

Catholic Evidence Guild College Girls Explain Catholic Faith In New York's Bustling Wall Street

By GEORGE GENT
(Correspondent, N.C.W.C. News Service)

New York — (NC) — Two girls met on the corner of Wall and Nassau Streets, in the heart of New York's financial district. They began immediately to assemble their gear. First the portable wood and metal stand, then the collapsible American flag. The new requires of street speakers.

Months of preparation had gone into this work. Ellen Sullivan was a little nervous. It was her first public talk, but her speech and answers had a rhetorical flourish that promised a quick mastery.

The girls had no microphones and no music. Their pathetically small voices competed, unsuccessfully at times, with the rumbling subway below and the harsh roar of a city that is being constantly made over.

THE CHIMES of Trinity Episcopal Church knelled the noon hour. From across the street, on the steps of Federal Hall Memorial, George Washington looked down with solemn gravity as the brokerage houses emptied their perspiring thousands into the streets.

THE QUESTIONING was more rapid. Most of the inquisitive seemed sincere, although a few looked as though they were going to swallow a canary if their question stumped the girls. The girls, however, were ready with the answers. While one spoke, the other girl passed

They spoke Christ's word to a barely interested — some times hostile few, never knowing where the seed of conversion will fall. They have consented to be sowers only, leaving the harvesting to others.

It was a hot but clear July day. The mercury hovered around the 100 mark.



Laughing groups of working girls and intense young men passed the two girls and their flag with barely a curious glance. Every day some messianic group harrassed them, to come forth and be "saved." Who was it this time?

Red lettering on the stand said "The Catholic Evidence Guild."

Mr. Urban said that as he and the other two seminarians were driving through Peas a woman threw herself in front of their car and suffered minor injuries. She was taken to a hospital, the seminarian said, where doctors informed him that she had been killed before he could stop the car.

A LITTLE KNOT of people gathered about the girls. An attractive young woman, dressed in modish brown and wearing large white earrings, began to address them.

She said she would talk to them about the Catholic position on Confession. There was a slight murmur and passersby were attracted to the fringes of the circle.

According to information received from Milwaukee Seminarian John Urban gave the following account of the incident in a letter he sent to his parents. The letter was given by Mr. Urban to American students passing through Yugoslavia who took it out of the country.

After a few minutes the merely curious drifted away. Others took their places. Soon a hard core of some 70 persons were listening intently to what the young woman had to say.

The guild had provided two speakers, Jean Gibney, who talked on Confession, is a graduate of New Rochelle College and teaches a school in Massachusetts, Long Island. She gives her time and talents in the guild during the summer vacation period.

MR. URBAN SAID he and the other seminarians showed their papers to police and were allowed to go on, but were stopped at the Albanian border by police who confiscated their passports.

The second girl, Ellen Sullivan, a pretty blond, took her master's degree from Fordham University. She described herself as a free-lance writer. Her topic was the Mass.

The talks lasted about 10 minutes, and were followed by a 20-minute question period.

THE STUDENTS were driving through Yugoslavia on their way to Greece and were detained at Peas in south Yugoslavia, where they were involved in an automobile accident on July 8.

A tiny blond, her eyes shaded by sun glasses, asked if Catholics weren't licensed to repeat the same sins over and over again.

The girls answered carefully.

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Catholic Teacher Guide Of Souls, Says Holy Father

Vatican City — (NC) — The primary duty of a Catholic teacher is to be an educator of souls, Pope Plus XII told a group of Spanish Catholic lay teachers here.

"Your mission as teachers," the Pope said, "cannot be reduced to simply a means of imparting knowledge which is more or less profound and more or less broad. On the contrary, you must be first of all educators of spirits and, within due measure, molders of the souls of your pupils."

Tito Police Free U.S. Seminarians

Washington — (NC) — Three Milwaukee seminarians held by Yugoslav police have been released, according to a cable received by Rep. Clement J. Zablocki of Wisconsin.

The three youths are Thomas Dwyer and Jim Harrmann, of Milwaukee, and John Urban, Jefferson Junction, Wis.; students at St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee.

