

Priest Attended Graham, A Protestant, At Execution

Canon City, Colo. — (RNS) — The Catholic chaplain of the state penitentiary here attended a Protestant at his execution for the first time in the priest's 13 years as chaplain.

The executed man was John Gilbert Graham, 24, who was convicted of killing 44 persons on an airplane Nov. 1, 1935, with a time bomb. He committed the crime to collect insurance on the life of his mother, who was one of the passengers.

GRAHAM had elected to be accompanied to the gas chamber by the Catholic chaplain, the Rev. Justin McKernan, O.S.B., rather than by the Protestant chaplain, the Rev. Lloyd C. Kellams.

Colorado law requires that a clergyman attend executions. The choice is up to the condemned man.

Graham was quoted as saying that "so long as I have to have

Child Poet Sees Pope

Minou Drouot, celebrated French child-poet is pictured during an audience granted her by His Holiness Pope Pius XII. The child was extremely shy in the Pope's presence, but he received her affectionately and spoke to her in French. At his asking, she recited some of her poems.

She was accompanied by her mother. (NC Photos)



MacMillan Spells Gloom To Britain Catholic Schools

London — (NC) — Britain's Catholics, bowed under the financial burden of an extensive school building program, see little hope for relief in the reshuffling of posts in the nation's new Conservative Government.

The appointment of Harold Macmillan as Prime Minister gives no indication that the necessary prop will be provided to prevent financial disaster to the Catholic educational system unless the latest credit restrictions are relaxed.

These credit restrictions were imposed by Mr. Macmillan when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer and are threatening to "squeeze Catholic schools out of existence," according to Catholic Educators.

someone, I'd rather have Father McKernan."

"I've been getting along with him pretty well, and he seems to have taken a shine to me," the priest reported a few days before the execution date.

He said Graham liked to discuss books, sports or chess—but not religion. "He takes the attitude, 'After all, I have my own mind, and it's all straightened out. I'm not worried.'"

FATHER MCKERNAN said his last words to the doomed man were: "God bless you. May God forgive you your sins." Graham's reply was a mumbled "thanks" as he entered the gas chamber, to be strapped to the black steel death chair.

Graham and his wife, Gloria, had attended the suburban Lakewood Community Methodist church, where Mr. Kellams is pastor. There had been no indication that he intended to be come a Catholic. Days before his execution he had asked that his body be cremated — a custom forbidden by the Catholic Church — and wanted "no funeral of any kind."

ON THE eve of the execution, Father McKernan predicted that Graham would "not change in any way, even when they strap him in the chair in the gas chamber."

"But I'll be there," the priest added, "to help him along the best I can."

Church-Run Bowling Alley Tax Exemption Urged

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — Three New York Congressmen sponsored bills to exempt churches and non-profit organizations from the federal excise tax on bowling alleys and billiard tables.

Reps. W. Sterling Cole, William R. Williams and Steven Derouanian, all Republicans, introduced measures to exempt non-profit groups from the annual \$20 tax levied on each bowling alley and each billiard table.

MR. COLE'S bill would exempt all non-profit groups. Mr. Williams and Mrs. Derouanian's would apply the exemption only to churches.

Mr. Cole noted that the bowling alley and billiard table levy is, under the existing law, collected from the boys' clubs, charitable organizations, and institutions such as the Young Men's Christian Association. He contended that Congress had intended the tax to be levied only on commercial establishments.

"WE HAVE groups that are doing a real job combating juvenile delinquency being charged a government tax that was intended to be levied on pool halls," he declared.

Nearly \$1,000,000 of the \$3,364,000 collected in the bowling alley-billiard table levy last year was paid by non-profit organizations.

The House subcommittee on excise tax inequities, he said, has voiced approval of his answer. The subcommittee is headed by Rep. Aime Forand (D. R. I.).

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Vandals Desecrate Dayton Church

Dayton, O. — (RNS) — Vandals railed Emmanuel Catholic church here in what police described as the most severe desecration of a house of worship in Dayton's history.

Nine statues were destroyed or damaged, vigil lights were strewn all over the church, the top of the baptismal font was wrenched loose and all the furnishings of the altar were strewn about the floor.

The vandals made no attempt to open the tabernacle and did not steal anything, according to the Rev. John J. Rauscher, S.M., pastor. He estimated the damage at \$3,000.

Services were canceled on the day of the damage was discovered so that clean-up work could be done. Masses were offered as usual on the following day.

Police said the intruders forced open the front door.

Congress Gets Aid Bid For U.S. Missionaries

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — American missionaries abroad would be given the privilege of buying at commissaries and post exchanges maintained by the U.S. Armed Forces under a bill sponsored by Rep. Philip J. Philbin (D. Mass.).

"Our missionaries are doing a tremendous job in many areas, according to reports brought home by our boys in the armed services," he said, "and I think we ought to do all we can to help them."

