



CONVERSION to the Catholic faith of Major General W. H. Steele, Sampson Air Force Base commander (right), being congratulated from Very Rev. Gerard Lindas, O.F.M., superior of St. Fidelis Friary, Interlaken, who General Steele credits with his joining the Catholic church.

### Sampson Air Base Commander General, Daughter Become Converts

By MARIE MURPHY DAILY

Interlaken. A Convert to Catholicism, Major General W. H. Steele, commander of Sampson Air Force Base, revealed today that the Very Rev. Gerard Lindas, O.F.M., Cap. Interlaken, Capuchin, was responsible for his recent decision to embrace the Catholic faith.

Ever since his youth, General Steele, who was raised a Methodist and later became an Episcopalian, said he was searching for "more satisfaction from religion."

"I am happy to say," General Steele said, "that now I have that feeling of satisfaction."

THE AIR FORCE BASE commander said his conversion pleased his daughter, Miss Beverly Steele, a Cornell University freshman. It was after General Steele announced to his family that he was taking instruction to become a Catholic that his daughter revealed she, too, had decided to join the same church.

General Steele's wife and son, W. G., are in Episcopalian.

GENERAL STEELE received the Sacrament of Confirmation from His Excellency, Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey in Sacred Heart Cathedral on Saturday, April 7.

"I had thought about Catholicism for a long time but it was not until I talked with Father Geron that I made my decision," General Steele said.

Father Geron, 35-year-old superior of St. Fidelis Capuchin Friary, at Interlaken was a guest at a Sampson function when he first met General Steele. In the course of their conversation, Father Geron mentioned that both of his grandfathers had converted to the Catholic religion.



MARILYN BELL

Swimming star Marilyn Bell has become Catholic, her father, Syd Bell, disclosed here. She attended her first Mass as a Catholic on Easter Sunday.

Miss Bell achieved fame in 1954 when she became the first person to swim Lake Ontario. She swam the English Channel in 1955.

### Swimming Star Becomes Convert

Toronto. (NC) — Swimming star Marilyn Bell has become Catholic, her father, Syd Bell, disclosed here. She attended her first Mass as a Catholic on Easter Sunday.

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### Drexel Will Provide \$14 Million To Charity

Philadelphia. (RNS) — Presiding Judge Charles Klein of the Orphan's Court here cleared the way for the distribution of more than \$14,000,000 to 29 churches, schools and charities under a trust fund reared through the death of the world's richest man on March 2, 1935.

All but one of the beneficiaries are Roman Catholic institutions. Most of them are in Philadelphia.

THE TRUST fund was established by Francis A. Drexel, a partner in the J. P. Morgan banking firm. At his death in 1885 he provided a life income for Mother Katherine Drexel, other daughters, stipulating that if they died without issue the fund was to be divided among them.

The first daughter, Mrs. Walter George Smith, died in 1890 and the second, Mrs. Louis Morrell, in 1945. Neither left any children.

Judge Klein also announced the settlement of a dispute between the Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia and the lawyers and trustees for the estate. The lawyers had demanded \$100,000 in counsel fees and the trustees sought three per cent of the total estate, which would have amounted to about \$600,000. The settlement, the judge said, provided for a total deduction of \$360,000 to cover commissions to both counsel and trustees.

ELEVEN INSTITUTIONS will receive about \$700,000 each under Mr. Drexel's will. They include the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, St. Charles Seminary, St. Joseph's College, St. Mary's, St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Vincent's, St. Vincent de Paul, the Sisters of St. Francis, St. Joseph's Church, and St. John's.

### Ministers To Study For Priesthood

London. (NC) — A well-known Church of England clergyman, H. Thornton Trapp, vicar of the Church of St. Mary Magdalen, Paddington, North London, was revealed here as a convert to the Catholic Church at the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, the city's Jesuit center.

Mr. Trapp, who is unmarried, intends to study for the priesthood, it was learned.

Another former Anglican cleric, F. L. F. Woodward, who became a Catholic just over a year ago, was reported to be entering St. Thomas' Seminary, Warwick, junior seminary of the Birmingham archdiocese. He is 37 years of age.

