

**BOOK SHELF**

**Easter Feast Of Reason**

By Sister Margaret Teresa Nazareth College

A book worth waiting for yet impatiently desired by those lucky enough to have heard the Catholic Renaissance speakers at Hunter College April 2 and 3, will be **CHRISTIAN HUMANISM AND MODERN THOUGHT: A Symposium in Memory of Paul Claudel**. The range and interest of the discussions are not less than startling.

Spiritual depths were sounded in the great keynote address of Rev. John Courtney Murray on the true path of Christian humanism, the event and doctrine of the Incarnation, Christ "divine and human and one." Scholarships of a high order swept listeners through the Christian centuries along this path as the early Christians, the Fathers, the early Renaissance and the late Renaissance laid it down.

Then Rev. Walter Ong, S.J., of St. Louis University set the whole in a vast perspective of the world's accelerating humanist development that is unforgettable and new — a meaningful vision of past and present.

And with that first wonderful day of some nine penetrating talks, including one by the lovable mystic and noted jurist Dr. Wu, the Easter meeting of the Catholic Renaissance Society was just well started!

**THE SECOND DAY** ("Days" like those in Claudel's *Saint Slipper*, telescoping the riches of months of thought) came down to detailed analysis of the modern tensions encountered by the Catholic humanist and to detailed discussion of their Catholic and apostolic solution in the work of Claudel — the whole sparked by the brilliantly focused humor of Bishop Wright of Worcester, and oriented to Christ our Lord by the thoughts of Dom Aired Graham on a Christian humanist's interior life.

Where in the world but in America, and when in the world's history but now, would you find this annual resurgence of glorious thought, this Paschal feast of reason burgeoning in the sun and warmth of Christian charity?

It makes the groves of Academe and the slopes of Parnassus look pale and unproductive, and the lifelong cogitations of Marx and Engels a mere night's jungle growth, a monster liana that can be cut to nothing by the valliant.

**GREAT FEASTS** of reason

**Never Had Art Lessons**

**Girl Artist, Convert, Decorates Church**

Asheville, N. C. — (NC) — Parishioners of St. Anthony's Church here, now are attending services in their church newly decorated by a 24-year-old woman artist who wielded the brush for many weeks, as a labor of love.

An **ARTIST** who never had an art lesson, Margaret Ann Miller painted all the new murals in the church. She came here from Washington, D. C., upon the invitation of the then pastor, Father Martin J. Collins, O.F.M., now of Albany, Ga., and with the encouragement of Father Robert E. Lewis, of St. Gabriel's Church, Washington, who had received her into the Catholic Church.

Breathtaking in size, her murals came under the eye of a local art critic who said they are done "in a rather high key and are somewhat two-dimensional without any attempt at shading to give the illusion of three-dimensional figures."

St. Francis of Assisi receiving the stigmata is featured in a 25-by-23 foot panel on the rear wall of the church. A ceiling panel depicts St. Anthony, St. Bonaventure, St. Bernardine of Siena, and St. Francis of Assisi grouped around Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. Included in other panels are St. Colette, St. Therese of the Child Jesus, St. Philomena, St. Joseph, St. Paschal Baylon.

Miss Miller, who is employed at the N. C. W. C. News Service in Washington, will soon have a chance to use her artistic talent, but not in such a large way. She plans to enter the Franciscan Sisters of Allegheny, N. Y., and will have an opportunity to do some painting in the convent.



**Convert Paints Crucifixion**

Asheville, N. C. — (NC) — Recently completed in St. Anthony's Church here, is this painting of the Crucifixion surrounded by cherubs, done by Margaret Ann Miller of Washington, D. C., who has never had an art lesson. A convert to the Church, Miss Miller plans to enter the Franciscan Sisters of Allegheny, New York.

**Pope Names Priests To West Coast Sees**

Washington — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII this week raised two American priests to the Episcopate.

Monsignor Thomas E. Gill, pastor St. James Cathedral, Seattle, Washington, was named Titular Bishop Lambesis and Auxiliary to Archbishop Thomas A. Connolly of Seattle and Father Richard Henry Ackerman, C.S.S.P., National Director of the Pontifical Association of the Holy Childhood, with headquarters at Pittsburgh, Pa., was named Titular Bishop Lare and Auxiliary to Bishop Charles Francis Buddy of San Diego, California.

