THE LAST STRAW

GOD LOVE YOU !

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

The Holy Father Pope John XXIII received not very long ago an envelope from a visitor which he brought to his secretary and instructed to be opened. The secretary informed His Holiness that it was a gift of $100,000 to be used for his charitable purposes. The Holy Father returned the check to the secretary, telling him to dispense the money for charity himself. "We do not want to have even the credit and the happiness of distributing such a large gift." He added that when he dies he wants no material thing from the world in his possession, nor a single book in his library that is not spiritually or intellectually elevating.

There is always a great temptation on the part of us lesser mortals to intrude our personality, our wishes, our judgment into our giving. Our Lord ruled out such egotism when He said that our left hand was not to know what our right hand did, and also when He said we were to give without distinction.

The Holy Father encourages this anonymous charity through his Society for the Propagation of the Faith. When you give a sacrifice to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the ultimate decision concerning that money is left to the Holy Father who, in the language of the encyclical, "has a committee appointed by us" to supervise its distribution. He refers here to his Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith which allocates funds to all the Missions of the world.

It will not be until Judgment Day that you will know where your offerings went. By denying yourself an egotistic satisfaction of deciding where your money will go, you reserve for the lips of Christ the praise for your giving. Keep this in mind when you make your will. Leave your charity to the Holy Father through his Society for the Propagation of the Faith and send him what daily sacrifices you make.

GOD LOVE YOU to F.T. for $3 "For a favor asked — not received, but an answer given." . . . to W.X.C. for $50 "for our Holy Father's Missions, to be applied to wherever he feels it will do the most good." . . . to R.R. Jr. "Here is the dollar I got for my sixth birthday for other boys and girls." . . . to P.H. for $1 "In humble thanksgiving for our many blessings not always deserved."

MISSION is a bi-monthly publication edited by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen and put out by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. The work of the Society is described and pictures and anecdotes associated with Mission work are portrayed. If you would like to receive this little magazine, simply include with your offering to the Holy Father's Missions a request to be put on the mailing list.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N.Y. or your Diocesan Director, Rev. George S. Wood, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.

'Purgatory' Returns To Church

Monaghan — (NC) — Mass at St. Macarten's cathedral here highlighted ceremonies in which the deeds to a historic island in Lough Derg were returned to the Catholic Church.

The island — Saint's Island — is, according to tradition, the site of the original St. Patrick's Purgatory. Pilgrimages that started in St. Patrick's era continue to be made with traditional austerity. The 10-acre island also is the site of the modern Basilica of St. Patricks, which was consecrated in 1931 and seats 1,000.

The Church property on the island was confiscated during the religious persecutions of the 17th century. It was finally purchased by the Leslie family and it was Sir Shane Leslie who handed over the deeds to Bishop Eugene O'Callaghan of Clogher.

Radio Series Wins Praise

Vatican City—(RNS)—A Vatican Radio broadcast described as "praiseworthy" a new NBC "Catholic Hour" radio series on Catholics in America.

The seven-week series, scheduled to start Sunday, July 31, will feature recorded excerpts from a symposium held in June at Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., entitled "The Present Position of Catholics in America." Speakers included prominent American Catholics in the fields of education, politics, journalism and law.

After giving details of the forthcoming series, Vatican Radio said it felt such programs were "very welcome." (The program is not carried by Rochester radio stations.)

Gems, Gold Cover Documents

Munich — (RNS) — Under the watchful eye of a guard, the "Codex Aureus," a valuable Church treasure, goes on exhibit in Munich in connection with the forthcoming World Eucharistic Congress to be held in the city. The Codex, containing old handwritten documents, was completed in the year 870. A collector has offered $500,000 for its cover of hammered gold encrusted with gems and bearing likenesses of Christ and the four Evangelists, plus four scenes from the New Testament.

Moscow Airs Ex-Priest

Moscow — (RNS) — The extremes to which Russian Communism is ready to go in its attempts to spread its atheistic teachings and discredit religion was illustrated in two broadcasts over the Moscow Radio by a former Russian Orthodox priest.

Identifying himself as Viktor Grigoryevich Gichko, the ex-priest devoted one talk to exhorting other members of the clergy to follow his example. He used the other to read a letter he said he had sent to his former superior, Archbishop Anthony of Stravropol and Baku, explaining his reasons for leaving the Church.

Declaring that he no longer believed in God or in any supernatural force and that he regarded the activities of the clergy as "futile and fruitless," Gichko claimed he had two special reasons for adopting atheism.

One, he said, was that "all priests are drones and idlers, living at the expense of others" and the other was that he wanted to "help in building up Communism."

Congo Prelate Warns Against Red Slavery

Leopoldville — (RNS) — Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Malula of Leopoldville, warned the Congolese people, in a pastoral letter, against Russian "machinations" in the Congo Republic.

He cautioned especially that the Congolese should not accept any message from governments "which themselves deny their own peoples those elementary freedoms which the Congo has just gained."

"You are not ripe for a new form of slavery," the native-born bishop wrote. "It is now still time to call a halt to a systematic propaganda campaign in which bad faith knows no bounds."

Bishop Malula said that for the last 18 days "distorted news and propaganda harmful to the people of the Congo" have been spread by radio.

"It is intolerable," he added, "that foreign transmitters should have to be listened to in order to find out about the situation in the Congo because local radio stations are spreading falsehoods. The people of the Congo must know the truth, because the future of the Congo and the whole of Africa is at stake. The Congolese people are being chloroformed and strangled by Congolese radio falsehoods."

Don't Blame The People

Dar Es Salaam — (RNS) — Three Belgian Roman Catholic nuns who escaped from the revolt-torn Congo, where they had been serving in a hospital run by the Holy Ghost Mission at Kongolo, said here in Tanganyika that the local people were in no way responsible for the reign of terror that swept through the new republic.

