

COURIER-JOURNAL
Friday, February 3, 1934

Banker Gives Funds To Irish Parish
DUBLIN — (RNS) — John J. Dowling, St. Louis, Mo., banker and realtor, has made a gift of \$50,000 to the Irish parish where his father was born. Mr. Dowling is president of the bank. The money was donated to John J. Dowling Realty.

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Steelworker's Head of Christ
LACKAWANNA, N. Y. — (RNS) — Eighty-year-old Michael Diagono cleans his hands before a striking clay head of Christ done by the boy's father, a steelworker at a mill here. Louis Diagono, the sculptor, was critical of the work in Paris recently when he exhibited this work. The sculptor, whose schooling ended after the fifth grade, was sent abroad by the local Chamber of Commerce to improve a French critic's claim that there was nothing original in American art.

POAU Speaker
Protestants Climb 'Church-State Wall'
Washington — (NC) — POAU heard here, with an obvious lack of enthusiasm, that "Protestant innovations" in public school classrooms violate the separation of church and state.

Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State have held their eighth National Conference on Church and State here, and, like the preceding seven, it was given over in considerable part to attacks on the Catholic Church and Catholic schools.

However, Dr. Willard E. Golin, head of the Division of School Administration at the George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn., injected a new note in his address to the largest meeting of the conference.

Dr. Golin said he didn't want to say that religious education, worship services or Sunday-school attendance are bad practices, but he was concerned about whether they belonged in the public schools.

"The American child's rights are being invaded," he declared. "If religious instruction has carried on in the classroom, that is outside the limits of the public school. It should be kept out of the public school and out of the public mind. It should be remembered that most of the practices to which I am presently referring are Protestant innovations practiced in predominantly Protestant communities."

This attack at the heart of a young POAU which, namely that Catholics are constantly seeking to infiltrate the public schools with their religious teachings, and it was received with a noticeable silence by Dr. Golin's auditors.

Dr. Ford Hamaker, Vermont lawyer and anti-Catholic writer, answered a theatrical "gimmick" in his attack upon the Catholic Church. He what was admittedly a national account of a cross-section of Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, before a Congressional committee. Dr. Hamaker asked questions while the answers of "Cardinal Spellman" were read by a

Chicago minister hidden behind a curtain.

Dr. Hamaker also expressed some fear that Catholic schools might be the biggest beneficiaries if the so-called Gray Commission plan is put into operation of the State of Virginia. He outlined a procedure which the Catholic schools might adopt to get public funds, under the Gray Plan, but it was complicated and not easy to understand.

Claiming that POAU has saved the American taxpayers millions of dollars by its opposition to the Catholic Church and schools, Dr. Hamaker drew applause when he declared: "We hold the line against Catholics, and we have money." He promised to almost hold it against school funding opposition to effect to get voters benefits for children attending church-related schools.

Dr. Frederick H. Oert, minister of the Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va., also told the meeting that education cannot remain neutral or secular. He called for a union of Protestants to prevent the conversion of the United States by the Catholic Church. He said there would be no room for Protestants in this country if it were converted by the Catholics.

Dr. Charles Clayton Morrison, founder and editor emeritus of The Christian Century, was elected president of POAU at the final meeting of the conference.

Dr. John A. Mackay of Princeton, Theological Seminary and Methodist Bishop G. Stanley Ozman of this city were re-elected vice-presidents. Dr. Joseph M. Dawson of Austin, Texas, was elected vice-president. Dr. Frank H. Yost, editor of Liberty magazine, published by the Religious Liberty Association, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C., is recording secretary. Edward H. DeGroot, Jr. of this city is treasurer.

Accordion-Playing Priest Wins Peru Headhunters
LIMA — (RNS) — Ecuador's Catholic missionary priest, a 25-year-old man, has won the head of a Peruvian Indian tribe. The priest, who is an accomplished accordion player, has been chosen by the tribe as their new head. The tribe, which lives in a remote area of the Peruvian jungle, has been known for its headhunting practices. The priest's arrival was a great relief to the tribe, as they had been suffering from a lack of leadership. The priest has agreed to stay with the tribe for a period of time, and to help them with their religious and social needs.

German Auto Given To Holy Father
VATICAN CITY — (RNS) — The latest addition to the fleet of the Holy Father was a German-made automobile. The car, which is a luxury model, was given to the Pope by a German benefactor. The Pope is known for his love of automobiles, and he has a large collection of cars. This new car is expected to be used for the Pope's travels and for his official duties.

