

Skid Row Ends At Chicken Coop

Alameda, N. M. (NC) — What was a chicken coop a few years ago has come to be a haven of hope for the "down and outer."

Called Villa Maria, it consists of three buildings situated 10 miles north of Albuquerque. It is operated by the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd and provides completely free care and rehabilitation to the alcoholic, the destitute and the man with problems he can no longer cope with.

The men who come to the refuge are given a chance to work at their trades, engage in recreation, and receive individual counseling by the Brothers.

"Most of the men's problems here is with drinking," said Brother Francis Joseph, who heads Villa Maria. "We try to help them regain their lost self-confidence. We want to get them out of dishwashing and back into what they were doing before."

He pointed out that Villa

Maria "is far enough from town to get them into the open and out of skid row."

MANY OF THE men go to weekly meetings downtown of Alcoholics Anonymous, which aids greatly in their rehabilitation. Brother Francis Joseph said.

The men stay at Villa Maria from one to eight months or more. One who was at Villa Maria for several months was a local engineer. He is now back on his feet and working in another city.

Most of the men usually come out to Villa Maria from the Good Shepherd Refuge in Albuquerque. At the refuge they are given meals and a place to stay for the night. If they need further aid they are afforded the opportunity of going out to Villa Maria.

"We get a lot of cooks out here," said Brother Francis Joseph, "so we never have to worry about anyone cooking the meals."



Our Lady of Star

Rome (NC) — Our Lady of the Star, a beautiful statue is enshrined in a monastery near Cherbourg, France. Tradition says a flaming star fell from heaven on that spot in answer to a monk's prayer.

'God's Guitarist' Stirs Londoners To Prepare For Lourdes Festival

By JOHN A. GREAVES
London (NC) — Father Aime Duval, French Jesuit guitarist and ballad singer, hit the front pages of the national press when he came here to help prepare Lourdes centenary celebration in England.

The wiry, 39-year-old Frenchman, dressed in a black wind-breaker and with his guitar over his shoulders, went straight to a meeting of Catholic journalists in Fleet Street, London newspaper center, to sing them his "spirituals" and answer questions about his unusual life.

"God's Guitarist" as he calls himself, told reporters that with the approval of the French Hierarchy he spends most of his life preaching — with the help of his guitar — and giving concerts to help Catholic causes.

To get people to gather and listen to his subsequent talks on life and morals, his usual procedure is to walk into a cafe or factory during a work break and begin singing popular songs, French and Catholic "spirituals" which he has usually composed himself, he calls them "chansons apostoliques" follow.

When the crowd has really settled down to listen, he begins talking about Christianity.

FATHER DUVAL said he thought of his first "spiritual" later a best-selling record with 180,000 copies while as an infantryman in Syria he was bouncing up and down on the back of a mule. He had taught himself to play the guitar, first using it to amuse boys at Catholic vacation camps in France.



GOD'S GUITARIST FATHER DUVAL

Later as a priest he set about using his special talents to compose songs and music with simple religious themes which have made him one of the top record producers in his own country. Last year he gave the \$12,000 earned from three records to a home he supports for young ap

prentices at the Peugeot automobile factory.

Father Duval's main purpose in paying a brief visit to England was to give advice on a Lourdes centenary festival in London's Albert Hall, one of the biggest outdoor areas in the city.

Pope's Talk Set Sunday, Dec. 22

Vatican City (NC) — To assure its being brought to the attention of the whole world by means of press and communications coverage, the annual Christmas message of Pope Pius XII will this year be broadcast on December 22 over the Vatican Radio station.

The occasion will mark the first time that the Pope has delivered his speech three days in advance of Christmas. The broadcast starts at 11 a.m. Rome time (5 a.m. EST).

The Christmas message is customarily delivered on Christmas Eve, when the Roman Cardinals visit the Apostolic Palace to convey their greetings of the season to the Pontiff.

Public Schools Told Keep Christmas 'Neutral'

Yellow Springs, O. (RNS) — The American Humanist Association's Committee on Church and State opposed any "theological exploitation" of Christmas or Hanukkah (the Jewish feast of lights) in public schools during December. American constitutional principles and State.

THE COMMITTEE did not oppose Christmas trees or "traditional music which has become part of our general culture." But it objected to any expenditure of public funds for "creches, religious pageants or religious monuments." Such expenditures, the committee declared, "violate the

principle of the separation of Church and State." "The public schools, under our Constitution, should be as neutral as possible in matters of sectarian religion," it said.

George E. Axtell, professor of education at New York University, signed the statement as chairman of the committee.

Soviet Press Uses God's Name But Extolls Atheism

Munich, Germany (NC) — For the first time in recent years the name of God appeared in two official Soviet newspapers, Moscow's Pravda and Izvestia.

The occasion was the 80th birthday of Orthodox Patriarch Alexis of Moscow, a staunch supporter of the communist regime since he succeeded Patriarch Sergius in 1945.

Using the occasion of the Patriarch's birthday, the Soviet government again professed its solidarity with the Orthodox church. Patriarch Alexis, in reply to the article, said he would continue "to lend his best efforts to the cause of peace . . . with the help of God."

It was in this context that the word God was used. But the use of God's name in the official Soviet press has not lessened the communist drive toward stamping out religion.

Card. Spellman Consecrates N. Y. Auxiliary

New York (NC) — Fifty members of the American hierarchy attended consecration rites here for the Most Rev. John M. Fearnas as Titular Bishop of Geras and Auxiliary Bishop of New York.