Sister Marie Constance Lerko, 29, speaking for all three, said the revolt was started by the soldiers who had been trained to demonstrate against the whites. The local people did not make any trouble for us, she added, "They are not against religion as such."

Refugees Aided

Vatican City — (RNS)—The Vatican Radio gave high praise to the work of two Canadian priests and 31 Canadian nuns among refugees in Hong Kong.

Adoration In Africa

Arua, Uganda — (RNS) — A new foundation of the Sisters of Bishop Angelo Tarantino of Roman Catholic religious community for women, has been established in this country for the sole purpose of praying for the "spiritual needs of the diocese of Arua in the West Nile district and for the whole of Africa."

Under the direct supervision of Bishop Angelo Tarantino of Arua, the Sisters will live in the newly opened Holy Trinity Convent where the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Sisters will spend a great deal of their time in adoration of the Sacrament and in singing the Holy Office.

The society will be restricted to African Sisters only but for the time being a European Sister is charged with training the first group. The convent is cloistered and the nuns living in it cannot come out except to leave the religious life.

Prelate Defends Teacher Unions

San Antonio—(NC)—Archbishop Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio has defended the right of public school teachers to join unions.

In a statement issued to the press, the Archbishop declared that teachers have a "constitutional right" to belong to unions.

"If a little group of willful men delay their contracts for that reason, they are guilty of tyranny," he said.

Archbishop Lucey did not single out any instance in which public school teachers have been subjected to penalties for union activity.

But he noted that it is rumored to be risky for a San Antonio public school teacher to be active in the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, and that there have been charges that school boards have refused contracts to teachers who belong to the union.

"It would seem that our public school teachers can be subjected to injustice at the hands of school boards without too much difficulty," he said.

GI Hams Relay News From Congo

Rome — (RNS) — Four young American servicemen at Camp Darby, near the U.S. Army headquarters in Leghorn, Italy, were able to maintain contact with American and other missionaries in the Congo Republic throughout the disturbances there.

Operating a licensed amateur radio station in their free time, they transmitted messages from American mission groups in the Congo to the Vatican and the United States.

In a message transmitted to the Vatican, the servicemen relayed information concerning the whereabouts of five Italian nuns stationed at Bosobolo, who were saved from violence at the hands of Congolese through the intervention of Belgian paratroopers.

The servicemen reported that most of the American missions in the Congo Republic reported they had been left undisturbed, or at least not subjected to any direct aggression.

Vatican Broadcast

Vatican City — (RNS) — The Vatican Radio, in a broadcast beamed to countries around the world, including those behind the Iron Curtain, gave details of a special Mass offered in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York by Francis Cardinal [illegible] Communist oppression.

Filipino Nuns

Morristown —(NC)— Mother Ninetta [illegible], former mother provincial [illegible] the American province of the Religious Teachers Filippini, has been re-elected mother general of the community in Rome.

Maryknollers Advise

'Psych' Tests In Seminaries

Washington — (RNS) — The positive possibilities of using modern methods of psychological testing and counseling to help develop the best in students who enter training for service to the Church were told here by two priests who are authorities of psychology.

The Rev. Paul F. D'Arcy, M.M., of Maryknoll (N.Y.) Seminary and the Rev. Eugene C. Kennedy, M.M., of the faculty of the Catholic University of America, delivered a joint talk on the contributions of psychology to the training of seminarians at a three-day conference of priests who are seminary administrators.

Dr. Raymond J. Steimelef, of the Catholic University Department of Psychology and Psychiatry, served as director of the institute.

REPORTING ON their extensive research, Fathers D'Arcy and Kennedy said that psychological tests indicate the average entering seminarian is more socially retiring than the average college student.

"Seminary training should aim at developing social ease in those whose whole life will be devoted to work among other men," they advised.

Drawing a parallel between seminary life and family life, they outlined how students can be helped to develop healthy personality growth.

Another priest-psychologist, the Rev. Carroll F. Tageson, O.F.M., president of San Luis Rey College (Cal.), cited encouraging statistics that tend to show that the incidence of severe mental disorders is significantly less among members of religious communities than the population at large.

Another speaker, the Rev. John W. Stafford, C.S.V., a religious superior, spoke of the psychological effect of architecture in religious houses. He stressed the value of "beauty without luxury" and a more home-like atmosphere for the individual and community phases of religious life.

Soviets Seek Israel Property

Jerusalem — (RNS)—Israeli and Soviet Union representatives held their first meeting here in an attempt to settle the long-disputed question of returning to the Russian Orthodox Church properties in Israel to which it lays claim.

Unofficially estimated to be worth $100,000,000 the properties include a large number of buildings in Jerusalem's Russian Compound, as well as valuable real estate in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Nazareth, Tiberias and other places. All religious property proper was returned many years ago to the Moscow Patriarch's mission in Jerusalem.

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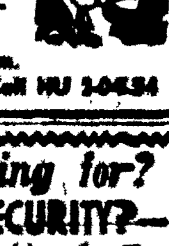
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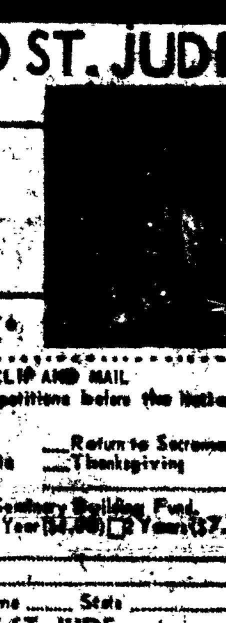
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