Paulist Choir Opens Annual Talent Bid
Chicago — (RNS) — The Rev. Eugene F. O'Malley, C.S.P., thumped a chord on the piano and a great Chicago tradition entered its 53rd year. He handed a songbook to the first boy in a line of 30 in the basement of the Paulist Fathers' Old St. Mary's Roman Catholic church and ordered: "Sing 'America.'"

THE MUSKY lad manfully waded into the tune. Father O'Malley promptly stopped playing.

"Do you like football, son?" the priest asked.

The boy grinned, his eyes lit up. "I sure do, Father. How do you guess?"

"Listen, you've got what it takes to be a football star. . . . A few more words, the boy nodded, left, and the next youngster stepped up.

Father O'Malley was putting together the newest probation class of the famed Paulist Choristers, a 100-member team of boys and men who sing at every Sunday noon Mass from October through June.

Only ten of the boys, aged 9 to 12, made the grade at the first of four auditions in the choir's annual talent hunt.

"Choristers aren't born," the priest said. "They're manufactured. In six months I can make a good chorister out of any boy with a regular voice."

THE TEN BOYS accepted at the audition will start a rigid course in music theory and voice training with practice sessions two afternoons a week after school.

Next summer, though, there'll be a trip to the choir's camp in the North Woods at Sayner, Wis. To protect their gentle voices, the boys are not allowed to shout at camp baseball games but may root for their favorite team or raze the umpire by whistling.

Father O'Malley, whom Pope Pius XII awarded the Gregorius medal in 1933, sang in the choir as a boy and became its director in 1926.

Now he's training boys whose fathers once were choristers.

THE RULES are simple and never change, Father O'Malley said.

"First, don't abuse your voice. Second, always wear a hat when it's cold and windy, and wear galoshes when it snows or rains."

Abbe Pierre Makes Bid For Homeless
Paris — (RNS) — Abbe Pierre, famed champion of the poor and homeless, was in the headlines again when some of his followers converted an unused structure here into a makeshift "home" for needy families.

POLICE promptly evicted the squatters from their temporary lodging. But the crusading priest said he was satisfied with having dramatized again the plight of the homeless poor in this city.

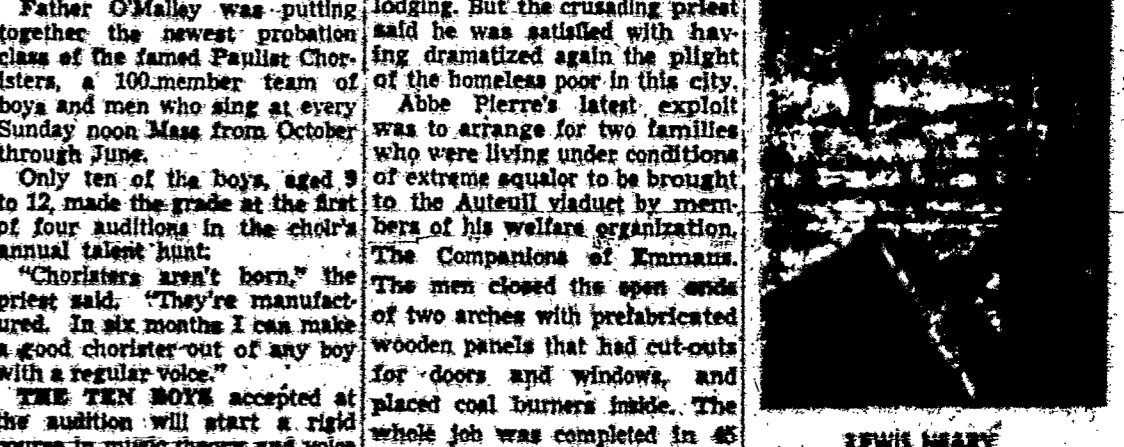
Abbe Pierre's latest exploit was to arrange for two families who were living under conditions of extreme squalor to be brought to the Auteuil viaduct by members of his welfare organization, The Companions of Emmanuel.

The men closed the open ends of two arches with prefabricated wooden panels that had cut-outs for doors and windows, and placed coal burners inside. The whole job was completed in 45 minutes.

THE FAMILIES, one with five children, the other seven, were moved in at one o'clock in the morning. However, the Prefecture of Police immediately issued orders to get them out. The panels of their new "homes" were ripped out and they were moved to the police station until authorities found new temporary lodgings for them in a municipal shelter.

When Abbe Pierre, who was in a hospital recovering from fatigue and a sinusitis operation, learned of the police action he said that other panels would go up. The priest said the authorities had previously permitted a viaduct in the Bastille section to be used for temporary housing.

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