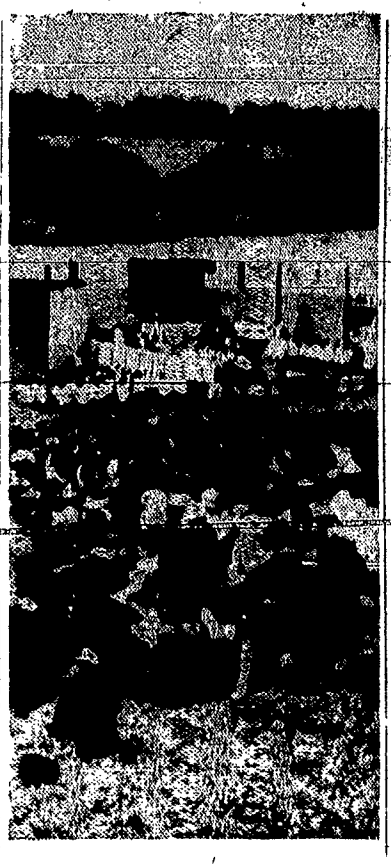
In reply to a cable sent to the U. S. Embassy in Belgrade, Rep. Zablocki was informed the seminarians had been found innocent at a trial held July 18, were released the following day and there was no indication of "unusual treatment."

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Valley Forge

Catholic Boy Scouts attended Pontifical field Mass at historic Valley Forge, offered by Auxiliary Bishop of Carroll McCormick, of Philadelphia. Some 55,000 boy scouts attended the Fourth National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America. (NC Photos)

Priest Raps U.S. Neglect Of Indians

Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — An appeal for real Federal assistance to improve the lot of the American Indian has been made by Msgr. Bernard A. Cullen, director general of the Marquette League for Catholic Indian Missions.

MSGR. CULLEN, who describes the Indians as "the poorest and sickest racial group in the United States" says that for the problems of housing, health and education — both on and off Indian reservations — to be solved "the Federal government must face up to its obligation."

STATING U. S. Public Health Service figures, Msgr. Cullen says tuberculosis death rates among Indians are 5 to 28 times the rates of other population groups. Infant death rates are 2 to 7 times greater among Indians than in surrounding non-Indian populations.

Track Star Blesses Self On Television

London — (NC) — A runner from a Catholic college in the United States surprised millions of British television viewers by slowly and deliberately making the sign of the cross after winning a race.

Ron Delany, Irish track star from Villanova University, Villanova, Pa., had just finished winning the half-mile race at the White City Stadium, a big London athletic event when he blessed himself before staring television cameras.

Mr. Delany, a gold medalist at the 1956 Olympic games at Melbourne, Australia, is a native of Dublin, Ireland.

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Tickets For Cancer Fund

Boston — (NC) — Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, purchases a block of 400 tickets for a special game here between the Boston Red Sox and the Milwaukee Braves, from Ted Williams, famous baseballer, and chairman of the Jimmy Fund, which handles research and treatment for children with cancer. The Archbishop attended the game with 100 homeless children, the other 300 seats given to fans, old and young, who could not otherwise attend.

State Department Warns On Soviet Youth Festival

Washington — (NC) — The State Department is trying to discourage American youngsters from attending the sixth "World Youth and Student Festival for Peace and Friendship" in Moscow July 28 to August.

Meanwhile, Soviet officials are reported preparing to roll out the red rug for some 300 Americans expected to attend along with 70,000 Soviet and 30,000 non-Soviet youths.

The State Department has branded the biennial festival "an instrument of communist propaganda" in a form letter it has sent to about 1000 inquirers.

"It would not be in the interests of the United States to have Americans participating in an activity sponsored by youth organizations committed to the support of the Soviet foreign policy, especially with the results of that policy for the people of Hungary," the letter said.

Promoting American youth participation in the United States is the "U. S. Youth Festival Committee."



One of the most unusual postage stamps to be issued by the U. S. Post Office Department will honor late President of the Philippine Islands, Ramon Magsaysay, outstanding Catholic, and one of Asia's most stalwart foes of Communism. The eight-cent stamp, printed in three colors, red, blue, and golden ochre, is the first of the "Champion of Liberty" series to be issued. (NC Photo)

Marian Shrine
Marlaxell, Austria — (NC) — A Catholic Church Unity Day was marked by a pilgrimage of Ukrainians from many parts of Western Europe to the 800-year-old shrine of Our Lady here.



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