

Prelate Pleads For Migratory Farm Workers

New York — (NC) — Congress has shamefully disregarded the needs and the rights of American citizens in the migratory labor force, declares Archbishop Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio in an article in *Commonweal* on Migratory Workers.

"The problems of migratory workers are many and serious," he writes. "No single solution to these problems is possible but a great deal can be done, and must be done, for these displaced persons. Most of them are American citizens; some are Mexican nationals working here on contract; others are illegal aliens, generally known as 'wetbacks'."

NOTING SOME of the steps that American Bishops have taken to minister to the spiritual needs of these migratory workers, the Archbishop says:

"The present situation, characterized by the greed of some employers, power politics, exploitation of defenseless workers, child labor, under neglect and senseless disorder is an international scandal."

The San Antonio prelate, who served on the President's Commission on Migratory Labor, reports that more than two thousand Mexican nationals are brought into the country each year because the farmers and growers claim that they cannot get domestic workers to harvest the crops.

"The employment service may not certify a shortage of labor unless sufficient domestic workers who are able, willing and qualified are not available at the time and place needed to perform the work. The word 'willing' is the key to the situation. If a substantial number of men are not willing to work for starvation wages, they create a labor shortage in that area and alien workers may then be brought in."

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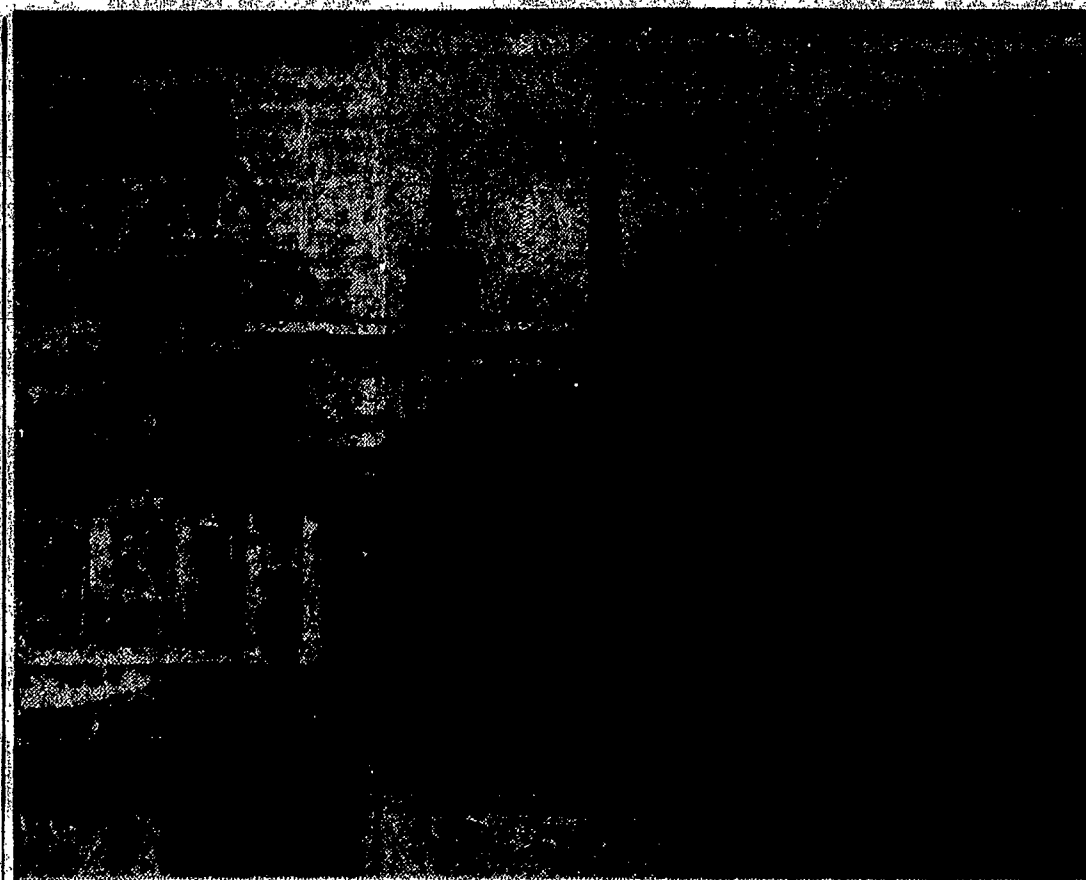


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The fifth century Shrine of St. Mary Major in Rome will be one of the highlights in the Marian Year pilgrimage from the Rochester Diocese this spring. The tour will include all of the main centers of devotion to the Blessed Virgin in Europe.

