

No Integrated Sports

Cage Game Halted

Miami — (NC) — The Miami diocesan newspaper has denounced as "wholly unjustified" the action of Hialeah, Fla., police in stopping a basketball game between white and Negro boys representing Catholic parishes.

"Thousands of spectators have seen integrated sports contests here in the past," declared the Voice, official newspaper of the diocese.

"These brought neither storms of public indignation nor police action. Why single out mere schoolboys now?"

THE POLICE action was taken March 8 during a game between an all-Negro team from Holy Redeemer parish, Miami, and a white team from Sacred Heart parish, Homestead, Fla., at the Hialeah Municipal Playground. The contest was a play-off game of the Junior Catholic High School Basketball League.

According to eyewitnesses, Hialeah police stopped the game after it was more than half completed. However, a game between two all-white teams from St. Rose of Lima parish, Miami Shores, and St. Michael's parish, Miami, was allowed to continue uninterrupted on an adjoining court.

Witnesses said police explained they had received "13 calls in a half hour" protesting the game.

Spokesmen for all four Catholic teams said they had received permission for the games on the playground from the Hialeah

superintendent of parks. The Holy Redeemer Negro team, in Miami (March 11), the Holy Redeemer team won the championship by defeating St. Michael's.

YUGOSLAV

Reds Open New Drive On Church

BELGRADE — (RNS) — Catholic Bishop Stanislav Franjo Cekada of Skopje in Macedonia has been arrested along with two priests of his diocese and will be brought to trial shortly charged with anti-state activities according to well-informed Catholic sources here.

They said the arrests took place early in March and have been neither confirmed nor denied by Communist authorities.

The Catholic informants said the exact nature of the charges brought against Bishop Cekada with urging farmers to "remain steadfast" in their opposition to the government-imposed cooperative farm system.

Only after the priest was arrested did the farmers of the village of Magendovci, in the Schwalm district, give in to Communist pressure to join the agricultural-cooperative.

Vatican Urges Mass Study

VATICAN CITY — (RNS) — The Vatican Radio strongly praised a recent recommendation by Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter of St. Louis, Mo., that lay Catholics in his archdiocese make a special study of the Mass during the coming year.

The station said the archbishop's suggestion was "very commendable and should be followed generally."

Archbishop Ritter, who is chairman of the U.S. Bishop's Episcopal Commission of the Liturgical Apostolate, said that study of the Mass would not only help Catholics better to participate in the sacrifice, but help them share the fruits of their study with Non-Catholics.

These relations have remained tense since the war, but it had been expected that the death of Alloysius Cardinal Stepinac, Archbishop of Zagreb, would pave the way for more friendly relations. Confined to his native village of Krasic and barred from exercising his episcopal functions ever since his release from prison in 1951 after serving five years of a 15 year term for alleged political offenses, the cardinal's plight had been one of the biggest sources of Church-State friction.

Redtor Wins Jesuit Award

NEW YORK — (NC) — A real estate developer noted for his concern in providing housing for Negroes was awarded Fordham University's "Emmick Award."

Mr. Charles F. Vatterot, Jr., of St. Louis, who was honored April 8, was the Jesuit representative for "extraordinary distinction in the service of God through excellent professional performance."

Mr. Vatterot is a founder and past president of the Catholic Interracial Council of St. Louis.

The 50th anniversary of the Regiments in 1929 was an occasion for a special edition by the Rochester Echo, dated June 13, 1929.

Bishop John Francis O'Hern was celebrant of the convention Mass in St. Joseph's Church, the paper said. The late Monsignor John P. Schellhorn was acting chaplain at the time. Guest speaker at the Powers Hall was the late Dr. George F. Kettell, then pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Macedon.

One of the principal ceremonials of the knights, still being continued, is the annual Mass at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Black Rock, Monsignors and priest-chaplains have celebrated these Masses for deceased members. Persons attending have been moved by the piety and solemnity of this outdoor ceremony.

BISHOP KEARNEY served as supreme chaplain of the order and officiated at exemplification of the Noble Degree in St. Joseph's church as well as presiding at many functions. The Bishop celebrated the convention Mass in St. Joseph's Church in 1945. The help this writer had in handling publicity for that convention, given by William A. Lang, now Rochester Transit Corp. president, is well remembered.

Heading the order now is Col. Emil Eckert whose father, the late William Eckert was a distinguished member of the order. John G. Bitman is Lieutenant Colonel and well remembered as quartermaster of the Regiments for years truly. Francis Klobmeyer took no home in his car many times from district meetings and is still active. General Al Miller is one of the local unit's nationally known members. Monsignor Joseph H. Geffel, chaplain and Col. Joseph Wiedelgau are well remembered.

I may have omitted a name here and there as we were done to in a local newspaper column last week but I can remember the order's great contribution to Catholicity in Rochester. "The Knights of St. John," did publicity for the campaign states, "was organized for inculcation of the highest of Christian principles, the practice of the highest of civic virtues and for the purpose of infusing a broader and better morality than is known at the present day."

