

Would Wear 'Miss Valenteen' Crown



THESE SIX STUDENTS of Sales High School, Geneva, will vie with four others from Geneva High School for the honor of being chosen "Miss Valenteen of 1954," today (Friday, Feb. 12). They are: (from left) Moira Lavey, Beverly Flacito, Catherine Bullock, Sonia Cupelli, Pat Lahr and Roberta Flood. (F. B. Oakley photo)

New Center In Hong Kong Aids Yanks

Hong Kong — (NC) — Visiting American servicemen now have a center where they change dollars and get needed guidance and assistance without falling into the hands of the motley hordes of touts which heretofore has surrounded them when they "hit the beach" here.

Opened only a month ago with Father George N. Gilligan, M.M., World War II chaplain in charge, Servicemen's Guides has already changed money for more than 12,000 U.S. service personnel and is fast developing into a favorite rendezvous for those seeking rest, recreation or "special services" of one kind or another.

Formally opened by Mrs. Julia Harrington, wife of the U.S. Consul General in Hong Kong, the servicemen's center is on the Fenwick Street pier and is staffed by volunteer Catholic workers in cooperation with representatives of the Anglican Church in Hong Kong. Funds for the venture were received from the National Catholic Community Service and Protestant Church groups in the United States.

At Christmas, the center, which is under the patronage of Catholic Bishop Lawrence Blanchet of Hong Kong Consul General Harrington and Anglican Bishop R. O. Hall, arranged for some 70 servicemen to have dinner at the homes of members of the American community.

Congress Bill Asks Social Security For Clergymen

Washington — (NC) — A bill introduced in Congress would regard clergymen as "employees" of churches or other tax exempt organizations, in order to include them under the provisions of the Social Security law.

The designation as "employees" has been opposed by some ministers of religion.

A measure introduced by Representative Daniel A. Reed of New York provides that if a church or organization makes a waiver of tax exemption for the purpose of making the employer's contribution to the Social Security tax, clergymen then on the rolls of the church or organization could elect to be covered under the Old Age and Survivors' Insurance program. Any clergymen ordained after his church signed the waiver would automatically be covered.

The bill specifically excludes clergymen who are members of religious orders that take the vow of poverty. Having no income at all, such clergymen are unable to make the employer's contribution to the Social Security tax.

Where Do You Find The 'Catholic View'?

By Missions
Thomas A. Meehan
President
Catholic Press Association

Almost a hundred years ago Pope Pius IX solemnly and infallibly defined that Mary, the Mother of God, was immaculately conceived. She, according to the tradition dating back to Apostolic times and fortified by Holy Scripture, was the only one of God's human creatures to come into the world free from all taint of sin. Mary alone is the Immaculate one.

During this century, the veneration shown to Mary has grown much of it due in no small part to the Catholic Press. Year by year Mariology scholars have brought forth learned treatises on Mary and these in turn have been popularized and adapted to the language of the lines of the vernacular by writers in both Catholic magazines and newspapers.

While it would not be true to say that the Catholic Press, as such, had any part in either the Papal definition of Mary's Immaculate Conception or her Glorious Assumption, yet it certainly is true that the Catholic Press, principally in its magazines and newspapers, brought this story to the entire world.

And remember, that the Catholic Press is an instrument trying to interpret Christ's message to you.

Our prayer is that He may enlighten you and us—fellow editors, Catholic subscribers, and Catholic readers—to the end that, in the Marian Year of 1954, all of us may draw and be drawn closer to His Eternal Heart and the Immaculate Heart of His Mother, Mary.

MOST APTLY in this Marian Year our motto is: "Only the Catholic Press gives you the Catholic View." As President of the Catholic Press Association and as an editor, I cannot over-emphasize this slogan. Where else can you get the reliable "Catholic View" than in your own news service? What other room do you have for the reliability of your stories, be they news, features or fiction?

Where, in all this world, can anyone find the true story of the attrition, heroism and veritable martyrdom behind the "Bamboo Curtain"?

and "Iron Curtains" more reliably reported than in the National Catholic (NCWC) News Service, whose only interest is truth? Whether your publication is a newspaper, magazine, or weekly journal of Catholic opinion, no Catholic organ boasting the name can be without this "right arm" of information to the Church, churchmen, and the laity in the Americas.

Only the Catholic Press gives you the Catholic View! This isn't a slogan, nor a slogan, nor a chant! This is a reality. Read your Catholic papers and magazines and you'll be informed not only on Catholic matters but on all national and world affairs.

Only the Catholic Press gives you the Catholic View! Read your weekly Diocesan Paper! Subscribe to, at least, one Catholic magazine! Build your mind to Catholic thoughts and thinking through Catholic reading. This is the only way to know and understand the "Catholic View!"

Father Comey Named Arbitrator For Shippers, Union

Philadelphia — (NC) — Father Dennis J. Comey, S.S., director of St. Joseph's College Industrial Relations Institute, has been named impartial arbitrator with "unlimited authority" to settle all labor disputes between the Philadelphia Marine Trade Association and the independent Longshoremen's Association here, it has been announced.

