

## Excommunication Raps Race Violators

Erath, La. — (RNS) — Bishop Jules B. Jeanmard of Lafayette, La., issued a decree of excommunication against any Roman Catholics who "directly and actively participated" in the assault on a lay catechism teacher of Our Lady of Lourdes church here. The teacher had instructed Negro and white children in the same classroom.



BISHOP JEANMARD

He also threatened other church members with automatic excommunication if there are any more signs of violence or interference with the running of the church.

The excommunication decree, read at Our Lady of Lourdes, did not include the names of the persons excommunicated. But Bishop Jeanmard said later it was directed at the attackers of the assault victim, Mrs. Lila B. Ormond.

MRS. ORMOND filed charges of assault and battery against Mrs. Etta B. Romero and Mrs. Lotar B. Menard, both of Erath. She charged that these women were among three who attacked her in the Our Lady of Lourdes churchyard recently as she was on her way to the rosary.

In the decree, the bishop warned that if there are any further acts of violence in the Our Lady of Lourdes parish the church will be closed.

The decree was posted on the front door of the church and read at all Sunday Masses by Msgr. Paul M. Fusilier, dean of the Abbeville Deanery, in which the church is located.

Bishop Jeanmard said the excommunication decree would remain in effect until those excommunicated "have repaired the scandal they caused the Church."

THE REV. EMERY Labbe is administrator of Our Lady of Lourdes. When he was appointed to that post several months ago because of the poor health and age of the pastor, the Rev. Justin Mirat, he continued the latter's policy of having the catechism taught to white and Negro children in the same classrooms.

Father Labbe said his life had been threatened following the announcement of the excommunication decree. He said a college student was acting as his bodyguard.

The catechism classes were halted Nov. 14 after Father

## Priest Plans Colony In South Carolina

Rome — (NC) — Seventy-five Italian farm families will colonize in the South Carolina parish of Father Maurice Shean when plans of "The York County Farm Produce Company" fully materialize. It has been announced here in the office of the Catholic Relief Services of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The York County Farm Produce Company is a corporation organized for the purpose of selling stock in an idea that was born of unbalance—unbalance between land without people and people without land. Father Shean, a New Yorker of the Oratorian Fathers, went to Rock Hill, S. C., and found thousands of acres of deserted farmlands in his parish.

HE KNEW THAT in Italy—where there are nearly 48 million in an area less than the size of the State of California—there were many people without land, expellees from Africa, Albania and Greece, the human drift of the wreckage of war and floods. He struck upon the colonization idea as one that would solve many problems: It would repopulate his sparsely settled parish, reclaim the unused, overworked land, and help everyone concerned in many ways.

Father Shean, who is president of the York County Company, has already received the cooperation of many Protestants in his parish, including the enthusiastic support of a Methodist minister. He hopes the plan will "simultaneously improve the economic, social, and spiritual outlook for both native and Italian rural families."

## Japan Honors Native Nun

Tokyo — (NC) — A special medal and a citation "for meritorious service" have been granted by the Japanese Government to Sister Monica Hirate of the Salesian Sisters' community here. Sister Monica was the first Japanese to pronounce her vows as a member of this community which she joined 20 years ago.

## Prison Tortures Still Haunt China Bishop

Rome — (NC) — Some 5,000 miles from the scenes of his torture, a Bishop expelled by the Chinese Reds is still haunted by nightmares in which he suffers communist torments. He will hear the voices that he heard night after night in his prison cell.

THE PRELATE, Bishop Carlo Ferroni, O.F.M., of Lachokow, still anxiously inquires for Italian-born Father Robert Guerra, also a Franciscan, who was imprisoned with him and is still in a communist jail.

Bishop Ferroni is back in his homeland to recuperate from three and a half years in communist jails. He was arrested on February 27, 1952, while offering 6 a.m. Mass in his cathedral. The leader of the Red police, a giant of a man whom the Bishop had seen many times, shoved the Bishop roughly against a wall. Without giving him time to take off his vestments, he ordered him bound and taken to a room in his episcopal residence. While there he saw that the police were also handcuffing the two Italian and Chinese priests who worked with him.

FOR A YEAR, the five were confined to the episcopal residence and then the Bishop was transferred to Wu-Chang where a "trial" was held. He was condemned to seven years in prison for "espionage and reactionary propaganda." When his physical condition grew worse he was assigned to a hospital.

