

Sick, Shut-ins Hear Radio Message From Ailing Pope

Vatican City — (NC) — From his own sickroom an ailing Pope urged the sick of the world to offer their sufferings "according to all the intentions for which Christ continually immolates himself on altars."

His Holiness Pope Pius XII, who had been ill three weeks, recorded from his bedside the first 500 words of a radio address and the concluding blessing to the sick on the occasion of the Diocese of Rome's Marian Year Day for the Sick. His voice, though revealing noticeably the extent of his weakness, was clearly recognizable.

HE LEFT HIS sickroom Sunday to attend Mass in an adjoining private chapel.

After the Pope's personal introduction, Father Francesco Folli, Italian Vatican radio speaker, read the rest of the Pope's message, which was transmitted by Vatican Radio, Italian Radio and on several short wave lengths to the world Sunday evening.

His Holiness reminded the sick and shut-ins that although the whole universe for them was delimited by the gloomy lines of their small rooms, under the light of faith the room can conquer its unbounded dimensions. "Faith certainly will not make you love suffering for its own sake," he said, "but it will make you understand for how many noble ends one can serenely accept and even desire illness."

"Your suffering, united with that of Jesus, will bring many sinners to their Father; many in debt will find true faith; many weak Christians will have strength to live fully the doctrine and law of Christ."

CALLING THE sick "precious jewels" and "strong founts of spiritual energy," the Pope told them that "The Year of Christ counts on you to obtain in this blessed year the many and urgent fruits proposed by Our small encyclical 'Fulgens Corona' for the salvation of humanity and for the Church herself."

Pope Pius XII told his radio audience that he could see many of his sick suffering in their beds of pain — the young, the old, the married, the single and the widowed. To the impatient and the impatient, he recalled Christ, the Great and the Good, who said: "Blessed be those who are persecuted for my sake."

"What evil did he ever do? What evil did she do? And so, tortured soul, oppressed by trouble, listen: Jesus and His Mother suffered certainly not through their own fault, but voluntarily and in full conformity with divine justice. Have you ever wondered why?"

The Pontiff reminded the sick that they had probably sinned at times thereby meriting eternal punishment and yet they were still living. Even if Christ were punishing them for their faults, he said, they should not rebel for they are not slaves being punished by a cruel master but children being corrected by a loving Father.

His Holiness also called the attention of the sick and suffering to the thousands of wonderful souls who have accepted and even desired suffering so that they thereby might join in Christ's sufferings for sinners.

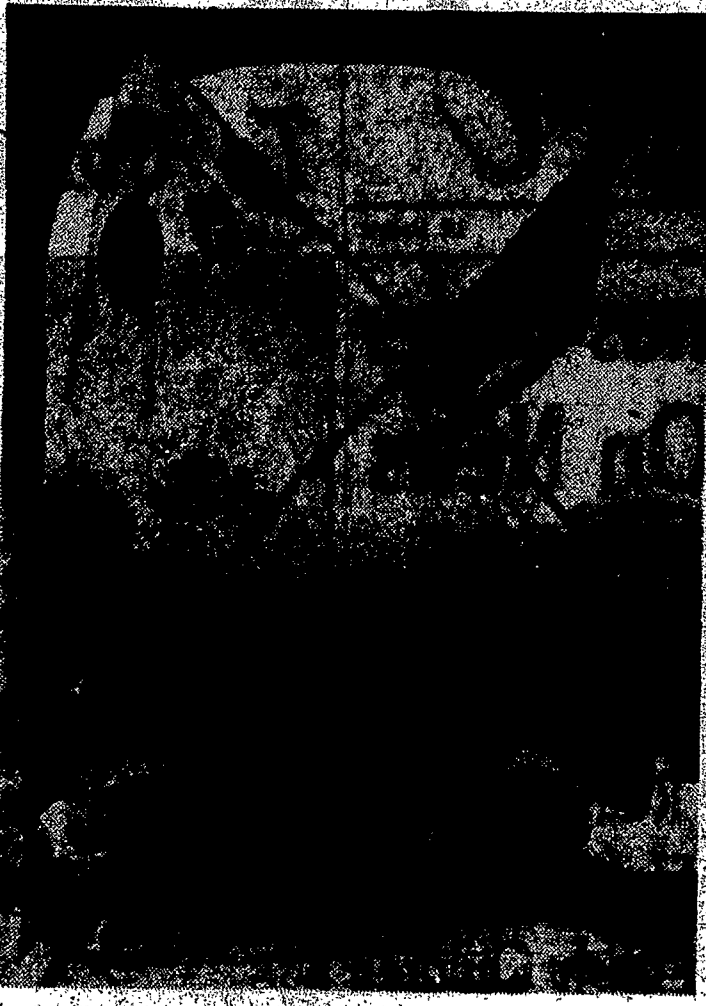
The message, usually given by the Pope each year at this time, made no reference to the Pope's own illness though some hearers noted in his voice what seemed to be a deep sympathy with the world's sick such as only the sick can give. Last year the Pope was ill with bronchitis and unable to make the broadcast.

