

Busses, Phone Service Force Famed Dogs To Retirement

By FATHER PLACID JORDAN, O.S.B.

Marligny (NC)—The world-famous dogs of St. Bernard's hospice here have become a relic of the past and again this winter will have an easy life compared with the experience of their forbears.

The mountain pass of the Great St. Bernard is no longer as perilous as it was for the many generations of travelers who crossed the Alps from here into Italy.

Julius Caesar was among those who well as the emperors Constantine, Charlemagne and Napoleon and their armies.

The Augustinian monks who are stationed on the pass could tell many a tale of the calamities that have occurred down through the years.

IN ROMAN TIMES, there was a pagan temple where the hospice now stands.

The monks live at the hospice and have rescued many travelers and wayfarers from the heavy snows. But this was in the old days, when the dogs played a great part in the rescue operations and one could say that many a life was owed to them.

Now, however, a regular mail coach route goes right past the hospice. Its services are discontinued during the winter, when there are snow drifts up to 15 feet or more.

When the snows are so high, the monks must come down the mountain to Bourg St. Pierre for mail and supplies. Mules can carry them back up to a certain height, but they must eventually depend upon sleds, carrying their supplies on their backs.

THE DOGS are comfortable in their kennel the year round, and are now mainly a tourist attraction. They have been replaced by the telephone, since the monks have set up an relay station for seven miles on each side of the pass. Whenever a traveler sets out from either side of the pass, the monks are advised immediately by telephone, and they keep a constant lookout for him.

The monks have a very difficult life because of the rigorous cold and isolation of the hospice and because there are sometimes periods as long as six weeks when the sun remains totally out of sight. Frequently, the winter will last nine or ten months. For all these reasons, the monks are replaced regularly.

During the summer months, the hospice is visited frequently by many tourists, anxious to see the famous dogs. During the rest of the year, things are very quiet, but the hospice which was founded about a thousand years ago, still stands, a house of refuge and prayer, guarded over by the great statue of St. Bernard of Monthon.

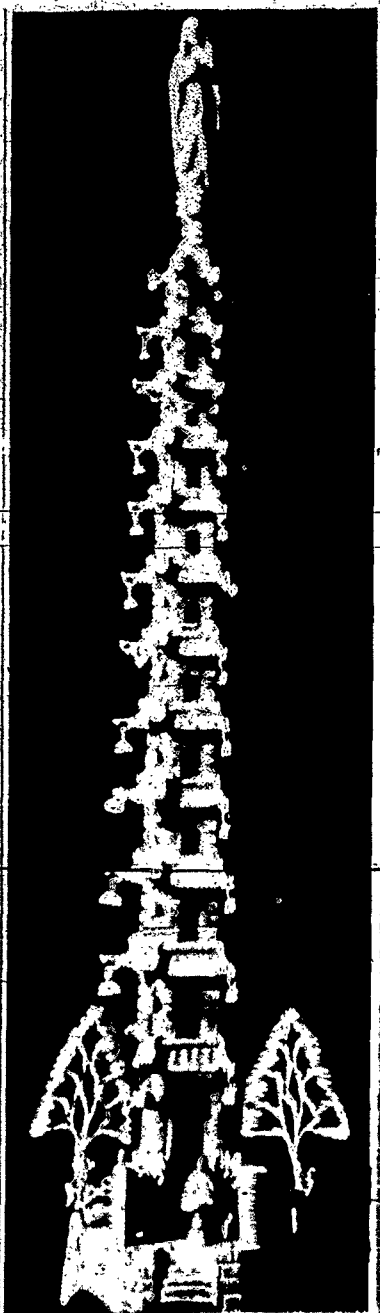
Pope Pius Urges Prayers For Unity

Garrison (RNS)—Pope Pius XII has urged that the annual Chair of Unity Oration (Jan. 23-25) be "spread everywhere in the world as widely as possible."

The Pontiff's appeal was made in a special letter in connection with the 50th anniversary of the signing of the observance for religious unity, Catholics of many countries take part in the Oration.

Entitled, *Quinquaginta Proxima*, the letter was addressed to Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York. It was made public by the Franciscan Friars of the Attonment at Garrison, N.Y., who inaugurated the observance in 1936.

Pope Pius commended "the presidential plan of beseeching God through eight days of public prayer to bring back, as soon as possible, as to a forsaken Mother, all those who have unhappily departed from the unity of the Catholic Church."



Tower Of Ivory

Echoing the Litany of Loretto, "Tower of Ivory, Pray for Us," is this delicately sculptured tower of ivory, surmounted by the statue of the Immaculate Conception. The statue, work of a Chinese sculptor, was presented by Dr. Paulus Hall to Cardinal Costantini, Chancellor of the Holy Roman Church.

1958 Polio Campaign To Emphasize Aid For All Disabled By Disease

Plans for a vigorous March of Dimes campaign to be held in Rochester and Monroe County during January were announced by Mrs. Charles F. Fitter, campaign director. Opening day for the polio drive is scheduled for Jan. 2.

Mrs. Fitter said the 1958 drive will emphasize the urgent task of caring for those who have been disabled by polio. The object is to restore them to lives as nearly normal as modern medicine can make them. She said the 1958 theme is "Survival is not enough."

