

### Father Sweeney Returns To Lepet Apostolate

## Ousted From Red China, Missioner And Doctor Team Up Again In Korea

New Britain, Conn. — (NC) — If plans work out, an American missionary priest and a Filipino layman who spent nearly two decades side by side caring for leprosy in south China before being driven from that country by the Communists, may soon be back together again. This time they will be working in Korea.



REV. JOSEPH SWEENEY

The priest, Father Joseph A. Sweeney, R.M., a native of this city, is already there, at the St. Lazarus Leprosarium in the Diocese of Seoul. The layman, Dr. Artemio Bagalawis of Cavite, in the Philippines, expects to rejoin Father Sweeney as soon as arrangements can be made.

In 1934, the two first met. Father Sweeney was in charge of the Gate of Heaven Lepet Asylum in Kongmoon, south China. Dr. Bagalawis had just graduated from medical school in the Philippines and had volunteered for the missions. He was assigned to Father Sweeney's colony.

Five years later, Dr. Bagalawis's fiancée came on from the Philippines and the two were married in a little chapel just outside the Gate of Heaven settlement.

For 15 years Father Sweeney and Dr. Bagalawis worked together at the colony until 1952,

when the physician's health began to fail as a result of constant harassment by the Chinese Communists. Many times they forced him to operate with bayonets at his back, and threatened to kill him if the patient died. In 1952, he left for Hong Kong to join his wife and son, whom he had already sent out of the country for safety's sake. The Bagalawis

family later returned to the Philippines.

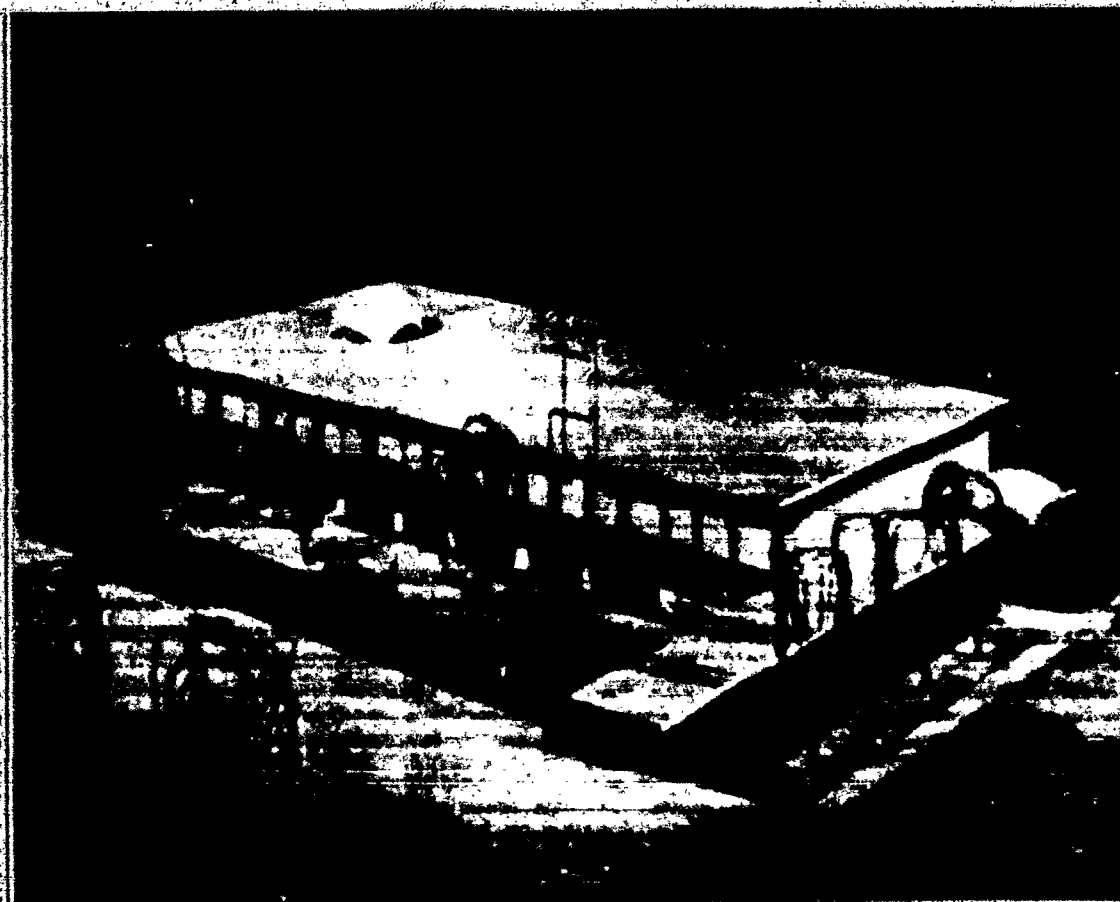
A YEAR LATER Father Sweeney and his fellow Maryknoller, Father Carroll J. Quinn of Baltimore, were expelled from China by the Communists. After his expulsion, Father Sweeney returned to the United States. He remained until last fall, when he went to Korea, where he had been stationed 50 years ago as a young missionary priest. In Korea there was an old friend on hand to welcome him back—Phil Kim, a layman who was Father Sweeney's man Friday in North Korea three decades ago.

