

Catholic Population Grows In Japan

Tokyo—(NC)—Catholics in Japan today number 212,921, according to the official statistics published here by the Apostolic Internunciature.

The figure for 1954 was 197,296. But it must be noted that the Catholics in Amami Oshima (2,730) who were formerly entered with the statistics for Okinawa are included for the first time in the statistics for Japan. Without counting the Amami Oshima Catholics, the number of Catholics in Japan proper shows an increase of 48 per cent as compared with the 1950 figure which was only 141,638.

CATECHUMENS STILL under instruction number 17,019 as compared with 24,863 in 1954. This decrease, however, is only apparent.

Japan Lists 207 Catholic Schools

Tokyo—(NC)—Catholic schools in Japan numbered 207 on May 1, according to a report just issued by the Education Department of the National Catholic Committee. This represents an increase of 14 per cent as compared with the figure for May 1, 1953.

Included in the 1955 total are two graduate schools, six universities with the full four year college course, 13 junior colleges, 69 high schools, 73 middle schools and 44 elementary schools. The new schools established during the past two years include four junior colleges, three high schools, seven middle schools and 10 elementary schools.

Total enrollment in these schools is 66,335 compared with 57,083 in 1953 and 45,145 in 1951, an increase of 47 per cent in four years.

A new regulation was drawn up by the hierarchy in the spring of 1955 according to which only those are to be regarded as catechumens who have already completed the first part of the catechism and are attending Mass regularly.

Persons baptized during the course of the year included 10,945 adult converts, 6,115 children of Christians and 2,522 persons baptized in danger of death making a grand total of 19,582.

Friests in Japan now number 1,231. Included in this number are 279 Japanese priests (220 secular and 59 religious) along with 947 foreign priests belonging to various missionary societies and seven foreign secular priests who are incardinated in the various dioceses.

MAJOR SEMINARIANS now number 477 including 93 foreign scholars, 222 Japanese students for the secular priesthood, 131 seminarians and 31 clerical novices belonging to various religious communities. Minor seminarians for the secular priesthood number 216, while 154 boys are studying in the minor seminaries of various religious communities.

Hospital Chaplain Former Employee

Jowa City, Ia.—(NC) Father Paul Budreau, among other newly assigned duties here, has been given the spiritual care of people at the University Hospitals—and he's no stranger at the institutions.

He will minister to staff members and patients in the large General Hospital, Children's Hospital, Psychopathic Hospital, the Hospital School for Severely Handicapped Children, and Oakdale Sanitarium.

Before he began his studies for the priesthood, Father Budreau was employed by University Hospitals as an ambulance driver.

Mountain Missioner Wants Helicopter

San Mateo, Guatemala—(NC)—With a helicopter, missionaries to the Mayan Indians report they could visit more mission stations in a week than they now can in a year.

Father Joseph J. Richert, a Maryknoller of Brooklyn, said he is looking forward to the day missionaries use helicopters. After 12 years in the mission of Central America, he stated a "twirly bird" is just what they need to serve the thousands of Mayan Indians living in the practically inaccessible areas of the Cuchumatanes Mountains.

There is one trip that now takes 13 grueling hours on horseback up and down steep hills, and around dangerous cliffs.

"With a helicopter the same trip would take five minutes," he said, "and there would be plenty of room for supplies and a Mass kit."

U.S. Greek Rite Bishop Appointed

Vatican City—(NC)—Pope Plus XII has named the Most Rev. Nicholas T. Elk to be Bishop (Apostolic Exarch) of the Greek Rite Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Bishop Elk has been serving as Apostolic Administrator of the Greek Rite Diocese of Pittsburgh, which embraces all Greek Rite Catholics of Russian, Hungarian (Magyar) and Croatian nationalities in the United States.

Named Titular-Bishop of Apollonia following his appointment as Apostolic Administrator. Bishop Elk was solemnly consecrated in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, March 6, 1955. A native of Pennsylvania, he thus became the first American-born priest to be consecrated a Greek Rite Bishop.

