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## First American Convent Cited

New Orleans—(NC)—A bronze plaque honoring the Ursuline nuns who came to New Orleans from France in 1727 was dedicated by Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans at the old Ursuline convent.

Erected on a wall of the convent porter's house, the plaque marks the site of the first convent in what is now the United States, built in 1734. The present building, now the residence of the Oblate Fathers in charge of St. Mary's Church, was built about 1750.


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## Yuletide Formal Arranged By Nazareth College Grads

Christmas formal for members of Nazareth College Alumnae Association will be held at Brook-Lea Country Club on Monday, Dec. 28 from 9:30 to 1:30.

The Nazareth graduates and their escorts will dance to the music of Carl Dengler and his orchestra. Featured with the band will be Mary Helen Brown, a graduate of Nazareth College and widely known as a singer on radio as well as with the orchestra.

COMMITTEES arranging the affair are headed by Miss Joanne Leitch and Mrs. James Scott. Assisting on committees are: Tickets, Miss Cynthia Smith and Miss Mary Esther Daney; arrangements, Miss Pat Creodon; publicity, Miss Helen Kammer and Miss Alleen Cleary; reception, Miss Mary Kay Schantz and Miss Mary Frayer.

Flora and hostesses for the evening are: Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Carroll, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Bayer, Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Woodward, Dr. and Mrs. John Oster, Mr. and Mrs. William T. Asay, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Boylan, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gould, Mr. and Mrs. J. Mallory Loos, Mr. and Mrs. George Polier, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Parker of Buffalo, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morton, Miss Mary Kay Schantz and Mr. Eugene Vallery, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Melsenzahl, Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. Dolan, Mr. and Mrs. James Elam and Mr. and Mrs. William J. Meyer, Jr.

**Infant Of Prague Novena Opened**

Annual Christmas Novena in honor of the Infant of Prague is now being conducted at St. Anthony's church, Elmira by the Rev. Thomas Joyce, O.P.

Services are held each evening at 7:30 p.m. and include novena prayers, a short instruction and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Rev. William A. Burns, pastor, in announcing the opening of the Novena, stated that it is being held "to give the members of the parish an opportunity to make a spiritual preparation for the birth of Our Savior."

**Women Retreatants Moderator Named**

St. Louis, Mo. —(NC)— Archbishop Albert G. Meyer of St. Louis appointed Father Joseph J. Holleran, spiritual director of the National Laywomen's Retreat Movement, it was announced here.

The appointment follows the custom of the group, which asks the Ordinary of the diocese in which the national president resides, to appoint a member of the clergy from her diocese to serve as spiritual director.

Mrs. John H. Koppmer of Milwaukee was elected president last fall.

**German Catholics Slate Convention**

Fulda, Germany —(NC)— "You shall bear witness to me," has been chosen as the general theme for the 70th German Catholic national convention, (Katholikentag) which will take place here from August 30 to September 5, 1954.

The decision was made at a meeting of the Central Committee of German Catholics, presided over by Prince Karl zu Loewenstein, in accordance with the theme, all the meetings of the 1200th anniversary of the death of St. Boniface, Apostle of the Germans, are to emphasize the task of the Christian in the face of present-day problems.

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## Lewd Books Effect On Youth Cited

Washington — (NC)— Lewd literature is doing more harm to the morals of American youth than the schools are doing good for them, Archbishop John J. Noll told the U. S. Bishops at their annual meeting here.

The Bishop of Fort Wayne reported as chairman of the Committee on the National Organization for Decent Literature.

Archbishop Noll declared that Catholics alone cannot build the dikes to hold back the flood of indecent reading material. "We need the cooperation of non-Catholics," the Archbishop said.

HE REPORTED that at NODL meetings during the past year the opening of a national office was discussed, whose character would not be regarded as strictly Catholic. "This office, he said, 'staffed with competent persons, should be one to which publishers could come to seek help and through which public opinion might be aroused in every community.'"

Archbishop Noll reported that most of the lewd literature is distributed in the form of pocket-size books. He said that during the past year alone some 270 million of these books were sold by ten U. S. publishers.

"MANY HAVE innocent titles," he said, "but the contents of most of them are filthy. Some of them have flashy covers enticing the prurient-minded, but the contents may be a reproduction of some classic."

The Archbishop pointed out the disturbing fact that publication of this lewd literature is "supported by the editors of many metropolitan papers on the principle of 'freedom of the press.'"