At the present time there are some 200 patients packed into the tiny St. Lazarus Leprosarium in Seoul diocese. All are baptized. But facilities are inadequate. The buildings are overcrowded, with seven patients in rooms fit for two. The medical equipment is meager and the laboratory is only a name—an old Japanese microscope and a few bottles of stains.

Father Sweeney and Mr. Kim are living out the winter in a tiny storeroom which they have made livable with doors, windows and tarpaper. When Dr. Bagalawis arrives, he too will live in the storeroom. Father Sweeney hopes that a little later a house may be built so that the doctor's wife can come to Korea.

FATHER SWEENEY, a missionary in the Far East for 35 years, has received many honors for his work.

At 60 years of age, the veteran Maryknoller is starting all over again in Korea with virtually nothing. But he has done so before. His first colony in south China was wrecked by a typhoon before it was even completed. Doggedly, he rebuilt it. A few years later the Japanese army came along and destroyed it again. Once more it was rebuilt. And then the Communists drove Father Sweeney out.



### Church Wins Architectural Award

Meriville, La. — This sketch of the proposed Immaculate Conception Catholic Church here won an award (Religion Category) in the third annual Design Awards Program sponsored by Progressive Architecture, national magazine published in New York. The striking, modern building was designed by Curtis & Davis and Harrison Schouert of New Orleans, La. An unusual feature of the structure is the large glass wall permitting parishioners to view the church's enclosed garden. (RNS Photo.)

### University's Lab Gift Of Ball Club

Milwaukee, Wis. — (NC) — Marquette University's new electron microscope laboratory was dedicated to the memory of the late J. A. (Bob) Quinn, father of the general manager of the Milwaukee Braves baseball team, John J. Quinn. The laboratory houses a \$25,000 electron microscope, the first in Milwaukee, which will be used for research in cancer and other diseases. The microscope, purchased in England, was the gift of the Milwaukee Braves.

### Home Town Seeks To Buy Francis Thompson Script

Preston, England — (NC) — An appeal for £50 pounds sterling (\$2,500) has been launched in his native Preston to prevent an original manuscript by Francis Thompson, 19th century Catholic poet, from leaving England. The manuscript of "Sister Songs," one of his finer long poems, written in a 74-page school exercise book, and three letters by the poet have been offered by their present owner

## Sunday Business Faces Crackdown

Trenton, N. J. — (RNS) — Several bills introduced in the legislature here to strengthen a state law banning unnecessary Sunday sales were given impetus by a New Jersey State Supreme Court decision that the law is ineffective because it provides no penalty for violation.

One of them, filed by Sen. Kenneth C. Harsh (R-Union), would specify penalties for violation. It proposes to designate violators as disorderly persons and fine them \$10 for the first offense, \$20 for the second, \$100 for the third and 30 days in jail for subsequent offenses.

Two bills to strengthen the Sunday law were introduced in the Assembly by Hudson County Democrats Frederick H. Hauser and Maurice V. Brady. Mr. Hauser sponsored two bills permitting municipalities to ban business on Sunday except for gas stations and farmers' outlets. Mr. Brady's bill would grant the Superior Court power to restrain Sunday business.

In its decision, the State Supreme Court ruled 5 to 2 that a Bergen County court's conviction in a Sunday car-washing case was invalid. The county court had upheld a \$20 fine for Fair Lawn Service Center, Inc., imposed in Municipal Court because an employee washed a car on Sunday.

### LaCrosse Bishop Hits Sunday Sales

La Crosse, Wis. — (NC) — Sunday shopping is a pagan influence that tends to break down the moral life stemming from the teachings of Christianity, Bishop John F. Tracy of La Crosse, said in a pastoral letter.

Civic and religious groups in many parts of the United States have joined the campaign against Sunday shopping. Bishop Tracy, in his letter, urged his people to do their "buying during the week, and refrain from patronizing places of business on Sundays."

### Operators Face Fight In Houston

Houston, Tex. — (RNS) — An 1871 statute was resurrected here as the basis for complaints filed with the Harris County district attorney against two auto dealers who conducted business on Sunday.

The complaints were filed by Ralph Fowler, attorney for the Houston Automobile Dealers Assn. They charge that the two dealers permitted their companies to be open Sunday, Dec. 11, for the "purpose of traffic."

The complaints were the first filed here in the memory of veteran prosecutors. Asst. Dist. Atty. Tom White interpreted the statute as forbidding the operation of auto firms, groceries, driving and other establishments after 9 a.m. on Sundays.