Japanese Named Catholic Layman



Honolulu, T.H.—Masahide Kanayama, Japanese Consul-General here (right), who was named outstanding Catholic layman of the year in Hawaii, receives an ivory statuette from the Rev. Charles A. Kekummano, chancellor of the Honolulu diocese. Looking in is Mrs. Kanayama. The consul-general, who was decorated by Pope Plus XII in 1945, has 10 children, all devout Catholics. He was a member of the Japanese legation in Vatican City for 11 years. Father Kekummano said Mr. Kanayama is an "exemplary Catholic in public and private life and a force of good in the community." (RNS Photo)

Dallas Jesuit High School Admits Negro Students

Dallas, Tex.—(NC)—Registrations of two Negro students have been accepted at Jesuit High School, here, marking the first time in the school's 42-year-old history that Negroes have been admitted as students. It also marked the first United States and its Supreme Court that Negro students had Court.

The new college was erected by the Diocese of Wheeling at a cost of more than \$2,000,000 and will be owned and operated by the Jesuit Fathers of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus. The first president of Wheeling College is Father Lawrence R. McHugh, S.J., formerly Dean of Admissions at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.

Father Shields stated that the two Negro students are graduates of Dallas Catholic elementary schools. One was registered for the tenth grade, the other for the eleventh grade.

FATHER SHIELDS revealed that registration at the school now is about completed and some 500 students are expected for the 1955-56 term.

The school president said he had received only two telephone calls concerning the registration of the Negro students. One was from an alumnus who complimented Father Shields on the school's action. The other was from the mother of a white student. She made a bitter complaint and is committed to thorough adherence to the government of the Negroes, Father Shields said.

Jesuit College Opens In West Virginia

Wheeling, W. Va.—(NC)—Wheeling College, the newest Jesuit college, will commence classes, September 13, to inaugurate its first academic year.

Approximately 85 freshmen students will report on September 11.

The new college was erected by the Diocese of Wheeling at a cost of more than \$2,000,000 and will be owned and operated by the Jesuit Fathers of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus. The first president of Wheeling College is Father Lawrence R. McHugh, S.J., formerly Dean of Admissions at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.

Death Claims Freemason, Civic Official Who Jailed 3 Fatima Children In 1917

Labon, Portugal—(NC)—Death has claimed the man who jailed and threatened the three children to whom Our Lady of Fatima appeared in 1917.

It has just been announced that Arturo de Oliveira dos Santos, former administrator of the district of Vila Nova do Ourem, died here at the age of 71.

Senhor Santos had always maintained close silence on the events at Fatima. It is not known whether he died reconciled with the Church.

Lucia, now a Carmelite nun, is the only survivor of the three children. Francisco died on April 4, 1919, and Jacinta on February 23, 1920.

IN A BRIEF summary of the Fatima story written for the Catholic Encyclopedia, Father Cyril C. Martindale, S.J., of England, described the administrator of Ourem as a Freemason. The following is the account he gives of the imprisoning of Lucia and her two companions in an attempt to make them divulge the "secret" imparted to them by Our Lady:

"The young freemason administrator of the region ordered the children to be produced at Ourem, the headquarters of the district. Only Lucia went, but would reveal no secret. On August 13, he actually kidnapped all three, locked them up, and next day in a foul jail (where they soon had all the prisoners praying), fettered them out, and said he would fry them in oil if they would not reveal the secret.

JACINTA was taken first; the guard returned to say she was dead. Francisco followed. Finally Lucia was brought; she found the two alive. The children were then taken home.

"In compensation, the children saw the Lady on August 19 at Valinhos. She said the kidnapping would render the miracle (for which Lucia had begged) less certain."

U. S. Transported Gratis Moral Rearmament Group

(N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)

Letters of protest in newspapers around the country have questioned how the Government could have given even appearance of sponsoring the trip of 192 Moral Rearmament movement trouper who have just finished their play-giving junket.

The MRA players were transported most of the way by planes of the Military Air Transport Service in their tour of the Far and Middle East.

The Washington Daily News said in an article the group was picked up by the MATS in Manila from where it had sent messages to Washington saying it was "stranded."

THE NEWSPAPER said although the Army had turned down an earlier request from the group for transportation, the Air Force gave in to its appeal and supplied the planes. This was done at the charge ordinarily given Government personnel—a saving of some \$135,000 from the non-Government personnel rate, it was said.

Further, the paper commented, the planes not only rescued the MRA's, but carried them around the world with numerous stopovers ending at their international headquarters on the shores of Lake Geneva, Switzerland.

In a recent survey, important Church documents released in various parts of the world have shown priests and religious are forbidden to take part in the MRA meetings without special permission of the Holy See and that the Catholic laity is discouraged from active participation.

THE STUDY by the N.C.W.C. News Service reported the MRA says it is not a new religion, but it is out to change the world by spreading the idea of "four absolutes": absolute honesty, absolute purity, absolute unselfishness and absolute love.