**GI's Attend London Holy Name Rally**

London — (RNS) — Two thousand Roman Catholic American GI's from 20 Army and Air Force bases in Britain were among those attending a special evening High Mass in Westminster Cathedral here. The occasion was the first rally organized by the Union of Holy Name Societies in this country.

**Parish Loans Building To Public School**

Bangor, Mich. — (NC) — The Catholic Diocese of Lansing and its Bishop, Joseph H. Albers, have come to the rescue of the public school system of this small up-state community.

**THE NEWLY-BUILT** Sacred Heart school was standing empty and will remain so until the fall of 1958. This was explained by rector, Fr. Robert Taffee, as due to a lack of teaching runs. The Sisters of St. Joseph have promised teachers for the opening of school then.

Meanwhile the Bangor public school was too small, and desperately overcrowded with some classes on half-day sessions. Bangor is building a new public school at the cost of \$395,000 but it won't be completed until January, 1957.

So the Lansing diocese offered the free use of the new school building to the people of Bangor. The diocese proposed that public school children be moved into the four 30-student classrooms of the new building next September. Thus serious overcrowding for some months will be avoided.

**THIS WILL** also end the problem of half-day sessions, according to David Walton, president of the Bangor school board.

The Lansing diocese will continue to use the school as a temporary church for Sunday Masses, according to an agreement with the school board, and daily Mass will be offered in the auditorium while children are in class.

**Hindu Vandals Burns Church**

Kottayam, Travancore, India — (NC) — An Indian Catholic daily, *The Deepika*, has reported the burning of a church built less than three months ago in the diocese of Mangalore.

The *Deepika* said that the church was burnt by Hindus who reportedly were angered at the progress of the Catholic community, most of whom are farmers. The Hindus also set fire to the house of Joseph I. Puthetti, a leader of the 5-family Catholic colony.

**Anti-Red Teacher Target Of Attacks**

Boston, Mass. — (NC) — A Catholic schoolteacher, publisher and writer, who has taken a leading part here in opposition to communists, narrowly escaped injury when a brick was thrown through a window of his home.

John M. Barry, 50, teacher at Brighton High School and the father of four children, said he had been receiving mysterious phone calls, warning him to stop writing anti-communist articles. Mr. Barry is the publisher and a frequent contributor to *The New England Teacher*, a magazine for educators, which has been conducting a strong anti-Communist campaign.

**HE SAID ALL** the phone calls had come between 2 and 3 a.m., and were made by men. He estimated that he had received about 40 calls since the publication last year of an article on "Communism in the Classroom."

"I'd no sooner get back to sleep," he said, than the phone would ring again.

The last of these phone calls came just a few hours before the brick was thrown through the window, Mr. Barry said. A voice told him to quit writing stuff about the communists, and Mr. Barry replied that he would write whatever he pleased.

"This is the last warning," said the voice. "You will regret it if you don't quit."

**THE EDUCATOR** was engaged in writing an article for his magazine when the brick came through his head. He said that he would have been hit by it, if he had not leaned forward at that moment to pick up a book from the floor. He was struck by flying glass but received no serious injury. His wife and children were upstairs at the time.

He said that he had heard a noise on the porch shortly before the brick was thrown, but heard no car drive away afterward. He immediately phoned the police — there is a station only a stone's throw from his home — and at police suggestions also informed the FBI.

"Ironically," Mr. Barry commented, "the lines I had written just before the rock crashed into the room were: There are law and order on the quietest streets of this city."

**HONORS WAB VICTIMS** Madrid — (RNS) — The Roman Catholic diocesan seminary here plans to dedicate a plaque to its 300 priests and seminarians who were killed in the Spanish Civil War.

**Polish Leaders Seek Priests' Release**

London — (RNS) — Auxiliary Bishop Sigmund Choromanski of Warsaw has appealed to the Polish Communist government for the release of some 60 Roman Catholic priests detained in prison without trial, according to a report here.

Other reports said Catholic authorities also are pressing for a retrial, and possibly a pardon, for three priests sentenced to death on political charges. The sentence has not yet been executed.

It is believed that between 200 and 300 Catholic priests are still in Polish prisons and labor camps.