This is a very practical way of giving them assistance since it would permit them to buy many of the ordinary necessities of life that we take for granted here at home but which are so expensive and difficult to obtain in foreign lands.

The Congress as a member of the House Armed Services Committee to which the bill was referred, said that the Department of Defense has opposed the enactment of such legislation contending that missionaries are being helped through informal arrangements at PX's in many overseas bases.

"I feel that it is better to do it through specific legislation," Mr. Philbin said, "and I hope that all patriotic groups maintaining missionary activities abroad will make their views known to the committee."

Full Scholarships Offered Refugees

Washington — (NC) — One hundred and sixty-five full scholarships to enable Hungarian refugee students to continue their education have been volunteered by 80 Catholic colleges and universities.

This is a tally of the first responses to an appeal for scholarships issued in late December by Msgr. Frederick G. Hockway, director of the Department of Education, National Catholic Welfare Conference here.

God Omitted At Inaugural

San Juan, P. R. — (NC) — The weekly publication of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine of Puerto Rico has complained editorially that Governor Luis Muñoz Marín did not mention God in his inaugural address. Nor was there any invocation of God at the ceremonies.

Father Winterroth Rites Led By Bishop Casey

(Continued from Page 1)

priest, Rev. John J. Hickey, led the Very Rev. Bishop of Rochester, O.P.M., in the solemn Mass. The officiating priest was assisted by the Rev. Francis M. Farley, 2nd pastor; Fathers James F. Baker and Thomas M. Erbe, assistants; Rev. Robert J. Fox, cantor; Rev. Joseph Reinhart, altar boy; Rev. William Brown, cithre bearer; Rev. Charles J. McCarthy, gremiale bearer; Rev. Raymond M. Wuest, book bearer.

Bearers were the Reverend Fathers Joseph T. Malone, George J. Wehner, Edward H. Hartigan, Peter J. Janowski, Albert J. Schneider, and J. Thomas Margrett.

PRESENT IN THE sanctuary were the Rev. Monsignors Frank Hoefen, Michael Kress, George Predmore, George Kozel, John Maney, Willard Cuzzell, John Duffy, John Randall, Gerald C. Lambert, Frederick C. Strass, Richard K. Burns and the Very Rev. Msgr. Patrick J. Flynn.

Priests' choir, under the direction of the Rev. Charles J. McCarthy, included the Reverend Fathers Frederick W. Bush, Robert J. Donovan, James Williams, Robert Winterkorn, E. David Fuchs, Richard Murphy, Conrad J. Sundholm, Jaras F. Slatery and John J. Phillips.

CLERGY ALSO attending the funeral rites included: the Rev. Fathers John Merklinger, Walter Carron, Elmer McNamee, Frederick J. Zwierlein, Albert J. Langer, Robert Kanka, W. W. LeVeque, Raymond G. Hesse, James C. Lane, Emmett L. Davis, Clarence W. Gardner and J. Pagan.

The Reverend Fathers Howard W. Clark, Robert L. Kress, Thomas M. Reddington, John Hedges, Arthur F. Florack, Hubert A. Bisky, James E. Gaffey, C.S.S.R., Louis W. Baumann, C.S.S.R., Daniel J. Wheeland, Raymond J. Wahl, Joseph F. D'Arizolo, Donald J. Murphy, Sebastian Conte, O.P.S., Richard G. Stanton, Edward F. Steinkirchner, John S. Whalen, Gerald G. Kelly.

The Reverend Fathers W. Larry Bolger, E. W. Heindl, Ignatius St. George, Robert A. Dobbertin, John B. Hayes, Robert A. Kehler, Albert L. Simonetti, Albert H. Schnackey, Charles A. Bennett, Joseph W. Dalley, Paul E. Tuttle, Leo C. Mooney, Valentine A. Jankowiak, Leonard A. Kelly, Vincent P. Collins, Robert H. Pennessy, Daniel McCarthy, Michael J. Tydings.

The Reverend Fathers Bernard C. Newcomb, John B. Kleintjes, George M. Kalb, Frederick W. Straub, Dominie F. Moeckewicus, Robert C. McNamara, John A. Reddington, William T. Nolan, Paul R. Schnackey, Henry F. Adamski, and James J. Marvin.

Father Winterroth

Here is the text of the sermon given by Rev. William J. Naughton at the funeral Mass for Rev. Theodore J. Winterroth at St. Michael's Church, Rochester, Friday, January 11, 1937. Father Winterroth, pastor of St. John the Baptist Church, Elmira, died Tuesday, January 8.

Ten years ago next June it was my very happy privilege to preach the sermon commemorating the twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Ordination of Father Winterroth as a priest.

Today it is my very sad duty to speak on the occasion of his funeral and departure from this life. For as the Sacred Scriptures tell us "it is appointed for all men once to die."