This should interest young Catholic men in joining the order and for what its worth, I recommend and encourage them to do so.

Knights Of St. John Early Days Recalled

By THOMAS H. O'CONNOR

A letter from Charley Mura informing me that a membership campaign was on in our St. Eustace Commandery, Knights of St. John sent me down memory lane with that organization, this week.

The Knights of St. John started in this city even before my time, 1879, when several unaffiliated societies turned out to greet Bishop McQuaid on his return from an ad limina visit.

In a playoff held later in Miami (March 11), the Holy Redeemer Negro team, made up of eighth and ninth grade boys, had played them to a draw by defeating St. Michael's.

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Farm Priest Arrested

Berlin — (RNS) — A Roman Catholic priest, identified only as Father Eusener, was arrested and interrogated for several hours by Communist East German police who charged him with urging farmers to "remain steadfast" in their opposition to the government-imposed cooperative farm system.

Only after the priest was arrested did the farmers of the village of Magendovci, in the Schwalm district, give in to Communist pressure to join the agricultural-cooperative.

MILITARY REVIEW of the Knights of St. John Regiment at an inspection of other years is made by from left) Monsignor Joseph H. Geffel, chaplain; Col. Emil Eckert, (near) Bishop Kearney, Col. Frederick J. Wagner and General Frank H. Biel.

to Rome. Showing resulted in a desire among the groups for a general organization and the First Regiment, Knights of St. John came into being.

When I took over the job of managing the Echo in Rochester, John W. Mattie, a school mate at old Cathedral High, invited me to join the organization. This must be more than 30 years ago.

THE ORGANIZATION impressed me. Members could disperse strongly in meetings and play pinball after with no ill feeling. One of the standing good natured sayings in the order was that when Bishop McQuaid was asked about it, he said, "do not let any Irishmen in, they all want to be generals." Since I had no such aspirations, I joined. Highest office I held later was trustee in St. Eustace Commandery.

The Knights of St. John is primarily for uniformed members, not "associates". The members gain indulgence for their uniforms. Their turnout are principally at church functions. They escort the young priest to his First Mass and at Pontifical functions furnish a dignified lay escort for Bishops. They have been on parade at civic affairs such as Memorial Day parades.

Some of the leaders locally have been highly esteemed friends of the writer. Colonel Joseph H. Wels of Wels and Fisher Co. headed the regiment in the early 20s when the organization made the Rochester Echo its official organ. Lt. Col. Michael H. Weismiller, Col. Frederick J. Wagner, Col. Jacob Nussbaum and General Frank H. Biel who became supreme president who have gone to their eternal reward, are remembered from these days.

THE OUTSTANDING auxiliary member at that time was Mrs. Teresa Gauger who headed the entire organization as supreme president of the auxiliaries for many terms.

My first experience was during a national convention in 1924 when I worked with the late General George E. North on publicity. The national organization was headed by General Frank X. Schwab of Buffalo who led the convention parade astride a white horse.

The 50th anniversary of the Regiment in 1929 was an occasion for a special edition by the Rochester Echo, dated June 13, 1929.

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Why Not

Religion Study In State Colleges

COURIER-JOURNAL
Friday, April 8, 1960

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Immigrants' Bill Said Narrow

Washington — (RNS) — Mr. Edward E. Swanson, executive director of Catholic Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference, protested at a hearing here the "narrowness" of a bill which would set up a permanent U.S. program for admission of refugees.

Chairman of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Mr. Swanson appeared on behalf of 28 groups working with refugees.

He told a House Judiciary subcommittee that these agencies felt "very strongly" that the proposed legislation should not be limited to those who are under the mandate of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Introduced by Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.), the measure provides for the entry of refugees into this country without limit in numbers or time and without being charged to any nation's immigration quota.

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Hunter Head Given Award

Noire Dame — (RNS) — Dr. George N. Shuster, recently re-elected president of Hunter College, New York, was named to receive the 1960 Lactare Medal of Notre Dame University here for "exemplifying the intellectual and moral values that Catholic laymen must assert more effectively in the arts, sciences and professions."

In announcing the award, made annually to an outstanding American Catholic layman, the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, G.C.C., university president, lauded Dr. Shuster for his advancement of "learning, culture and the commonweal at home and abroad."

"You may be sure," he said, "that with our separation objectives alert and wary if there were a case here it would have been tried."

Father Butler pointed out that religion courses are taught in at least 35 state universities. The question of Church-State separation, he said, has "in the past decade increased the role it deserves and demands in an educational institution, no matter how supported, which professes to teach universal knowledge to the mature mind."

The American people certainly do not want, in their tax-supported institutions, an academic atmosphere inimical or even indifferent to these essentials of personal development and basic supports to our democratic way of life."

Father Butler said that some state universities "have already incorporated religion courses in their regular curricula, some for as long as half a century without any legal repercussions."

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