He learned on September 1 of this year, the day he left the hospital, that he was to be ex-



Rome—Bishop Alfonso Maria Corrado Ferroni, O.F.M., of Lachokow, Hupeh Province, recently released by the Chinese Communists after being imprisoned since February, 1951, is visited by the Rev. Valerio Bardelli, O.F.M., Franciscan Provincial. The 63-year-old Italian Bishop, who was weak from hunger and had treatment when freed, is recuperating in a Rome clinic. The prelate, who normally weighed 150 pounds, lost 80 pounds in jail. He still weighs less than 90. (RNS Photo)

pelled from Red China. Too sick to walk, he was carried across the border at Hong Kong and rushed to St. Teresa's Hospital where he remained for nearly two months. Bishop Ferroni is still confined to a clinic here.

## 'Meanest Horse' Makes Nun Walk

Jowal, North Inds — (NC) — Missionaries are used to hardships, but a bawdy horse can make life truly pugatorial.

ESPECIALLY one Irish Sister, who probably will always remember one particular horse as the meanest animal on earth.

There were no roads at all here when this Sister first came here. A horse was assigned to her, but he had his own ideas about traveling with certain passengers. He had no objection to galloping with priests, but he plainly wanted to have nothing to do with

Sisters. The Irish Sister's first trip with the horse was to a village 40 miles away. Trying to coax him into a friendly mood, she cheerfully led him along the path the first few feet of the way. The horse walked at a steady pace. However, when she tried to ride him, he stood perfectly still and refused to budge.

BECAUSE OF the horse's stubbornness, the Sister had to walk the entire 40 miles. In addition, she had to tug the horse along after her. To make matters even worse, rain fell

during most of the trip. Another Sister had a horse who also thought that nuns belong nowhere else but on the ground. As soon as she climbed on his back, he would bend down, lower his head, and shake himself until the Sister slid off.

Fortunately, not all the horses have an aversion to nun-riders. Otherwise the Sisters, who conduct an orphanage, a school and a dispensary here, would long ago have had to give up their visits to the distant villages.

## Place For Private, Public Schools In U.S., Says Nixon

Washington — (NC) — Vice President Nixon said here there is a place and a need for both public and private educational facilities in our national life and we cannot afford the luxury of weakening either one or the other.

This statement was part of the Vice President's greetings to the White House Conference on Education held here in the Sheraton-Park Hotel with some 2,000 educators and non-professional persons taking part in a six-point discussion of the nation's school programs.

POINTING OUT the "desperate need" of paying teachers in public and private schools a sufficient salary, Mr. Nixon said the problem is "so great we must tap all of our nation's resources to meet it."

"Might I suggest . . . that instead of engaging in unproductive controversy over the relative merits of private and public school education that we should substitute helpful cooperation between the two systems for unhealthy competition," the Vice President declared.

Dealing with one of the questions discussed at the Conference—what should our schools accomplish?—Mr. Nixon said a great need exists for more scientists, but it would be a "mistake" to emphasize this training to neglect of the humanities.

It would be an error, he continued, because what young Americans learn in the nation's schools also determines "the quality of the statesmen whose function it is to keep the peace, the character of our religious and social leaders who help to set the moral and spiritual standards of the nation, the social consciousness of the employers and labor leaders who are building the exciting new capitalism in which all Americans are becoming partners, and in general the level of intelligence and social responsibility of the millions of Americans who must make the decisions at the polls which will determine the nation's future."