Mary's Shrine ST. MARY MAJOR

BY REV. HENRY ATWELL
(This series of articles describes the great Marian Shrines of Europe. A diocesan pilgrimage now being organized by Father Joseph Christensen will visit these famous shrines next April and May.)

Rome — city of Peter, center and focus of Catholic faith, consecrated by the blood of martyrs, sacred from the footsteps of countless saints, home of the Pope St. Fulgentius, over fourteen hundred years ago, exclaimed, "Oh, how wonderful must heaven be, if Rome is so glorious!" And the week after Easter, the Rochester Diocesan pilgrimage will arrive in the Eternal City.

There is an old Latin axiom: *Ubi Petrus, ibi Ecclesia* — Where Peter is, there is the Church. And just as we find Mary with Peter and the Apostles in the days of the infant Church, so we can expect to find Mary's greatest shrine near the famous shrine of Peter.

Tradition says that back in the days of the ancient Roman Empire, soon after Constantine had ended the era of persecution, a noble Roman citizen owned extensive property on the Esquiline hill. He and his wife had not been blessed with children, and so they decided to make our Lady the heroine of their fortune.

ONE NIGHT, an angel in a dream-vision told them to build a church on a spot which they would find next day marked out in the snow. At the same time, Pope Liberius was told the same message.

Next morning, John and his wife, Pope Liberius and his clergy, all went up the hill to investigate what might occur. This happened on August 5th in the year 358. Inasmuch as August is the hottest month of the year in Rome, a fall of snow at that season could happen only by miracle.

But there at the summit of the hill, the ground was white with snow and a plan of the future church clearly traced upon it. Work was begun at once, and completed two years later.

ALTHOUGH THIS first church has been replaced by a much larger one, it is still called "Our Lady of the Snow" and a special Mass is celebrated every August 5th to commemorate this wonderful event.

The present church was built in 1432 by Pope Sixtus III as a memorial of the great Council of Ephesus. Nestorius, a heretic of that time, had denied that Mary was truly the Mother of God. The Catholic Bishops met in Council at Ephesus and reaffirmed the ancient faith that God Himself chose Mary to be the Mother of His Divine Son.

High above the white marble pillars, there are huge mosaics representing scenes from our Lady's life and all the events and people of the Old Testament which foretold her greatness. On the arch above the altar, there

are pictures of the Annunciation, the Coming of the Magi, and the Presentation in the Temple.

A THOUSAND years after Pope Sixtus had built this great shrine to Mary, Columbus discovered our America, and the first gold he brought back to Europe was sent to Rome to gild the richly carved ceiling.

ONE OF the most precious relics kept at this church is a portion of the manger where Mary laid the Christ Child. All that remains are two rough boards, and they are enclosed in a silver reliquary. Every Christmas it is carried in procession round through the church and then left at the altar for veneration.

Here at this altar, St. Ignatius of Loyola celebrated his first Mass on Christmas eve, 1538. And

His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, as a newly-ordained priest, celebrated his first Mass in St. Mary Major at an altar beneath the famous Marian painting, "Salus Populi Romani."

IT IS ALSO recorded in the chronicles of the shrine that Pope St. Gregory the Great was celebrating Easter Mass one year, and when he chanted, "Fax vobis," an invisible choir of angels sang the response, "Et cum spiritu tuo." It is still the custom at this church, whenever the Pope says Mass there, not to sing that response, but to leave it to the angels.