The Government has been troubled over the MATS aid given to the touring group for several reasons, the basic one being that the play put on by them is reported to be giving democracy a bad name, the Washington paper maintained.

Entitled "The Vanishing Island," the play is given in Gilbert and Sullivan style and it is felt the characters representing the Americans and British are buffoons.

Seek Survey Of Catholics In Non-Catholic Colleges

Boulder, Colo.—(RNS)—New surveys to determine the number of Catholic students attending non-Catholic colleges and universities and the facilities available for their spiritual care were called for here by the Chaplains Association of the National Newman Club Federation.

The chaplains, who held meetings concurrently with the 41st annual convention of the Federation, urged that the surveys be undertaken immediately.

They also decided to publish a syllabus of studies in philosophy and religion for use by Catholic students at non-Catholic colleges.

Study standards for Newman Foundations at non-Catholic colleges and for the educational and spiritual programs to be conducted by such foundations will be drafted by the chaplains during the next year.

The chaplains urged, in addition, that studies in the spiritual care of foreign students attending non-Catholic colleges be made.

Ninety-three chaplains attended the meeting.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

New that school is open, the words of St. Paul to the Ephesians ring in our ears: "Put on the good from a good mind always, my dear children, with whom I am in labor again until Christ is formed in you." The father of Hermopolis in Greece is in labor trying to form Christ in his children. Diabolical forces are working against him. His strength, however, comes from the words of the Holy Father: "We need young people everywhere with integral faith; young people who, in studying or working, in speaking, praying, and suffering have in their hearts—as a flame within—consuming love for Jesus, love for souls." The little CHAPEL-SCHOOL in Hermopolis was bombed. To repair it, the extremely poor parishioners have given their all—\$500; but \$2,000 more are needed. Here is a monument more lasting than bronze. Could you donate this CHAPEL-SCHOOL in memory of a loved one? The names will be engraved on the stone on the wall—but on the grateful hearts for all eternity.

KEEP ME, AS THE APPLE OF THY EYE. PROTECT ME UNDER THE SHADOW OF THY WINGS.

THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD
We all love the land of our birth. We all cherish the scenes of our childhood. Don't you think that Our Blessed Lord too must have a soft spot in His Heart for Bethlehem and Nazareth? Can't you see Him visiting and looking over the old familiar places? How natural this would be. If He came back to earth again—Pitoeer so sacred to His earthly life; so sacred to those who are walking in His footsteps. The PONTIFICAL MISSION FOR PALESTINE is striving to take care of the homeland of Christ and His Blessed Mother. Christ once wept over Jerusalem. Could you afford a dollar for His poor of Palestine? **FATHER KENNEDY NEEDS YOU!**

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PRAYERS ALWAYS ANSWERED
"I would like to help a seminarian who needs help. For more than 20 years my sisters and I prayed for someone to receive the Sacraments and finally this year our prayers were answered." **ANTHONY** at St. Paul's Seminary in Lebanon needs help. Will you educate him for six years at a total of \$600 or \$100 each year? **GEORGE** at the Maronite Seminary of Mar-Abdis needs \$400 for his four-year course or \$100 annually.

BE THE MOTHER OR THE FATHER OF A SON OR DAUGHTER-IN-CHRIST.

"The helps you give are of immense value to us and they adorn one more poor girl to be the spouse of our Heavenly King. Be sure this little spouse and our congregation will ever be praying for you and your intentions." **BE NEEDED—THE SORROWFUL MOTHER**, September 15th, will you adopt **SISTER FABIOLA** or **SISTER EMILDA** of the Adoration Sisters in India? Both these novices need \$100 or \$150 a year for their two-year's training.

IS GOD IN YOUR WILL? THIS IS THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE NEAR EAST.

ANY SORROW LIKE MY SORROW?
September 14th is the feast of the EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS closely linked with the Finding of the Holy Cross and Calvary. Our Holy Father is carrying a heavy cross especially in the Near East, the land of the Cross. Who will be the Cyrenian to come forward and help him carry it? Every new brother sees the burden. Please help us to help the Holy Father. We might be cry out in the words of the Lamentation, "O all you that pass by the way, attend and see if there be any sorrow like to my sorrow."

ARRANGE NOW FOR GREGORIAN MASSES AFTER DEATH. ASK ABOUT THE SUSPENSE CARD.

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