### Grandfather, Former State Attorney, To Be Ordained Benedictine Priest

Collegeville, Minn. (RNS) — A 62-year-old widowed father of two married daughters and the grandfather of 11, will be ordained a Catholic priest in St. John's Benedictine Abbey here on May 19.

He is Donald John F. McGinnis, one-time Assistant Attorney General of Illinois, who will surrender a life of retired ease in exchange for the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience of a Benedictine priest.

MR. MCGINNIS will celebrate his first Solemn High Mass on May 21 before the same altar in St. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Alton, Ill., at which he was married 38 years ago. His wife died Feb. 18, 1949.

His ordination will be the climax of a hope he had when he drew up to the 100-year-old monastery here four years ago to investigate the monastic life.

Mr. McGinnis was a successful lawyer in his home town of Alton, Ill. in 1932, he was elected for a four-year term as State Attorney, a post which he was appointed Assistant Attorney General at Springfield.

He also was a master in chancery for nearly 10 years. On the civic side, he was a Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, the Exalted Order of his Elk Lodge, and a member of the American Legion.

AFTER A period of mourning for his wife, the priest-to-be took well-appointed bachelor quarters in an Alton apartment building and became something of a social gadfly and bon-vivant at cocktail parties.

"But after three or four years of this," Mr. McGinnis said, "I became overwhelmed by the frustrating uselessness of my life and the futility of it all."

He came to the abbey with the idea of becoming a Benedictine brother. But during a series of interviews with Abbot Baldwin, O.S.B., abbot of St. John's, he was persuaded, because of his educational qualifications and experience, to try for the priesthood.

AFTER HIS ordination, Mr. McGinnis will be known as Father Donald and his future will be decided by the abbot.

He may be assigned to a teaching role at St. John's University which the Benedictines own here. He may be sent to one of the many parishes operated by the Benedictines. Or he may be sent to one of their missions in the Bahama Islands.



Artist's sketch of new Library building which will be erected on Nazareth College campus.

### Requiem Mass Nazareth Starts New Library Offered For Redemptorist

Solemn Requiem Mass for the Rev. James Trageser, CSSR, was offered by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney in the presence of faculty members and student body.

The Requiem Mass was held at the college's East Avenue campus in Pittsford.

The grand opening ceremony was conducted by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney in the presence of faculty members and student body.

THE NEW building designed by the architect firm of Waas and Northrup will be erected south of the present college Administration Building and will be connected by tunnel to the other college buildings.

The Sisters of St. Joseph, who conduct Nazareth College, for young women, revealed that the new library will be faced with red brick and designed in college Gothic style to harmonize with present campus facilities.

In general outline it will include a ground floor, main floor and mezzanine.

According to the architect's plan, the library will feature an atrium lobby with an arched ceiling. Opening off the lobby will be a reception room, a periodical room, a rare books room, the librarians office and work rooms.

A MEMORIAL window will highlight a large reading room located in the south of the building. Book rooms for book storage will be constructed on the main floor and the mezzanine. Private study booths for the use of students will be provided on both floors on the west side of the building. A small auditorium, conference rooms and class rooms will be located on the ground floor.

At the present time the library is in the front wing of the Administration Building. This space will be devoted to new Faculty and student rooms required by an expected increase in student enrollment.

Immediate construction of the new Nazareth College Library began this week following grand-opening rites Wednesday afternoon at the college's East Avenue campus in Pittsford.

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FATHER TRAGESER

St. Joseph's Church, Rochester, since 1948.

His Excellency, Bishop James E. Kearney presided at the Funeral Mass.

Final blessing at the grave in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery was given by His Excellency, the Most Rev. James McManus, CSSR, Bishop of Ponce, Puerto Rico.

RELIGY at the Mass was preached by the Very Rev. John Reenan, CSSR, rector of the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the famed "Mission Church" of Boston.

Father Trageser had served as a Redemptorist missionary in his home city Baltimore, as also in Buffalo, Boston, Philadelphia, and New York City prior to his death.

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COLLEGE LIBRARY — His Excellency Bishop Kearney turns first shovel of earth at grand-opening rites launching construction of the new Nazareth College Library. Looking on are Sister Rose Angela, dean, faculty, alumni and student members, attended the rites on Wednesday afternoon.