Archbishop Noll also took note of printed smut in the comic field. He reported that one examination showed that 40 per cent of 450 comics were definitely bad for children. 30 per cent more were on the border line. "Many contained smutty and blasphemous language," he declared. That of others was tolerant of and even friendly towards the use of dope, sex perversion and crime planning."

Blind Organist On U.S. Tour  
Cincinnati — (NC)— A celebrated French Catholic organist, born blind, sat at the complex keyboard of the organ in the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and demonstrated to an audience of music teachers and students that he is still one of the world's foremost masters of the organ.

St. Michael's, Newark  
Rev. Henry J. Duerbeck, Pastor  
SUNDAY MASSES  
7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 11:15 A.M.



Third Order of St. Francis will meet Sunday, Dec. 20 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 454 Plymouth Ave. North.

The Order's announcement of the meeting said: "Nowhere is the Feast of Christmas more devoutly celebrated than among Franciscans of all ranks. Faithful to the example of their glorious founder, all Franciscans erect a crèche of some kind, from the tiny cardboard image in the room of some humble tertiary to the beautiful manger scene with life-size figures to be found in any great city church of the Friars Minor."

"Everyone knows that St. Francis built the first Christmas crib to honor the Holy Child, but many are not aware that the true Christmas carols date back to the 13th century, too, when the Friars, trying to humanize the story of the Gospel, composed songs about the birth of Christ, which they sang while standing or kneeling around the crib."

A Franciscan named Jacoponi da Todì is believed to have been the first to write such carols. The singing of Christmas carols should therefore be the happy duty of all Franciscan families.

**Chester W. Potter's Rites At Holy Rosary**  
Funeral services for Chester Weller Potter of 376 Driving Park were held from the Funeral Parlors of Joseph J. Buckley and at Holy Rosary Church, Thursday, Dec. 10. Mr. Potter's death occurred Sunday, December 6 following a prolonged illness.

**Requiem Mass Said For Mrs. O'Neill**  
Funeral services of Mary Frances O'Neill, wife of Joseph T. O'Neill, 199 Wellington Ave. were held from the Joseph A. Murphy Funeral Home, 363 Chilli Avenue on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

**Americans Lauded On Feeding Europe**  
LACONIA, N. H. — (NC)— United States and Canadian aid to starving peoples of the world has been one of the biggest factors in the fight against Communism in Europe, according to Senator Sarto Fournier of Montreal, youngest member of the Canadian Parliament.

Speaking at the annual banquet of the auxiliary of the St. Jean Baptiste Association here, Senator Fournier said the generosity of the North Americans has gone far in alleviating the danger of millions of under-fed Europeans from falling victims to Communist propaganda.

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## Father Hogan Turns Earth For New Parochial School

Waverly — Ground for the new St. James Parochial school was broken on the morning of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception following an announcement by the Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, pastor of St. James church during the eight o'clock Mass. Construction of the \$120,000 edifice was officially started when Father Hogan turned the first shovel of earth with a specially prepared golden shovel.

Immediately following the Mass, the congregation led by the Cross, bearer, the acolytes, altar boys carrying Holy Water, Rev. Joseph McCarthy, Assistant Pastor, and Father Hogan, proceeded down the center aisle of the church.

The procession left the church at the Chemung Street entrance and followed the walk up Clark Street to the land behind the church rectory and west of Clark Street where the new school will stand.

Contract bids for work on the school have been received and will be awarded in the near future.

Work on the excavation is expected to begin before the first of the year, and construction is expected to be completed for the 1954-1955 school year. Father Hogan said.

Announcement was also made that ground had been purchased on Main Street, Van Etten for the mission chapel of St. James, Mass. is held at the present time in the community hall and sold by Father Michael of the Capuchin Fathers at Interlaken.

**Oldest Magazine Marks Marian Year**  
Notre Dame, Ind.—The winter edition of the oldest Catholic women's college magazine, "Chimes," the student quarterly of Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind., was published this week.

Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary in honor of the Marian Year proclaimed by Pope Pius XII, the student publication contains essays, verses, art work and short stories principally concerning the Blessed Mother.

"Chimes" first appeared in 1859 under the title, "Mystical Rose," written in long hand. In 1892 the literary publication emerged in printed form. Richly bound copies of the first printed issue were presented to His Holiness, Pope Leo XIII, James Cardinal Gibbons, and other noted churchmen.

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