

'Hurricane Audrey'

Louisiana Churches Damaged

By KATHLEEN TOUPS

Lafayette, La. (NC) — Hurricane Audrey, the deadliest storm to hit the Louisiana coast in a century, has left its mark on most of the 13 civil parishes comprising southwest Louisiana that comprise the Lafayette diocese.

Complete reports are not yet available of the widespread destruction caused by the hurricane and the toll was that followed. Earl Long of Louisiana said the dead and missing would exceed 400 persons. Unofficial sources estimated the death toll would reach into the thousands.

SINCE THE rural sections of the Lafayette diocese are largely Catholic, the hurricane victims turned to the churches and schools for refuge. Hardest hit were the communities of Cameron Grand Cheniere and Pecan Island on the Gulf Coast.

Cameron and Grand Cheniere were estimated to be about 90 per cent destroyed and Pecan Island about 75 per cent destroyed. St. Hubert's chapel at Cameron was demolished and seven bodies were found in the ruins. Sacred Heart mission church Cameron, was moved off its foundations and its interior was flooded.

At Grand Cheniere, the back of a chapel was blown off. The brick church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Creole took a severe beating, but withstood the onslaught. Fifty persons took refuge there with Father Alvarez Gilbert, M.S., the pastor. The recently renovated chapel of the Sacred Heart at Pecan Island was moved 30 feet off its foundations and flooded.

ALMOST MORE destructive than the hurricane was the tidal wave that followed, everything in its path swept to destruction. Homes were toppled over, cars tossed about like matchboxes and thousands of cattle and other livestock were swept along like toys.

When the waters receded, there was danger from snakes and of contamination from dying livestock and fish. Medical care was hampered by the lack of safe water.

In Lake Charles, to the north of Cameron, the winds severed light and telephone lines and rain flooded many sections of the city. Clergy of the city did 24-hour duty at hospitals and emergency centers set up in schools and gymnasiums to receive refugees from Grand Cheniere and Cameron.

AT ABBEVILLE, where the evacuees from Pecan Island were received, Bishop Maurice Schexnayder of Lafayette personally visited with refugees. On his return to Lafayette, he rallied the charitable resources of the diocese to aid the hurricane victims.

He ordered a special collection to be taken up on July 7 to help the stricken areas, and asked each church to gather clothing for the refugees. Clergy of the diocese were asked to offer Masses for the dead.

University Parish Los Angeles — (NC) — The new parish of Our Saviour, encompassing the campus of the University of Southern California, has been erected by Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles.



Fargo, N. D. — (NC) — Seventy-five percent loss as a tornado ripped through Fargo, North Dakota, is Stanley High School, in charge of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The school had an enrollment of 450. The early evening storm also destroyed a convent, while about 60 Sisters miraculously escaped injury in the basement.

Schools Employ Radio Advertising

Luxembourg (NC) Belgium's Catholic schools are turning to Radio Luxembourg to recommend Catholic schools to Catholic parents.

By an arrangement between the School and Family Movement in Brussels and the directors of commercial Radio Luxembourg, a thirty-second advertisement in favor of the Belgium National Catholic School System is being heard daily, three times a week in Flemish and three times a week in French.

The Belgian National Broadcasting system is a government institution and will not permit the broadcasting of any commercial.

Radio advertising has already brought a varied response. Many parents have made inquiries concerning good Catholic schools for their children.

Moviemen Used Vatican As Background For Film

Vatican City — (NC) — History was made when a caravan of movie cameras and lights roled into St. Peter's Square at dawn one morning.

It was the first time that the Vatican buildings were used as a backdrop in a feature-length motion picture.

THE MOVIE crew was engaged in shooting some scenes for "The Seven Hills of Rome." Many documentaries and news reel films have been made within Vatican City. But this was the first time that permission had been given for a crew to enter for the filming of a feature length movie with professional actors.

ALTHOUGH THE permission for the filming operation did not demand it, the camera crews vacated St. Peter's Square before the noon hour. Those in charge of production knew that it was the Pope's custom to appear at his apartment window at noon.

Tornado Levels Nuns' School

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Assisi Falling In Ruin, Italy Warned

Rome — (NC) — Italy's Parliament has been warned that Assisi, picturesque city of St. Francis, is falling into ruin and that government aid for reconstruction is necessary.

UP TO THE present Assisi has preserved its medieval appearance. It still looks much the same as it did when St. Francis walked the streets in the 13th century.

However, apart from the Basilica of St. Francis and the Church of St. Mary of the Angels, which surrounds the Portiuncula shrine, most of the noted buildings in the town suffer from lack of attention.

This is particularly true of the Church of St. Clare, the temple of Minerva, the Church of St. Rufinus and the ancient prisons.