### U. S. Steel Fund Aids Catholic Colleges

New York. (RNS) — Eighty-nine church-related colleges and universities will have a share in the more than one million dollars education program for 1956 announced here by the United States Steel Foundation.

Fifty-seven Catholic, 20 Protestant and two Jewish institutions are among the more than 500 of the country's colleges, universities, technological institutes and medical schools to which grants will be given.

Roger M. Blough, chairman of the foundation's board of trustees, said the program covers \$340,000 for capital grants, \$152,500 for operating grants, \$102,500 for general aid and \$72,900 for graduate fellowships.

Catholic institutions that will benefit include the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.; Fordham University of New York; St. Louis (Mo.) University; Boston College; Marquette University; Milwaukee, Wis.; and Loyola University, Chicago.

Among the Protestant schools to be aided are DePaul University (Methodist), Greencastle, Ind.; Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Tex.; Presbyterian College, Clinton, S.C.; and Trinity University, Presbiterian, N.C.

The Jewish institutions to receive funds are Yeshiva University, New York and Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass.

### Senate Aide Hits Red Rule

Notre Dame, Ind. (NC) — Russia, which often has leveled charges of colonialism against the United States and its allies, is guilty of ingesting a "peculiarly harsh and intractable kind" of colonialism on 18 million people of Soviet central Asian republics, Robert F. Kennedy, chief counsel of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, charged here.

MR. KENNEDY said that the Soviets are directing all their agencies of propaganda toward exploiting the "vital policies of certain western nations in colonial areas." He added:

"Yet at the same time, the communists with hardly any objection from us have been permitted to wipe out the freedom of millions of people occupying an area larger than that of western Europe."

Mr. Kennedy was the principal speaker at the annual honor banquet of the University of Notre Dame law school in the Oliver Hotel here. He is a member of the law school's advisory council.

The charges he made stemmed from first-hand observations and information he gathered last year during a visit to Soviet central Asia with Associate Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court.

"The Russians began their subjugation of these peoples, Mr. Kennedy said in the 1950's. He added that some sections of the ancient and once independent states were not conquered until the 1920's.

"The communists when they attack western colonialism," Mr. Kennedy said, "speak of the broken promises failure to grant local autonomy, segregation and the torture and murder of colonial peoples in order to subjugate them. By every one of these standards, Soviet control of these areas qualifies as colonialism of a peculiarly harsh and intractable kind on the part of the Soviets."

MR. KENNEDY advocated that this aggression against freedom by the Russians be spotlighted in the councils of the United Nations and by American propaganda throughout the world.

"As the Soviets continue their peaceful encroachments in the Middle East, Afghanistan and southeast Asia, using as their chief weapon eastern hostility to colonialism," Mr. Kennedy said, "it would be well if the peoples and leaders of these areas pondered what has been the fate of their brothers to the north in the soviet central Asian Republics."

### Automobile Club Members Get Caution From Pope

Vatican City. (NC) — Pope Pius XII demonstrated in an address to the Automobile Club of Rome that his remarkable store of knowledge includes an understanding of the mind of the automobile fanatic as well as the peril of the streets.

"The automobile," the Pope said, "is often less a means of transportation than it is a marvelous object of recreation that requires a great deal of sureness, ability, self-command and physical prowess."

The Holy Father told the club members that "you love to feel the power and the mastery of the engines enclosed in an automobile's framework."

You delight in proving your skill at the wheel and your knowledge of mechanics."

"But you must not forget," he added, "to respect others on the roads, to observe courtesy to other drivers and pedestrians."

"You must pride yourself," the Pope said, "on knowing also how to conquer an often very understandable impatience, in sacrificing sometimes a bit of your sense of honor to give away to the spirit of kindness that is a true sign of charity."

### Catholic Schools Accept Negroes

Chicago. (NC) — Integration in Catholic high schools in the Chicago archdiocese has been achieved without difficulty, a report has disclosed.

Sixty-two of 75 schools in the archdiocese have students from minority racial groups. There are 1,182 Negro students attending high schools in the archdiocese, the report stated.

Two schools — St. Elizabeth and Corpus Christi — have all-Negro student bodies, totaling 686, the report said, while 37 other schools have a total of 493 Negro students.

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