



Family Erects Mary Statue To Overlook N.J. Thruway

Bloomfield — (RNS) — The first statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary to be erected along the Garden State Parkway, New Jersey's new six-lane thruway, stands in the backyard of Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Murray of Sacred Heart Catholic parish here.

The Murrays placed the life-size marble statue there in order to spread devotion and to express the thanks of the family who prayed that their home would not be razed in the path of the new road. They have named the statue, Our Lady of the Parkway.

"OUR HOME was situated right in the path of the Parkway," Mrs. Murray explained. "For a few years we didn't know whether it would be taken or not. I promised that I would do something for Our Lady if it were not taken."

Some of the Murray property was purchased by the Parkway authorities but not the part on which the house stands.

After they had closed the deal with the authorities, the Murrays were awarded a bonus of a triangular tract at the rear of their house. They put the statue on its tract which fronts on the Parkway and is visible from both the north and south lanes.

Byzantine Rite Novitiate Dedicated

Sybertsville, Pa. — (NC) — Archbishop Constantine Bohachewsky of the Byzantine Rite Diocese of Philadelphia has dedicated a new building here that will be used as the novitiate of the Byzantine Rite Franciscan Fathers.

The Franciscan province of St. Mary of the Angels was started in 1945 at the request of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII to train priests to aid in the conversion of Russia.

Pastor 34 Years Wins 'Rural' Award

Sioux Falls, S. D. — (RNS) — A rural pastor from Illinois who has served the same parish for 34 years received the Distinguished Service Award of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference here.

The Rev. George Nell of Island Grove, Ill., was cited at the association's 34th annual meeting here for his "true zeal for social justice to the farmers of the nation."

Father Nell was the first to introduce a soil conservation program in his community. He started a cooperative buying program of limestone and fertilizers to build up the soil. The priest also helped organize a producers' cooperative of dairy farmers in southeastern Illinois.

Twenty-eight years ago Father Nell inaugurated a short course for rural pastors at the University of Illinois. Hundreds of religious leaders have taken the course.

In 1933, he helped propose a program for agriculture which was in large measure adopted as U. S. government policy. The movement was known as the League for Social Justice for Agriculture.

The rural priest sparked a religious census of his county, Jasper, in 1940, which brought out the information that only 3,000 persons of the 13,341 living in the county were affiliated with any church. The survey resulted in a back-to-church movement throughout the county.



Polio Thrown For A Loss

Racine, Wis. — (NC) — Spearheading inoculation with Salk anti-polio vaccine of the 40-man football squad of St. Catherine's High School, Racine, Wis., is Father S. B. Witkowiak, school director, who is shown receiving his injection from Dr. E. Skupniwicz, assisted by Nurse Helen Bruno. Waiting his turn with rolled-up sleeve is Father Clefus Uhen, acting coach. Program of protection against polio was in cooperation with the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

World's Largest Catholic High School Dedicated

Philadelphia — (RNS) — Cardinal Dougherty High School — believed to be the world's largest Roman Catholic high school — was dedicated here by Archbishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.

It has 112 classrooms, accommodating 6,000 boys and girls, who will be taught separately in two wings but share in common a 2,000-seat auditorium, library, cafeteria, chapel and a number

Cemetery Group Largest In Nation

Pittsburgh (RNS) Membership in the National Catholic Cemetery Conference has passed the 800 mark making it the largest association of cemetery administrators in the country.

The Rev. Joseph McGowan of Scranton, Pa., announced the figure in his presidential address to the conference's ninth annual late Denis Cardinal Dougherty meeting here.

Child Welfare

Joint Planning Plea Heard

Buffalo — (RNS) — Government relationships to voluntary child welfare agencies should be based on democratic discussion and joint planning "rather than the use of government authority," Msgr. Floyd F. Fischer of Omaha, Neb., president of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, said here.

HE TOLD THE conference's 2nd annual meeting that voluntary welfare agencies "must be regarded as an integral part of the American community and it would not be appropriate for any government agency to duplicate their work."