IT IS A very sad duty because of the friendship between us. A friendship which began years ago before either of us were ordained to the Sacred Priesthood. A friendship which arose from the association of our parents some fifty years ago.

Upon an occasion like this and always with the thought that God's Will be done — that God knows best — any priest, it seems to me, cannot help wondering, whether or not it would be better if he kept on living year after year — not forever perhaps — but at least much longer than priests ordinarily live. Wondering if it wouldn't be better if he never got sick; never unable to carry out his priestly work.

Wondering and planning as we foolish humans so frequently do, because it seems to me, that the longer a priest lives, he realizes more fully how wonderful the priesthood really is, how high Almighty God has raised him; how extensive are his powers, for good amongst his fellow men.

He realizes in all humility that he is such a power for good amongst his fellow men. He realizes with what respect and esteem he is held not only by his own people but even by those not of his faith.

THE OLDER he gets, the priest sees the possibility and the potential of so much good that he can accomplish in the confessional, in the office, in the sick room, in the classroom. Quite naturally in the ensuing years, he comes to the conclusion with all his experience behind him, that it would seem that a priest could be in such a much better position to do good, to carry out God's plan better than ever before — were he to live longer.

BUT QUITE obviously, God knows best. Sickness with its pains and sufferings comes into the life of every priest. Sickness came into the life of Father Winterroth some twenty years ago. And all during those years he did not enjoy what one would call "excellent health."

And now death has come to him, too. For in spite of his exalted position as a priest, in spite of his power for good, in spite of his wealth of priestly experience, the priest is expected as every other human is expected to pay in due time the debt incurred by Adam and Eve, the debt of undergoing death.

FATHER Winterroth was one of seven children and at a very early age he learned the lesson of suffering. For as a small child he was left fatherless. It is in this regard, my dear friends, that even on this occasion, it would be his wish that we pay tribute not

to himself — not to the priest that he was — but to his mother.

In my limited experience I know of no other mother, burdened with seven children — the youngest a small infant — who ever did a more wonderful job in raising a family than she did. I only mention this very personal matter to give reason for the character of Fr. Winterroth. I am sure that the courage, the strong faith in God, the confidence and trust in God which she had — this more than any other factor molded Fr. Winterroth's character and made him the priest that he was.

Father Winterroth was ordained a priest in 1922 and was immediately appointed to St. Michael's in Rochester. He labored here for 12 years, and I am sure that the people of this parish will never forget him for his work amongst their children — for his care and concern for the two elderly pastors under whom he served here.

He was appointed pastor of King Ferry and Ludlowville in 1934. It was in the midst of the depression — when perhaps more than any other time in the history of this country our Catholic people looked to their priests for help, encouragement to beat up under their material sufferings.

THE PEOPLE of King Ferry and a few years later the people of Stanley did not look in vain to Fr. Winterroth. He served them well in their adversity. He served them with kindness, with consideration and with charity.

In 1941 he was sent to Elmira as an administrator to Fr. Stenler, the former pastor of St. John the Baptist, Elmira. And again, I say the people of St. John's will never forget the kindness and consideration shown by Fr. Winterroth to Father Stenler after his appointment there, in addition to his taking care of all the needs of the parish, he brought comfort and consolation to Fr. Stenler in his dying days.

For 15 years he labored there at St. John's. His task was not easy. It is not a large parish and in the past few years, St. John's lost many of its parishioners in death, with many of its children upon their marriage moving to other parishes. Yet in spite of that fact, in spite of his declining health, Fr. Winterroth kept the faith strong and very much alive there at St. John's.

MY DEAR people, to me a close friend, the best appraisal of Fr. Winterroth as a priest is revealed in an incident he told me a few months ago before his illness last summer.

He told how he was making the Stations of the Cross one evening at St. John's before locking up the Church, as was

his frequent custom. And while meditating upon the sufferings of Our Blessed Lord and realizing how Christ wants each and every one of us to help carry some of His burden, he prayed that if God wanted him to suffer — then to send him a certain sickness and affliction — and Fr. Winterroth in his prayers named that affliction.

My friends, the very identical affliction that he asked for, Fr. Winterroth found that he had after his operation last August. How well he accepted what he asked for; the patience and the resignation with which he endured it; the encouragement he inspired in others, similarly afflicted, in those few brief months, is known especially to his friends.

That is why we now find such comfort in the words of St. Paul in his Epistle to Timothy: "If we suffer with Christ, we shall also reign with Christ."

It is with the conviction that Christ, the Great High Priest, the Model of all priests, is aware how Fr. Winterroth offered up his life in suffering these past few years, that we all pray to that same great High Priest, on this day of his funeral: "Eternal rest grant unto him, and may the perpetual life shine upon him, Amen."

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