Protestant Dilemma

Want Religion Back In Public Schools But Uncertain How It Can Be Done

Cincinnati — (NC) — U.S. Protestant leaders are in a quandary. They are concerned deeply about the disastrous results of divorcing religion from public education, but they are uncertain how religion can be restored to the public schools.

This became apparent at the meeting of officials of the division of Christian education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. here, at which speakers stressed the importance of teaching at least the "basic concepts" of religion in public schools.



Seoul, Korea—President Syngman Rhee of South Korea shown at ceremonies outside the Immaculate Conception Cathedral here during which clothing, food and medical supplies given by American Catholics were distributed. President Rhee expressed the thanks of his government and people for the generosity of Catholics in America who aided in the relief drive. With Dr. Rhee are his wife, Bishop Paul M. Re, Vicar Apostolic of Seoul, and Father George M. Carroll, M.M., Apostolic Administrator of Pyongyang and representative of War Relief Services National Catholic Welfare Conference in Korea.

THE QUANDARY in which Protestant leaders find themselves was illustrated in two addresses at the convention.

Alton Motter of New York, publications executive of the World Council of Churches, declared: "Our founding fathers did not mean to insist upon separation of church and state, but rather sectarianism and state. They certainly were not aiming at the separation of religion and education."

Then A. L. Robert of Chicago, general director of the National Council of Churches' commission on general Christian education, told the delegates: "While we want separation of church and state, we must avoid becoming a nation of religious illiterates."

Directory Lists Catholic Gains In Australia

Sydney, Australia — (NC) — Catholics in Australia and New Zealand now number 1,784,707, or 20.534 more than in 1952, when the total was 1,753,754, according to the Australasian Catholic directory for 1954. The total population of the two countries is estimated at over 11,000,000.

The directory revealed that during 1953 Catholic churches in Australia increased by 30 to a total of 2,429, while those in New Zealand increased to 475, a gain of four. Meanwhile parishes in Australia rose from 993 to 1,029, a gain of 36, and those in New Zealand increased from 218 to 221.

CATHOLICS in Australia and New Zealand are now served by 3,386 priests, or 32 more than the total in 1952. A breakdown showed 2,197 diocesan clergy and 1,189 regular clergy.

The number of Brothers in the two countries increased by 110 to 1,782, while nuns now total 14,000, or 311 more than in 1952. Enrollment in the Catholic schools of both countries rose from 295,139 in 1952 to 325,145 in 1953, an increase of 29,006.

According to the directory, Australia and New Zealand have 77 Catholic hospitals, 92 Catholic charitable institutions, and 62 Catholic orphanages. It disclosed that 84 chaplains are working among new settlers in Australia. The nationalities of the chaplains include Dutch, Italian, Polish, Lithuanian, Hungarian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Estonian, Dalmatian, Croatian, Slovenian and German.