"We have emphasized the thought that government has a positive duty, to not only supplement the work of voluntary agencies in all areas of child welfare services, but to stimulate the growth and development of such services by voluntary groups in uncovered areas," he said. "This we believe is essential to the democratic ideal and to the democratic processes in our American communities."

Discussing Social Security, Msgr. Fischer said that the National Conference of Catholic Charities "has consistently urged the policy of developing social insurances against the economic hazards of old age, unemployment, permanent disability and temporary disability due to illness as against the proposals for a cover all general public assistance program."

"It (the conference) was held to the viewpoint that such insurances benefit built up partially by the workers from their own earnings is more consonant with the dignity of the worker, whether he be an industrial laborer, a farm laborer, or self-employed."

He continued by saying that "much more time and effort should be put into planning and coordination at all levels — national, state, and local."

Cabinet Member Urges Coordination

Buffalo — (NC) — Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Marion B. Folsom has called for more planning and coordination of public and private social welfare agencies on the community level.

"It may be said, in tribute and gratitude, that in many respects Catholics have pioneered in social work precepts and practices — to the benefit of all social work," the Secretary commented.

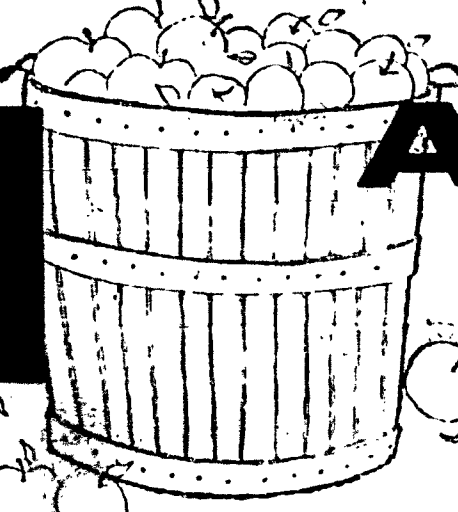
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ed," he said. "It has consistently urged that the social insurances to cover these hazards should be extended until there is universal coverage of all the low-income groups. We have strongly advocated the viewpoint that if the federal government takes care of these basic economic hazards of life and makes adequate provision for the unemployed, it is doing everything that can be expected of it."

Msgr. Fischer praised the National Conference for bringing to Catholic Charities "an organic unity" and in serving as "a bond of union for all of us engaged in Catholic social work."

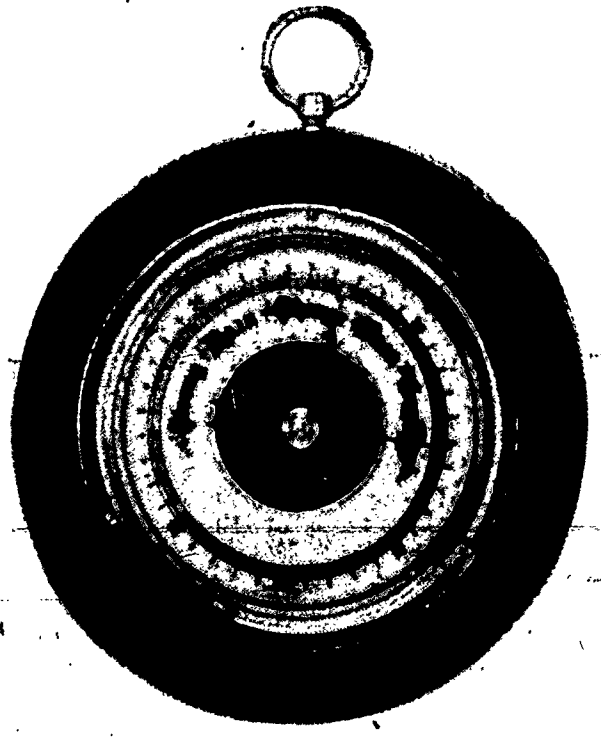
Newly Placed

Lisle, Ill. — (NC) — This statue of the Shrine of Our Lady in Exile is a replica of the statue which had stood in Prague, Czechoslovakia, before it was destroyed during riots there. The replica stands on the grounds of St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle, Ill.