The priest was named in a new two-year contract between the Trade Association, representing the shippers of this port, and the 500 members of the union which was ousted from the AFL for alleged racketeering.

The proposal said Father Comey shall have "unlimited authority to establish his own rules and procedures" on issues submitted to him by a grievance committee, provided that he shall have no authority to change the terms of the contract. Abraham E. Freedman, counsel for the independent union, said that the union would insist that Father Comey be the impartial arbitrator during the life of the contract.

Risk Jobs For Truth, Paris Journalists Told

Paris — (NC) — Catholic newspapermen must be ready to make serious sacrifices to maintain the standards of their profession, even risk losing their jobs in the interest of truth.

So His Eminence, Maurice Cardinal Felin, Archbishop of Paris, declared in his sermon at the annual Journalists' Mass in St. Francis de Sales Church here.

His Eminence warned against muted interests which seek to bribe the press into spreading their propaganda. Saying the danger of man's becoming the slave of propaganda was great, he declared that people are right in expecting from newsmen "worthy of the name the courage which will make them lose their jobs but which will make them worthy of the gratitude of their sons and of generations to come."

The Cardinal admitted that the necessity of handling quickly the ever growing volume of news along with its increasing complexity made verification of its truthfulness difficult. But, he added, Catholics have less right than others to accept the inevitability of such a situation. While they cannot entirely escape it, Catholic newsmen must not submit to it, he said.

THE CARDINAL also warned that serious news must never be sacrificed to the sensational. He termed sensationalism a law of the jungle, "which thrives on the ignorance and boundless credulity of the crowd," and urged just and stronger rules of reporting.

Journalists were also told that they had to distinguish between what was a matter of public concern and therefore printable and purely private matters which should be left unpublished. The Cardinal also noted that Catholic newsmen must courageously, if necessary refrain from reporting some religious and other matters which are of a confidential nature.

Israeli Arabs Plead Return Of Homes And Properties

Beirut, Lebanon — (NC) — The only Catholic Bishop in Israel has published an appeal made by Arabs in Israel for recovery of their possessions of which they have been deprived for almost six years.

The appeal was published in Ar-Rabitat, the magazine of Archbishop George Hakim, Greek Rite Bishop of Acre-Halifa. He has frequently served as spokesman for the Arab minority — both Christian and Moslem — in Israel.

THE PETITION, addressed to President Itzhak Ben-Zvi of Israel, said:

"On May 14, 1948, our town, Beisan, was occupied by your troops. On May 28 of the same year you forced us to evacuate our town within two hours. A fleet of busses were brought in and you loaded us on them by force. You seized all our properties — movable and immovable.

"Since then we have been living in Nazareth, jobless and borrowing money for the subsistence of our families, in expectation of an eventual return to our homes and the release of our immovable properties. All our pleas have been in vain . . .

"Justice is the foundation of a state, and when this foundation tumbles, the whole structure crumbles. We earnestly request Your Excellency to consider our case with a view to returning to us our immovable property and compensating us for our movable property which was seized by your army."

Michigan Gets Released-Time Bill

Lansing, Mich. — (RNS) — A bill to allow public school pupils in Michigan to be released from classes for religious training in churches of local school boards approved was passed unanimously by the Michigan Senate and sent to the House.

Although Michigan public school administrators have opposed such a measure for years, the bill drew no opposition in debate.

It was sponsored by Sen. Don Vander Werp, Fremont Republican, who said the bill is patterned after a New York law upheld by the courts.

Noting that the measure had been introduced at the request of the Michigan Council of Churches, with the endorsement of other church groups, Sen. Vander Werp explained it merely would legalize practices already carried on in some Michigan cities.

World Prays For Pontiff

Vatican City — (NC) — Messages reporting prayers, devotions and the offering of personal sufferings for the recovery of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII are being received at the Vatican from all over the world, according to Osservatore Romano, Vatican City daily.

Observers also note that medical remedies have been received from the "humble folk" some from India and Africa, as well as remedies from skilled professional men.

Some of the most notable things reported by the Vatican City paper is the great number of persons who are offering their own sufferings for the Holy Father's recovery.

Heads of State and other high officials of various governments are writing their messages to those of the faithful in the paper daily.

Sahara Desert Bishop Seeks Aid

Paris — (RNS) — A Roman Catholic bishop whose diocese embraces the Sahara Desert is touring France to raise money for missions among the nomad tribes.

Bishop George Mercier, Vicar Apostolic of Ghardaia, runs 16 schools, 10 workshops, five training centers, 11 homemaker schools, eight hospitals and 13 dispensaries in his huge Vicariate, which is twice the size of Texas. He is known as the Bishop of the Sahara.

His flock includes some 300 desert nomad shepherds and 700,000 date growers in the oases.

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