

## Disappointed Bride Steals Mass Books

Newark (RNS)—Two ledgers containing lists of the initiators and donors of 1,800 and 2,000 Masses scheduled through next March were stolen from Sacred Heart Church here and only scraps of one book have been recovered.

The thief was admitted by a 30-year-old nurse, a parishioner, whose list was found in a book and then crossed off with the word "cancelled." She has been admitted to a hospital for psychiatric treatment.

Mesgr. Thomas J. Conroy, the church's pastor, said he would make an appeal at Sunday Masses requesting parishioners to visit the rectory to rechedule Masses they have requested for the period extending from now through March 1950.

THE THEFT occurred on an evening when the priests of the parish were in church hearing confessions.

Mesgr. Conroy said publicly on the theft had been withheld to protect the woman and her family, and he asked that her name not be revealed. He said the theft was made public only to help locate people who had requested Masses listed in the stolen books.

"We think a psychological reason for the theft may lie in the fact that her marriage had been cancelled," Mesgr. Conroy commented. He said she had been heard to remark that she considered it "a disgrace" and "an embarrassment" to herself and her family that her scheduled wedding had been crossed out and marked cancelled in the Mass-record book.

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Camp Stella Maris Girls' Staff

GIRLS' STAFF OF CAMP STELLA MARIS, Conesus Lake, is shown above as the summer camping season nears its end. First row (from left) Miss Marjorie Adams, Director; Rev. Eugene H. McFarland, Executive Director; Miss Mary Kress, Assistant Director; Row 2: Misses Barbara Bress, Craft Director; Rita Zaunegger, Athletic Director; Mrs. Margaret O'Shaughnessy, Waterfront Director; Misses Mary Kay Smead, Campfire Director; Joanne Kuchman, Dance

Director; Row 3: Misses Kathleen Morrison, Carol Carson, Patricia Roney, Mary Ellen Donovan, Patricia Burgess, Ellen Finigan, Karen Gears, Eileen Robinson, Mary Ann Kinsky; Row 4: Misses Carol Odenbach, Kathleen Leap, Nancy Plunkett, Mary Patricia Kane, Kathleen O'Brien, Kathleen McCusker, Gail Lawson, Patricia Marlon, Barbara McGrath. Cook boys are William Holtman, Thomas Blum; Christopher Odenbach and Justin Knauf. (Martin Wahl Photo)

## Englishman Admits

### We're Getting Smart

Pittsburgh (NC)—The problem of anti-intellectualism among American Catholics—a topic that has been the subject of sympathetic observers—is resolving itself.

This view can be taken on the authority of Christopher Dawson, noted British Catholic historian and professor of the chair of Catholic theological studies at Harvard Divinity School.

In fact, Prof. Dawson is convinced that young Catholic America is spearheading a "cultural renaissance."

"This conclusion derives from the scholarship in the fields of western civilization and Christian culture, and his experience in the United States as a professor, lecturer and traveler.

He expressed his views during an interview, while visiting here as a house guest of Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh.

Prof. Dawson said that the "cultural renaissance" among Catholic Americans goes not date far back.

"It doesn't date back to the first World War, and it certainly wasn't present between the great wars," he said. "I would say it is something that has taken place since the second war. It has reached the younger generation and young priests, but it has hardly touched the middle age segment and may never have any strong influence on it."

Prof. Dawson regards this "cultural awakening" as a Catholic phenomenon.

"Non-Catholic representatives have been awake for a considerable time," he commented, "and, of course, the Jews, actually, have been acting as an intellectual ferment in many colleges because of their tradition of intellectual inquiry. American Catholics haven't had so much of this."

The probable reasons for this latter circumstance were described as two-fold: "Catholics in the United States were for so long socially underprivileged. Look at New

England in the 19th century, and you'll see what I mean. Also, Catholic building absorbed energies."

Yet it is "principally to all that building work now bringing returns" that the cultural renaissance among U.S. Catholics can be traced, he commented.

In spite of this "awakening," American Catholics generally are not yet aware of the great opportunity of the part it is theirs to play in the American civilization of the future, Prof. Dawson said.

"A lot of propaganda is necessary," he said, "in order to arouse Catholics to their opportunity."

In this connection he cited particularly the work to date of such publications as *Jubilee*, *The Critic* and *Commonweal*.

When it was noted that all three are edited and published by laymen, Prof. Dawson commented: "The propaganda effort must be largely a lay movement. Pope Pius XII pointed that out in his message on the lay apostolate. Yes, it must be a lay movement."

The clergy are separately educated and have their particular problems, problems which are concerned primarily

with responsibilities to the numbers at Mass and the financing of the great American apostolic programs. The lay must take over their proper part and their propaganda must be directed to the educated minority. Their efforts will be repaid a hundred fold."

Prof. Dawson emphasized the relationship between western civilization and Christian culture and declared that the former could not be understood without a study of the latter, "out of which it arose."

"Americans as a whole are apt to be unaware of this Christian root," he continued, "but not so American Catholics. That is one reason why it is not fair to call American Catholics provincial."

Prof. Dawson said that "it is rather paradoxical, but though American Catholics are not provincial, they are conservative." He attributed this to the fact that they maintained links with the Old World, the countries from which they came, and the old traditions.

"Also," he said, "they kept their religion, and when you keep your religion you keep a good deal else as well."

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## Old Nazi Treaty Ruffles Present German Regime

Wiesbaden (RNS)—Controversy over the National German concordat of 1933 flared up again in the State of Hesse when Bishop Adolf Bolle, new head of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fulda, swore an oath of allegiance to Germany and Hesse.

In an address at the ceremony, Bishop Bolle stressed that the oath in question was provided for in Article 18 of the concordat.

However, in a speech in reply, Minister-President Dr. August Zinn stressed that it was not because of the concordat that he had "met" Bishop Bolle's request for administering the oath. He said he wanted to put this on record since the government of Hesse does not consider the concordat as binding on the West German regional states.

THE PREMIER explained that he had attended the ceremony simply because, notwithstanding the government's stand on the matter, he had always sought to promote good Christian relations and wanted to continue to do so in the future.

The incident marked the first time in two and a half years that the validity of the Vatican-German agreement has been publicly challenged.

Early in 1957, the Constitutional Court at Karlsruhe upheld the general validity of the concordat signed during the former Nazi regime. In so doing it endorsed the stand of the treaty.

San Francisco (RNS)—Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's forthcoming visit to this country was sharply criticized by the Catholic-Central Union of America in a statement adopted at its 104th annual meeting here.

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## Harps Slate

### Annual Picnic

Ninth Annual Picnic of the Rochester Harps will be held at Elser's Grove, Buffalo Road, commencing at 1 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 18.

Featured as an added attraction will be Irish step dancers from both Farrell Sisters school of dancing and the Des Perse school of dancing.

A GAEILIC football game is being planned between Buffalo and Syracuse teams. Sports events for children will begin at 2 p.m.

Bill Garvey is chairman for the day.

## No Drink Group Reports Gains

Harrisburg (NC)—The Catholic Total Abstinence Union's annual convention heard its president report that interest in the organization is "increasing across the country."

Mesgr. John W. Koehn told the 87th annual meeting a chief reason is the union's comprehensive program for the rehabilitation of drunkards and alcoholics. He said the program has been widely publicized, especially in the Catholic press.

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