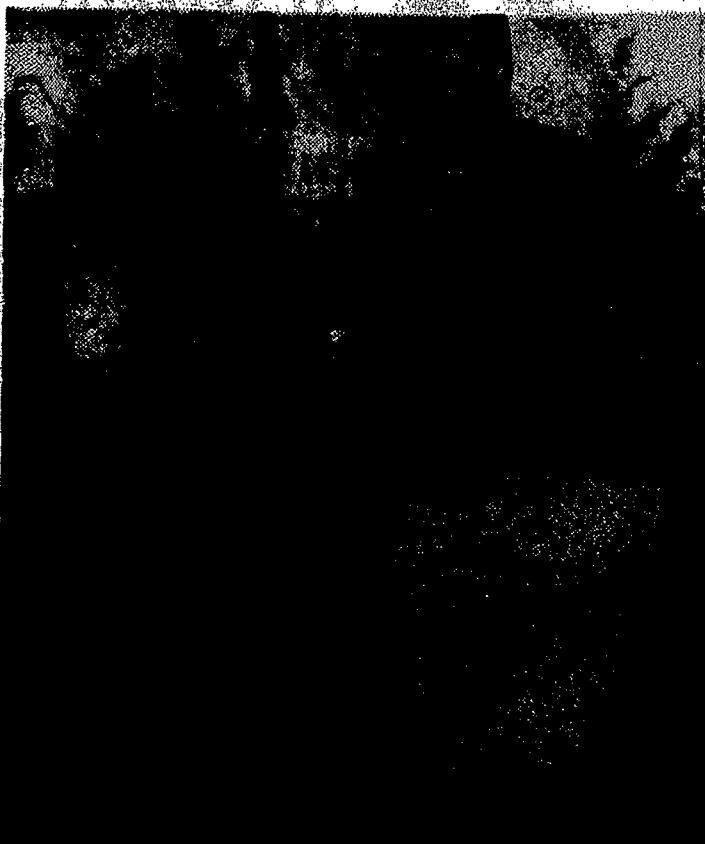
British Colonel Joins Trappists

London — (NC) — A middle-aged British Army colonel with the medical services has become a novice at the Claretian Abbey on Caldey Island, off South Wales.

He is Colonel John O'Donnell, an Irishman from County Tipperary, who was former Assistant Director of Medical Services to the British Seventh Armored Division—the "Desert Rats" who fought Rommel in North Africa.

When he retired last October after 19 years of soldiering, Colonel O'Donnell was A.D.M.S. to the Third Division in the Middle East. He intends to go on for the priesthood.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN HONORED



Washington, D.C.—Chaplain Paul J. Kavanagh of Marine, 1st Marine Division, who died in a North Korean prison camp in May 1951, was awarded posthumously the first "Four Chaplains Award" of the Reserve Officers Association in a ceremony at National Memorial Park in nearby Falls Church, Va. Major Gen. Ivan L. Bannett, Chief of Army Chaplains (left), is shown presenting the citation to an Army officer who accepted it on behalf of Father Kavanagh's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Kavanagh of Marine. The presentation was made at the post's Four Chaplains Memorial dedicated to the four Army chaplains who died together in the sinking of the transport ship Dorchester off the North Atlantic during World War II. Father Kavanagh was cited as the chaplain "who best exemplified the spirit of the United States armed forces chaplains in serving God and their fellowmen." (RNS Photo).

Anti-Red Chinese PW's Lauded For Religious Role

By FATHER PATRICK O'CONNOR

Seoul, Korea — (NC) — Chinese Catholic prisoners of war maintained constant adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during daylight hours in one of their chapels, Father Thomas Ivo O'Sullivan, O.F.M., said here. He was their chaplain in U.N. prison camps for nearly two years.

About 280 of the 14,700 anti-Communist Chinese prisoners recently liberated were practicing Catholics, he said. More than half of these became Catholics in the U.N. prison compounds.

ABOUT 90 per cent of them received Holy Communion at least once a month, and 57 per cent received weekly, he reported. "They said morning and night prayers and the rosary in

Bp. Lucey Hits Plan For Migrant Labor

Washington — (NC) — The House Agriculture Committee announced it had received a telegram from Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio, expressing opposition to proposed legislation authorizing employment of Mexican farm workers in this country.