Many other saints have honored Mary here in her Roman shrine; among them are St. Henry II of Germany, St. Bridget of Sweden, St. Francis Borgia, St. Philip Neri, St. Charles Borromeo, St. John Bechmann. And among the precious relics, one especially demands our attention: the dalmatic of St. Thomas, a Becket of Canterbury, stained with his martyr-blood.

In our 20th century, sodden with sin and red with persecution, this story of Mary's major shrine can be an invitation and a challenge to us to imitate her virtue and have confidence in her prayers.

Anti-Catholic Bias Charged To New Church-State Study

Cambridge, Mass. — (NC) — A legal study, "Church, State and Freedom," has been criticized in the Harvard Law Review for containing "trivia and gossip . . . reflecting on one particular religious denomination."

The book is a treatment on problems of separation of Church and State in the U. S. by Leo Pfeffer. Reviewing the 675-page work in the Harvard Law Review for January, Judge Charles S. Desmond of the New York Court of Appeals recognized the "clarity and completeness" of Mr. Pfeffer's legal analyses, but said the work often "strays off to become something other than a law book."

JUDGE DESMOND called the book "somewhat less than fair and objective" in dealing with public school released time programs and accused the author of "complete confusion" as to the official Catholic position on public schools.

"In his zeal to show the 'divisive' effects of 'released-time' programs, the author devotes eleven pages to the contents of ex parte affidavits . . . not con-

sidered by any court, and amounting, really, to little more than backfence 'spatting' over petty instances of miserable racial bigotry," Judge Desmond wrote.

He said "alleged preoccupation of the Catholic hierarchy with politics is almost an obsession with M. Pfeffer, who seems, however, to hold and express a variety and contrariety of views on the right and duty of churches, generally, to take positions on political questions."

"MR. PFEFFER'S chief interest seems to be in what he calls 'freedom from religion.' Religion, it seems is in America an alien intruder, like an immigrant with a temporary labor permit only, not to be oppressed but to be accorded minimal privileges and closely and suspiciously watched," Judge Desmond said.

"Historically, that is indefensible, as Mr. Pfeffer's own historical summary shows. And, in principle, and in morals, it is surely unsound. It would uproot from the American soil an essential element that has been there from the beginning."

"It is unfortunate that this author did not divide his materials into two books," Judge Desmond said. "One a treatise on the law, and the other a statement of his special views as to what Church-State relations should be."

Catholic Hospital Group Convenes
New Orleans — (NC) — Ten archbishops and 30 dioceses took part in the ninth annual mid-winter meeting of the Catholic Hospital Conference of Bishops' Representatives, just held here.

The 1955 meeting will be held in Boston at the invitation of Archbishop Richard J. Cushing.

Anglican Attack Exposed As Rehash Of Booklet

London — (NC) — "Infallible Fallacies," a pamphlet published last October as a new Anglican attack on the Catholic Church, was not new at all but was actually written about four years ago.

This disclosure was made here by the Catholic Truth Society, which said that the author of the pamphlet was the Rev. Eric G. Jay, then Dean of Nassau, Bahamas, and now senior chaplain to Dr. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Anglican Primate of All-England.

The booklet in question was published by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, a Church of England organization, and was subtitled, "An Anglican Reply to Roman Catholic Arguments by Some Priests of the Anglican Communion."

The Catholic Truth Society said that the pamphlet had originally been called, "A Reply to Roman Arguments." It said that the only difference between the "new" attack and its predecessor was the substitution of the plural "we" for the singular "I" throughout and the addition of a few footnotes.

Pontiff Receives Archbishop Molloy

Vladivostok City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has received in private audience Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy, Bishop of Brooklyn.

Race Relations Study Held Key To Negro Apostolate

New York — (NC) — Establishment of more Catholic Interracial Councils throughout the country would aid greatly in the Negro apostolate, Msgr. Cornelius J. Drew, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church in the Harlem district here, declared at a forum of the New York Catholic Interracial Council.

There now are 24 councils in the nation and five are located in the south. Four other councils are in the process of formation.

MUCH GOOD will accrue to the Church as a result of Catholic social action, Monsignor Drew said. He added, "Catholic Interracial Councils are working to remedy a wrong by putting religious principles into effect."

Down deep your motive is the fact that another person's soul is as dear to God as your own.