**Eden Says Britain Against Persecution**

London — (RNS) — Prime Minister Anthony Eden said the government's invitation to two top Soviet leaders to visit this country "does not indicate any departure" from Britain's "traditional stand for religious toleration and against religious persecution."

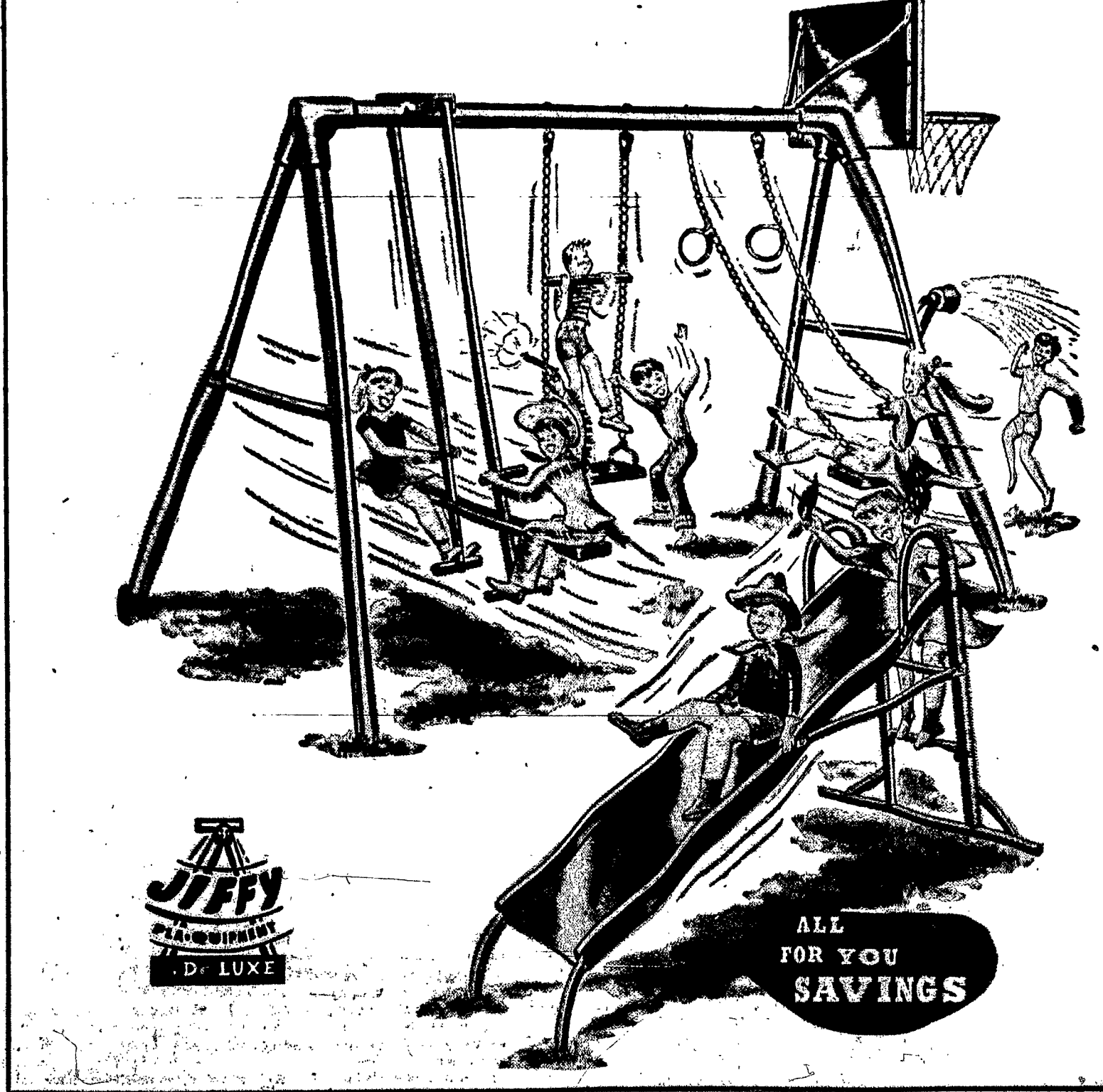
He made the comment in replying to a letter from the Duke of Norfolk, England's leading Roman Catholic peer, protesting the scheduled visit April 18-27 by Soviet Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin and Nikita S. Khrushchev, First Secretary of the Russian Communist Party.

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