The prelate, who is executive chairman of the Bishops' Committee for the Spanish Speaking, said that such legislation would provide for the entry into this country of Mexican nationals at a time when many Americans are out of work.

OPPOSITION ALSO was expressed to the measure by Walter J. Mason, member of the American Federation of Labor national legislative committee. He recommended that the Mexican and U.S. governments resume negotiations for a labor agreement. He urged that the proposed agreement establish safeguards to protect American workers, guaranteeing them the same working conditions provided for Mexican nationals.

A few months ago, a U.S.-Mexican agreement for the employment program has been put in effect by the U.S. through which Mexicans upon reaching the American side of the border are registered for the farm work. As a result of the interim program, the Mexican government has shut down its borders to farm workers.

At the time the interim program was put into operation, Archbishop Lucey in a statement to the N.C.W.C. News Service criticized it as unfair to American farm workers.

The House Committee has completed its hearings on the proposed legislation.

St. John's Starts 100-Acre Campus

Brooklyn, N.Y. — (NC) — Ground breaking ceremonies marked the first step in a two-million-dollar building project for St. John's University.

The ground was broken at the university's new 100-acre campus, the former Hillview Golf Club at Jamaica, Long Island, for the building of St. John's College. The college building will be the first of 13 units to be constructed by the university.

WE'LL WORK TOGETHER



This scene in India is how being respected in Vienna, a little town in Greece, where you live there 24 hours a day. These "humble" people, built in 1944, in far too small and in too poor a place. The people above, the poor parishioners, have little to offer their priest but their labor. They give without recompense, but they must buy materials. Food as they are, they gathered funds for enough materials for a start. They will need \$1,500 more to finish. Won't you help? With your help and their labor, we'll do it better. For \$1,500. The altar will cost \$15, the Stations \$35, confessional \$25.

SISTER BLANCHE will bless you forever if you'll help in her present predicament. Her poor parents haven't the means to help with the yearly cost (\$150) of her two years training with the Rosary Sisters in Jerusalem. Won't you help her in any payment. Her prayers at the Holy Shrine will be endless.

YOU ARE THERE Yes, when you see our special Holy Land film (15mm sound), you are actually in the most sacred Shrine of Christianity. It's the only film ever permitted taken in some of the Shrines. Rentals \$5 and sales \$15 help the homeless exiles from Palestine. This is just right for your program for Lent.

YOUR WILL MAY BE GOD'S WAY OF HELPING HIS LABORERS. IRAQ HAS FEW CATHOLICS. That's why Babylonia's location is so precious. This year let just begin his six years of training in the Chaldean Seminary in Mosul. We need \$100 yearly for his living. Won't you share his poverty to this extent in any payments? Your share in his future labors will be your glory.

REFUGE OF SINNERS Mary has no more comforting title for us, poor sinners. How many hearts hardened by long years of sin will be moved to penance at Her new FATIMA SHRINE in Jordan. Would you like to have part in these miracles of grace by providing one of the confessionals, costing \$80? Mary still waits for those miles needed to complete the shrine. Did She get yours yet?

MONSIGNOR KIRK has the tremendous burden of supporting hundreds of poor priests exiled from Romania. He found refuge for many in Spain but has no way of supporting them except by your Mass offerings. Won't you kindly remember them?

GOD'S NOBLEMAN In the front ranks of God's nobility are His poor. The noblest of all are those who have embraced poverty to help His poor. FR. LEO POGGI has been among the poorest on earth. He has taken orphans in the most desolate parts of Egypt. Now his orphans are so many he must add more rooms. Won't you send him a mite? He needs \$5 for a new outfit. \$10 keeps a lad a month.

PENANCE WITH A PURPOSE Have you decided what self-denial you'll practice this Lent? Why not direct it toward a wonderful apostolate? Offer what you would have spent for extra smokes or other pleasures to our heroic Lay Missionaries in Jordan. These young women are making history with their projects of social uplift and their remarkable charity to these humble people. They're most worthy.

We must think about those EASTER FOOD PACKS for our poor refugee families from Palestine. We can still send a ROSARY OF OLIVE SEEDS from the Holy Land for each \$10 gift.

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