ground, still holding the child in her arms.

"My first thought," she said, "was of God, and then of the baby whom I held as tightly as I could."

Despite the pain, she did not lose consciousness, but kept praying as she lay on the ground. She repeatedly asked about the condition of the baby.

Sister Clare, a convert, has been stationed at St. Joseph's Hospital for eight years.

West Germany To Appoint Vatican Envoy

Bonn, Germany —(RNS)— Appointment of a West German Ambassador to the Vatican will be made soon, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer announced here.

Although the Vatican appointed Archbishop Aloysius Muench of Fargo, N. D., as Papal Nuncio to West Germany in 1951, the West German Federal Republic has delayed the reopening of its embassy at the Vatican because of disagreement among Germans over whether the ambassador should be a Roman Catholic or a Protestant.

The German Catholic Church has insisted that a Catholic be named to the post but the Evangelical Church in Germany has been equally insistent that a Protestant be appointed.

Traditionally, Germany's representative to the Holy See has been a Protestant. German Catholics argue, however, that the growth of Catholicism in West Germany should be recognized by the appointment of a Catholic.

It is considered likely that the West German state of Bavaria will resume direct diplomatic relations with the Holy See as soon as a federal ambassador has been named. Bavaria is entitled to, and was in fact represented until 1934 by, its own envoy to the Vatican because of a special concordat.

Relief Train Aids Italy Flood Victims

Rome — (NC) — A 13-car freight train laden with food, clothing and other relief materials, much of its contributed by Catholics of the United States, has left Rome for the flood-ravaged Calabria area, it was disclosed here at the offices of War Relief Services — National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The supplies o nthe train are made up of contributions from WRS-N.C.W.C., and the Pontifical Relief Organization. It was estimated by the WRS-N.C.W.C. office that half of the supplies were donated by Catholics of the United States.

Upon arrival at Calabria, the supplies will be distributed by the Pontifical Relief Organization in the stricken areas.

Italian Priests

Hong Kong—(RNS)—Two Italian priests arrived here from Communist China where they had been under house arrest, together for the past ten months at Kaifeng, Honan Province. They are Father John Brambilla, 70, of Milan, and Father John Carbone, 38, of Naples.

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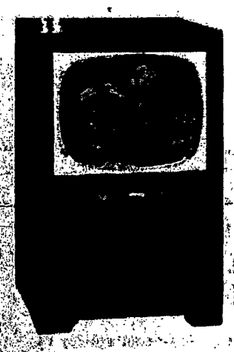

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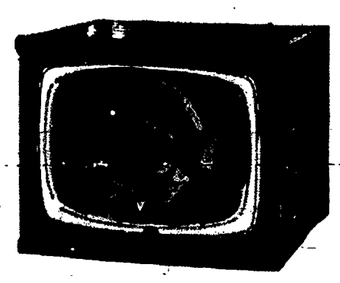

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