Pope's Talks Total 98 During Year

Vatican City (NC)—During the past year His Holiness Pope Pius XII has received 864,797 persons in audience, delivered 98 addresses and met with top officials of 10 countries.

These figures were released here by the Vatican Press Office. The Pope met 800,000 persons in general audiences, 64,000 in special audiences and 797 in private audiences.

AMONG THE world's leaders who journeyed to Vatican City to see the Holy Father were President Rene Coty of France and President Theodor Heuss of Germany. U.S. Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Premier Joseph Bech of Luxembourg, and Prime Minister Eamon de Valera of Ireland. Prince Ranier III and Princess Grace of Monaco were among other dignitaries received by the Pope.

Papal Talk Beamed To Iron Curtain

Rome (NC)—The Christmas message of Pope Pius XII was carried to all Iron Curtain countries in their own languages at double radio strength this year as a result of Radio Vatican's new transmitters. Vatican Radio officials revealed that prior to the Pope's broadcast on December 22, information had been received that the Radio Vatican signal was received behind the Iron Curtain better and clearer than ever.

Mission Organized

Vatican City (NC)—Pope Pius XII has established the new Apostolic Prefecture of Kerge in the Belgian Congo, and has appointed Father John Van der Heyden, S.V.D., as the first prefect. The new jurisdiction was created from territory taken from the Apostolic Vicariates of Kinshasa and Kisumu. The new area has been entrusted to the care of members of the Society of the Divine Word.



New Church For Elmira Heights

ARCHITECT'S drawing of proposed St. Charles Borromeo Church, Elmira Heights for which fund campaign was conducted in September under direction of the Rev. Joseph G. Merkel, pastor.

'Patriotism Begins In Our Parish

Cork, Ireland (RNS) Bishop Cornelius Lucey of Cork said here the Irish people badly need to be reminded that true patriotism means living for one's country as well as being prepared to die for it.

He also told the County Cork federation of Muintir na Tire, a farmers' organization, that local patriotism is even more important than national patriotism.

BISHOP LUCEY said that because of historical circumstances the Irish had come to think of patriotism exclusively in terms of national patriotism and to regard fighting, destroying and dying as its greatest acts.

"The fact that true patriotism begins with the neighborhood or parish to which we belong," the bishop said, "that so far from national patriotism being the whole or even the most important part of patriotism it must always take second place to local patriotism."

"Patriotism, so far from being a matter of killing or dying for

one's country, is much more a matter of living and working for one's countrymen. The true patriot is the person who makes his locality or parish as well as his country a better place for more and more people to live in."

Bishop Lucey said "the need for more and more patriotism in rural Ireland today needs no stressing."

"Census after census reveals most of our rural parishes as places in which fever and fever

can make a decent living," he said "no other country in the civilized world has that tale to tell."

You're Excused

Father: "Didn't you promise to be a good boy?"
Son: "Yes, dad."
Father: "And didn't I promise to give you a thrashing if you weren't?"
Son: "Yes, dad. But I've broken my promise, so you don't have to keep yours."

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Holy Hour In Elmira To Usher In New Year

Eucharistic Holy Hour will be sponsored by the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society of the Elmira Area in St. Peter and Paul Church, Elmira from 11 p.m. until midnight on New Year's Eve.

Dec. 31 Members with their families and friends are invited to this special dialogued Holy Hour when the opening of the New Year will be observed with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Special booklets will be provided for all.

THE MONTHLY VIGIL of the Nocturnal Adoration Society will be held this Saturday night, Dec. 28. No special cards will be mailed to the members this month; each captain is asked to contact his fellow members.

The regular schedule follows: High school boys, 10-11; St. Mary (Elmira), 11-12; St. Patrick, 12-1; Our Lady of Lourdes, 1-2; St. Anthony, 2-3; St. Casimir, 3-4; St. Cecilia, 4-5; St. Charles, 5-6; St. John, 5-6; St. Peter and Paul, 6-7.

'Voice' Bears Bishops' Talks

Washington (NC) Christmas greetings from members of the U.S. Hierarchy are being broadcast by the Voice of America to people behind the Iron Curtain at this Christmastime.

Prelates whose messages were beamed to the Voice of America by the U.S. Information Agency and the Voice of America were Cardinal Sincich, Archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles; Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati; 1-2; St. Anthony, 2-3; St. Casimir, 3-4; St. Cecilia, 4-5; St. Charles, 5-6; St. John, 5-6; St. Peter and Paul, 6-7.

The theme of the messages is the oppression suffered by those behind the Iron Curtain, and a plea for the brotherhood of mankind.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1957

Bishop At Home
His Excellency the Holy Father

St. Anthony Tuesday
The new St. Anthony's of Tuesday evening

Novena of Prayers for the Holy Spirit
each Tuesday close with a Blessed Sacrament

Mother's Entertain At Broom
Mother's Entertain At Broom

Superintendent and Mrs. Sida
aids decorate with many

The girls of School
for Angela as next to the through all for patients the tree.

J. Harry with piano
both Christmas morous-humorous plauded by the Refreshments distributed and residents

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