Bishop Kearney and Auxiliary Bishop Casey attended to represent the Rochester Diocese.

An outdoor procession preceded the ceremony, which was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, was the consecrator. Co-consecrators were Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, D. C., and Auxiliary Bishop Edward J. Maginn of Albany.

Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles, gave the sermon.

The elevation of Bishop Fearnas brings to 20 the members of the hierarchy consecrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral since Cardinal Spellman came to New York as archbishop in 1939.

AN ARTICLE in Nauka i Khizn (Science and Life) magazine boasts: "The U.S.S.R. is now a land of mass atheism." The article's author, F. I. Garkavenko, a specialist in anti-religious propaganda, said that 40 years of relentless communist activity against religion has changed even the Russian clergy.

Despite his claim that the clergy is "patriotic and loyal to the Soviet power," Mr. Garkavenko called for "still more sweeping" atheistic propaganda, particularly among the younger generation.

"BECAUSE PERSONS with religious beliefs are patriotic 'does not mean, however, that the essence of religion has changed; that the ideological struggle against a religious world outlook, the struggle to rid all believers of religious superstition, has receded into the background or become unnecessary," the article continued.

Atheism is essential to advancement in the Communist party, Nikita Khrushchev recently declared in a copyrighted interview with William Randolph Hearst Jr.

The chief of the Communist party in the Soviet Union told the American newspaper publisher that if acceptance of religion is mixed with political activity, it works against the party.

Ohio Citizens Organize To Fight Smut Traffic

Cincinnati (NC) — An archbishop, a U.S. senator and a governor head a list of prominent citizens who have given their support to a group here leading encouragement to the organization, Citizens for Decent Literature, at Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati, U.S. Sen. Frank J. Lausche of Ohio, and Gov. C. William O'Neill, also of Ohio.

THE NUCLEUS for the CDL is a group of 15 men headed by Charles H. Keating Jr., Cincinnati attorney. Their goal is not alone to rid the community's newsstands of indecent literature. The long-range objective of the CDL is to arouse public opinion to the point where people will refuse to tolerate the distribution and sale of pornographic literature.

"With an annual pornography traffic of three quarters of a billion dollars," Mr. Keating said, "no child from college age down to the age of five is safe. This is volume enough to pervade an entire generation."

The persistent efforts of the CDL to enlist public opinion have begun to pay off. There have been a string of convictions under city and state anti-smut laws in the past year.

Mr. Keating is a member of St. Clare's parish in nearby College Hill. He credits a retreat in 1953 at the Jesuit retreat house in Milford, Ohio, with giving the first impetus to his group.

Father Nicholas H. Gelin, S.J., then director of the retreat house, challenged Mr. Keating to do something about the flood of indecent publications. The Cincinnati

Sermon Gets Results, Stores Sweep Smut Out

Stamford (RNS) — A Catholic priest here preached a sermon on obscene literature during which he named five stores in the parish area that he said were selling "printed material to hit storekeepers in the pocketbook."

In his sermon, the priest said it seemed to him ridiculous that Catholic parents should pour out millions to build parochial schools to teach love of God and observance of His laws and at the same time allow such dangers to their moral life as suggestive and obscene literature to be displayed and sold to them in stores within the very boundaries covered by the school.

After he received assurances from the owners that they would stop selling the objectionable material, Father Fenton said he would advise parishioners to resume trading in the five stores.

The priest said later he realized that the boycott is an extreme weapon but was convinced that the only effective way to stop the sale of pornographic

at Davids Rochester and Southtown Plaza



JEWELLED 100% boucle holiday pastel KNIT SUITS 19.90 reg. \$25 and 29.98

Beautiful selection of styles . . . so wonderful for yourself, for gifts. 100% wool boucle knits from famous makers slip-on and cardigan styles, all beautifully jewel sparkled. In lovely holiday pastels . . . perfect now through spring. 10-18.

Street-Floor
10 Clinton Ave. S. & Southtown Plaza

McCurdy's

Gift Special!
Scratching Post For Your Cat
1.98

Here's fun for your cat . . . and protection for your furniture. Pussy prefers this post for scratching. It is complete with catnip mouse on a coiled spring.

McCurdy's Pet Shop, Fifth Floor

Gifts for Nuns On Your List

BLACK LISLE STOCKINGS
1.50 pair

Fine black lisle in sizes 9 to 11.

BLACK WOOL GLOVES
1.00 pair

Warm, soft wools, in a plain knit stitch. Small, medium, large sizes.

Mail and phone orders filled. Call BAKER 5-3000 (ENTERprise 9069 for toll-free suburban calls.)
McCurdy's Gloves and Hosiery, Street Floor

OPEN FRIDAY NIGHT TIL 9 P.M.

THE National

PRE-CHRISTMAS BOYS' GIFT ROBES

\$6.00 were to \$9.95

\$12.00 were to \$17.95

Included in the group are Acilan and wool blends, imported cottons, cotton terry cloths and all-wool flannels. Each one is distinctively styled with a shawl collar, self-sash and 3 pockets. Stripes, plaids, solid colors. Sizes 6 to 20.

Donmoor Knit PAJAMAS
\$2.95 size 8-12

Firmly knit with plenty of room for loss and turning. They keep their size and shape . . . never get that "sad sack" look. Moire and brown or red and black. Sizes 10-18.

Downtown and Southtown Plaza

is tolerated. Another belief is supported by the state. familiar story of Christmas, the census decree, and the journey of Joseph and Mary. members of Mary High School under direction of Sister Mary Margaret, R.S.M., will sing the