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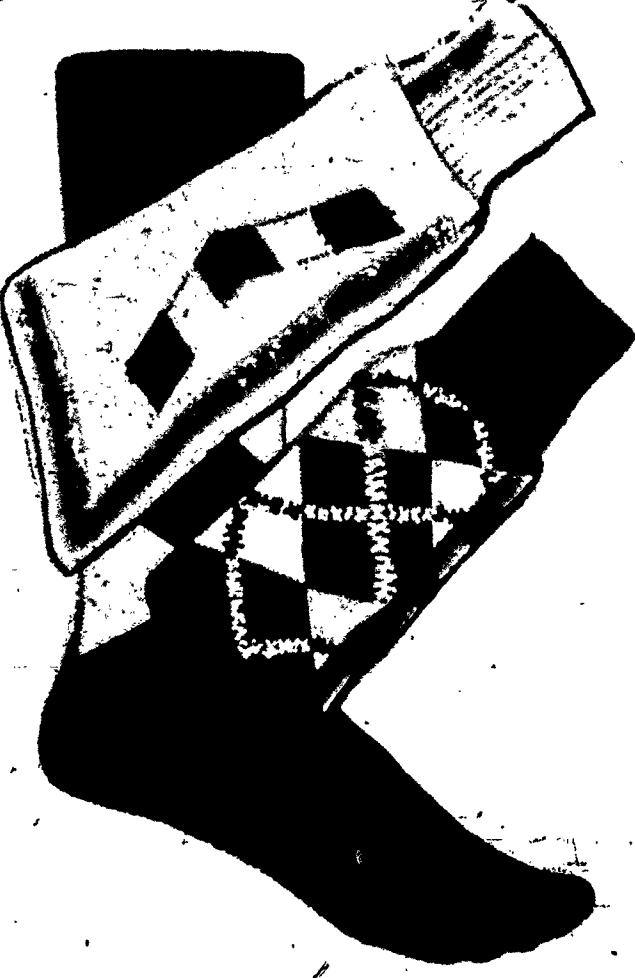
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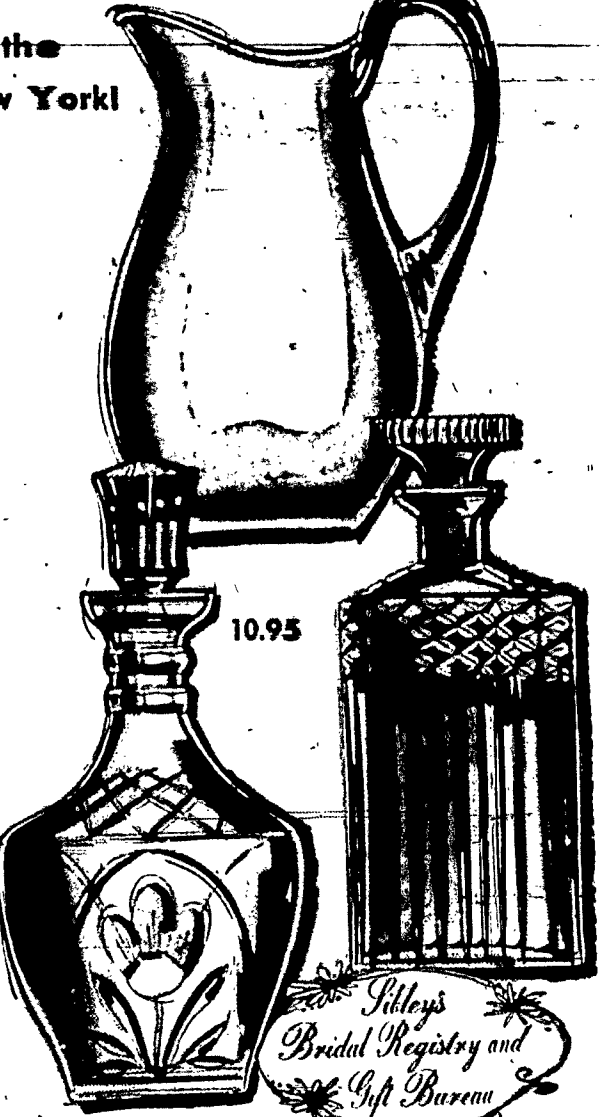
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