ALTHOUGH it has a sprinkling of curio shops, Assisi has not yet been commercialized. Visitors can wander in and out of its historic buildings without charge. As a result, however, Assisi's 6,000 inhabitants are unable to raise enough money to provide for the upkeep of their public structures.

Parliament has therefore been asked to give Assisi the means to prevent it from falling victim to the ravages of time.

Cardinal Permits Evening Masses

New York (NC) Evening Masses will be permitted in New York archdiocese beginning August 15, the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin. It has been announced.

Pastors may now schedule either one or two Masses at their discretion on holidays of obligation that are not legal holidays.

In addition, one evening Mass will be permitted in parish churches on the first Friday of each month, beginning with the first Friday in September.

It was pointed out that evening Masses must be celebrated between the hours of 5 and 8 p.m., and that no evening Masses will be permitted on Sundays.

Announcement of the new regulations came from Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York. It is in accord with the motu proprio "Sacram Communionem" issued by Pope Pius XII on March 19, 1957.

Scientist Says Researches Back Bible Flood Story

Paris — (NC) — Recent research with radio-active carbon supports the Biblical story of the great flood, according to a French scientist who has just returned from the U.S.

CHARLES NOEL MARTIN, who helped to make studies of earth structure in Mississippi and Louisiana under the auspices of the Humble Oil Company, published his claim in a recent issue of Le Figaro Littéraire Parisian periodical.

According to Mr. Martin, carbon 14 research in the U.S. and in Europe shows that the level of the sea covering a large portion of the earth deepened at a certain time in the past. He believes that this was because of a sudden inundation which he identifies with the deluge mentioned in the Bible.

MR. MARTIN'S theory is based on studies involving the measure of disintegration of carbon 14, a radio active form of carbon which disintegrates slowly into azule.

Because the proportion of carbon 14 and its rate of disintegration can be calculated, this phenomenon is regarded by scientists as a kind of time clock measuring the age of objects in the earth and various earth strata by thousands and millions of years.

Iowa Governor Backs School Fund

Waterloo, Iowa — (NC) In an unprecedented appearance at a Catholic campaign rally for funds for a new Central Catholic High School, Gov. Herschel Loveless of Iowa, praised the workers for their campaign and their interest in youth.

"This is truly a magnificent achievement," the Governor stated.

The \$1 million goal for the new school, which will serve eight parishes in the Waterloo, Cedar Falls and Evansdale area, was over-subscribed by \$820,339.

to bless the tourists and pilgrims standing below.

At one o'clock the trucks and buses carrying equipment, actors and technicians rumbled back across the broad white line separating Vatican City from the Republic of Italy.

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Write to: CARMELITE FATHERS Auburn, New York

My Husband's Work Requires Travel We Lack A Normal Family Life

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J. Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Louis University

My husband's work takes him from home most of the week. I don't have much trouble keeping busy because we have three children aged five, four and two. It does get lonesome at times and I miss his companionship. He says it's work he can do best, that maybe he can get a job at the home office in a few years. I'm worried about our lack of normal family life. Aren't we losing something valuable?



I DON'T HAVE to tell you, Louise, that modern industrial society offers many jobs which place a heavy strain on family life. Employment which keeps the husband away from home for days or weeks at a time is bound to be trying for all members of the family.

Such absences are perhaps most keenly felt in the early years of marriage when the children are small and their care confines you closely to the home. It would be ideal, of course, to maintain your little family circle always intact.

The daily companionship of husband and wife in the home is one of marriage's most pleasing rewards. But men must make a living as best they can under modern conditions. Your husband's job is only one of many which may put some strain on family life.

What's the best way to handle your problem? First, it is not advisable to persuade your husband to change his job unless he can find other employment, equally satisfying for him. He evidently likes his work and feels he stands a good chance to better his position if he stays with it.

He may not find it easy to settle down in another line of work, so the decision to change jobs should come from him.

SECOND, ALTHOUGH your companionship is restricted, it need not suffer in depth and quality.

Learn to make the most of the time when he is home. Let him feel that he is very much a part of the family circle.

If necessary, put off some of your work until later so that you can spend more time together. Keep him interested in what goes on around the home while he is away.

Set up some regular custom of communicating either by letter or telephone while he is traveling. This may seem to be a small point, but in the long run it is not.

The old saying "absence makes the heart grow fonder" seems to be based on wishful thinking. In real life, a sensible couple will make use of all practical means to maintain communication during separation.

THIRD, A PROBLEM to which you should pay considerable attention in your circumstances is your children's attitude toward their father. Because he is away so much, they will tend to focus their affection on you. This may be flattering for you, but it is not healthy for anybody concerned.

Children need both mother and father. With a little thought, you can easily bring father into the picture. Build up their expectations when you are expecting him home.

Show him how to deal with them. Provide opportunities for him to be with them. Remember that a different approach in meeting it.

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