### Sunday Text Case Looms In Ohio

Columbus, O. — (RNS) — Operators of two "bargain centers" which open Sundays awaited a hearing on their second arrest on charges of violating Ohio laws which prohibit Sunday sales. The two men were fined \$25 each on the first offense and are liable for five-to-thirty days in jail and \$50 to \$100 fines on the second.

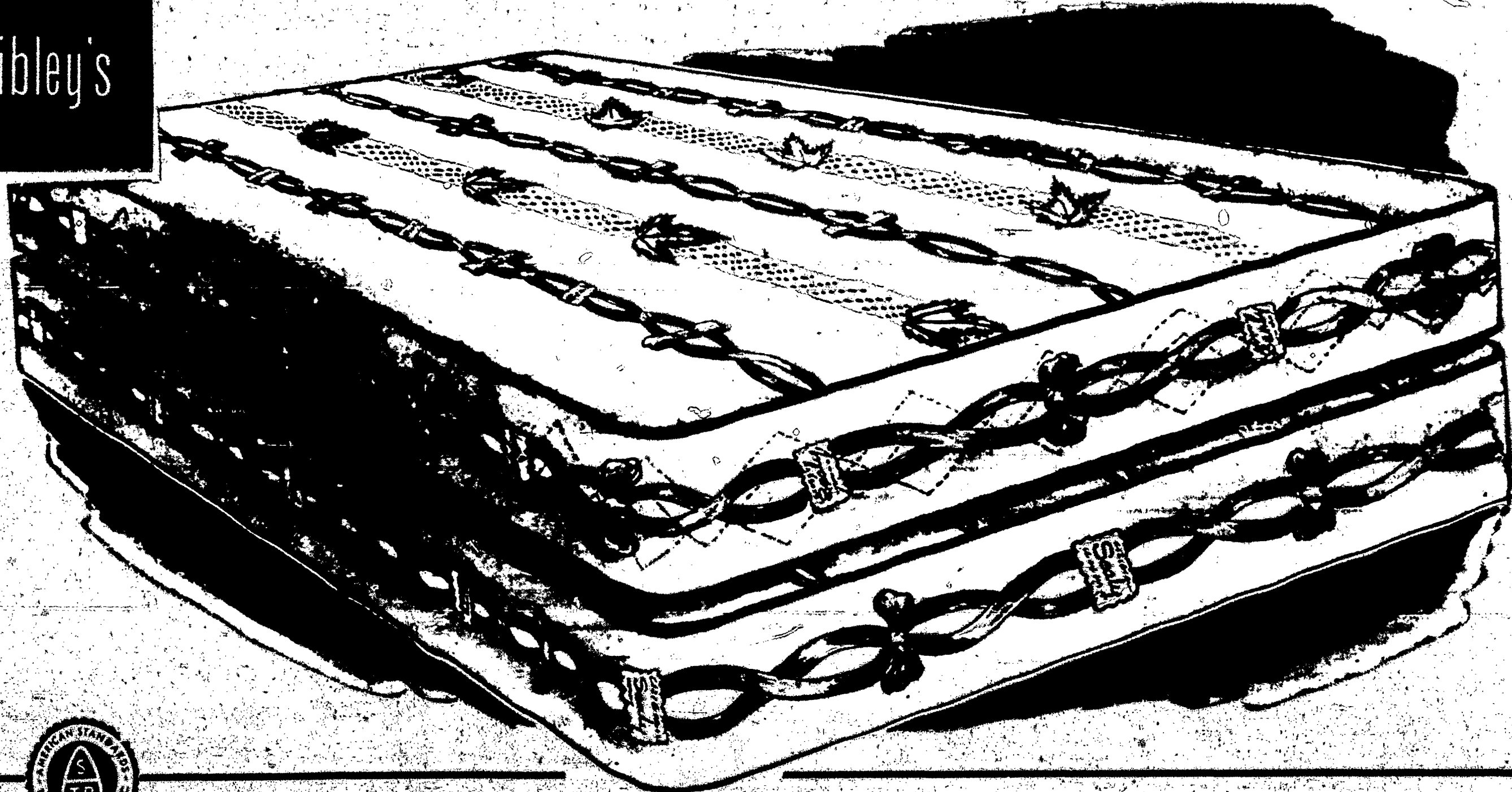
## Pacific Veterans Return To Japan As Missioners

Tokyo — (NC) — Two veterans of the war with Japan have returned to this country, but this time as missionaries of peace. They are Maryknoll missionaries, Father James V. O'Neill, of Omaha, and Father Robert R. Zahn, of Tacoma, Wash. Both priests served with the Army in the Asiatic Pacific Theater during World War II, and later served with the

Army of Occupation in Japan. After their discharge and return to the States, the two men entered Maryknoll Seminary to study for the priesthood. They were ordained in June, 1953, and assigned to the Maryknoll missions in Japan. Both men report they first received the idea of a mission vocation after seeing the work of missionaries during their service in Japan.

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