The Monsignor regretted that "we priests haven't the daily elbow-rubbing contact" which the laity has. He said, "Negroes with whom you have daily contact know that you have come into this work because as a Catholic you believe in the dignity of souls created to God's image. The fact that Catholics are interested in them for religious reasons is a new angle to many Negroes who have heard strange and unflattering things about the Church."

NEGROES ARE very receptive to the teaching of the Church, the Monsignor said he has found. He recalled that during one of the worst snowstorms of the winter, 50 adult Negroes attended an evening convert class at his parish church.

"I don't see how anyone can be in the Negro apostolate and not be interested in race relations," Monsignor Drew said. "When

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Boys Town Head Goes To Far East

Omaha, Neb. — (NC) — Monsignor Nicholas H. Wegner, director of Boys Town, has left here to make a four-month, good-will tour of Japan, Korea, Malaya, the Philippines, India, Pakistan, Turkey and Greece at the request of the U. S. State Department. It has been announced.

Catholic Pilgrimages to Europe in 1954

St. Joan of Arc Pilgrimage
Personal Leadership: Reverend John J. Mooney
Selling April 24, 1954 — New York — S. E. Liberte, French Line

La Salette Marian Year Pilgrimage
Under Direction of La Salette Fathers, Altamont, New York
Selling August 17, 1954 — New York — S. S. Nieuw Amsterdam, Holland-America Line

Marieland Pilgrimage
Personal Leadership: Rev. Andrew Schold, S.M., President Univ. of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio
Selling June 7, 1954 — New York — R.M.S. Queen Mary, Cunard Steamship Co. Ltd.

New England Marian Year Pilgrimage
Personal Leadership: Most Reverend Richard J. Cushing, D.D., LL.D., Archbishop of Boston, Mass.
Selling June 22, 1954 — New York — Special Sailing Boston, June 21, 1954, S. E. Independence, American Export Lines

Little Flower National Pilgrimage
Personal Leadership: Reverend Ronald Gray, Carmelite Father, Englewood, N. J.
Selling July 7, 1954 — New York — S. S. Nieuw Amsterdam, Holland-America Line

Brooklyn Diocesan Marian Year Pilgrimage
Approved by Most Reverend Thomas E. Molloy, Archbishop; Bishop of Brooklyn, N. Y.
Selling July 14, 1954 — New York — MV Vulcania, Italian Line

National Irish Pilgrimage, Ancient Order of Hibernians
Personal Leadership: Most Reverend James A. McNulty, D.D., Bishop of Paterson, N. J.
Selling August 17, 1954 — New York — S. S. Nieuw Amsterdam, Holland-America Line

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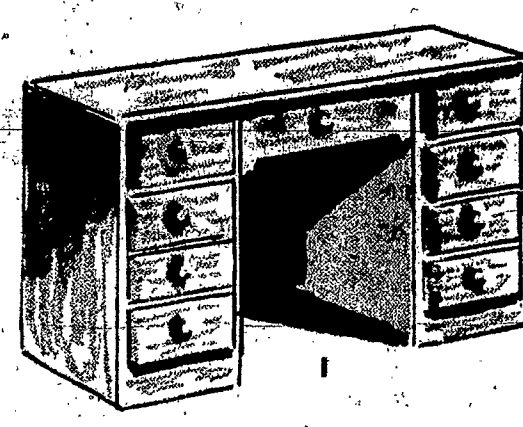
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| C. Chest Secretary, 70"x30"x13" | 39.95 |
| D. 3-Drawer Chest, 28"x24"x14 1/2" | 12.95 |
| E. 9-Drawer Jr. Chest, 33"x36 1/2"x14 1/2" | 24.95 |
| F. 9-Drawer Mr. and Mrs. Dresser Base, 33"x48"x14 1/2" | 29.95 |
| G. 8-Drawer Chest, 41"x24"x14 1/2" | 19.95 |
| H. 4-Drawer Chest, 33"x24"x14 1/2" | 14.95 |
| I. 8-Drawer Knee Hole Desk, 30"x42 1/2"x18 1/2" | 27.95 |

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