## Businessmen Hear Pope On Social Needs

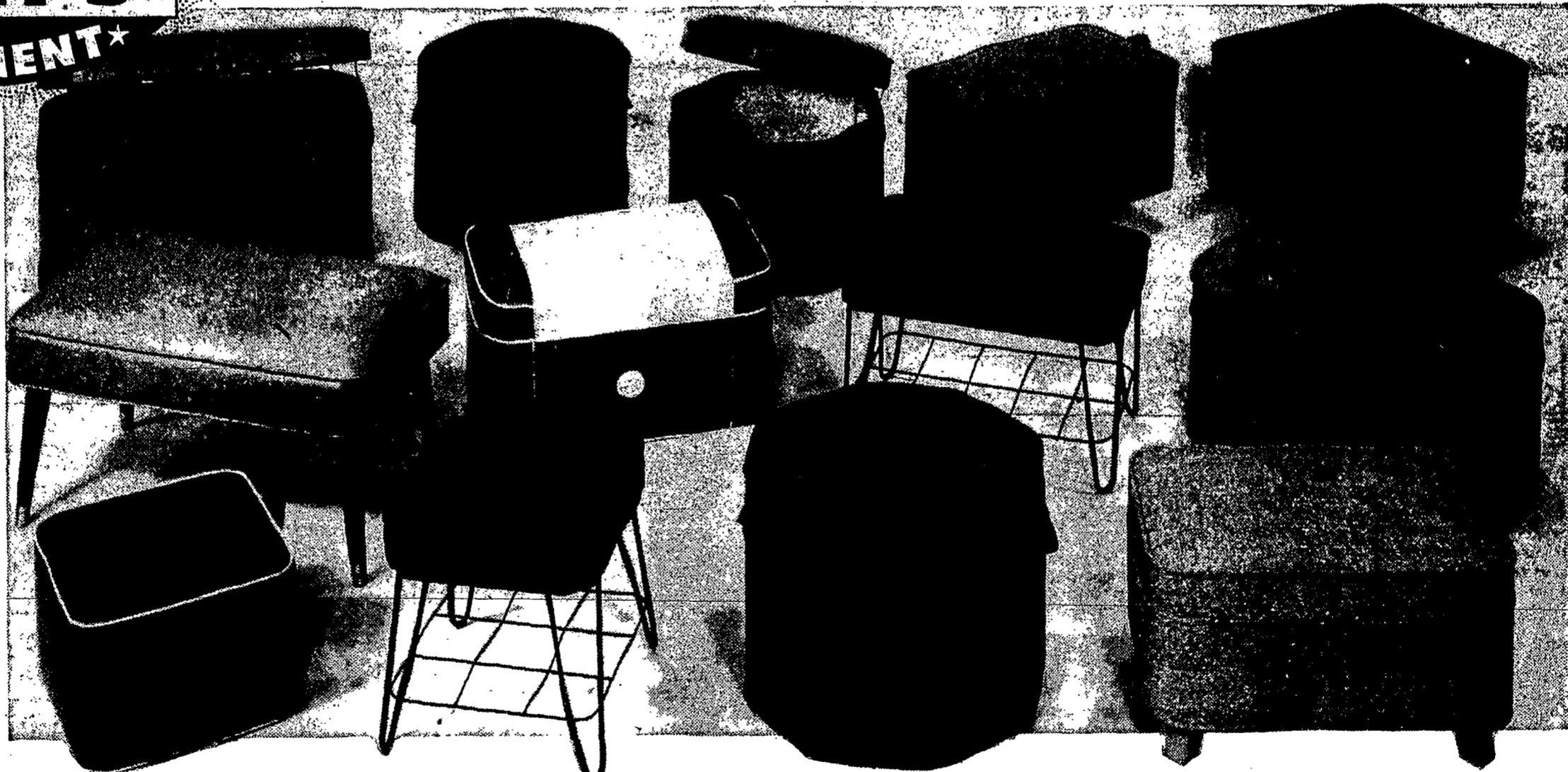
Vatican City — (NC) — Businessmen must make ever greater contributions to "the solution of the social problems" which continue to keep large masses of the people in anxiety, Pope Pius XII told an audience that included thousands of members of the Italian Association of Business Managers.

"You are called upon," the Pontiff told the businessmen, "to help contain clashes among opposing social classes." He urged "sincere and dynamic cooperation among all the creative forces of the nation for the common good."

THE CHURCH'S social teachings, he said, must be recognized as "truly capable of destroying the roots which feed hatred and nourish class conflict."

Because they are genuine workers themselves, the Pope said, business managers are not in danger of being led to defend unjust actions against humbler workers. "You are in an ideal position to contribute effectively toward installing that . . . cooperation among social classes which is so much desired by all honest persons," the Holy Father concluded.

Papal Audiences — Pope Pius XII gave 30 general audiences which were attended by about 200,000 during his four months' stay at Castel Gandolfo, the Papal summer residence.



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