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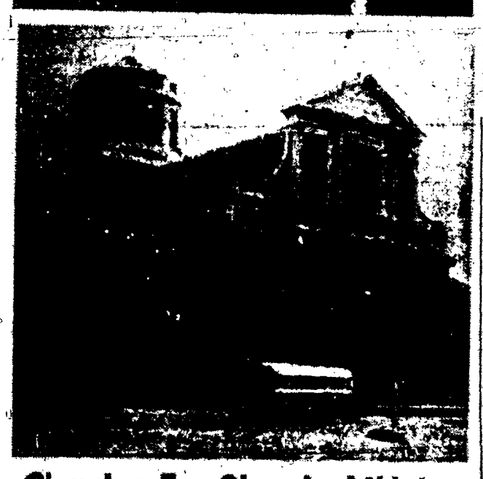
Sports' World Eyes Rome



Churches For Olympic Athletes

Rome — (RNS) — Special Masses will be held at these two churches for Catholic athletes of all nationalities attending the 1960 Summer Olympic Games in Rome. Santa Eugenia church (with dome) is on the viale delle Belle Arte and the Santa Croce church (with tower) in Flaminia. Both churches are just a few minutes away from the Olympic Village.

By Chuck Johnson

'No Hait!'

Rome —(NC)— Appropriately it was a Pope the poet, Alexander Pope—who said: "A little learning is a dangerous thing . . ."

Swimmer Paul Hait of San Jose, Calif., spotted a Russian athlete on his first day in the Olympic Village and decided to promote some international good will. Walking up to the fellow sporting the U.S.S.R. insignia, he extended his hand and said engagingly:

"I'm Hait of America. Hi'ya."

The Russian looked at him with a frown, and replied piously:

"Nyet! No Hait. No Hait. Friendship. Friendship."

* * *

7 Foot Red

The Soviet athlete making the biggest impression here is Jan Krumrich, 7-foot-3 basketball center. His size and strength on the boards probably account in large part for Soviet Coach Stephan Spandarjin's apparent unconcern about America's vaunted speed and scoring potential.

The United States has won every gold medal ever awarded for basketball in the international Games, yet coach Spandarjin told the press here:

"Our team is much younger and much faster than in 1956, and we are as tall as the Americans."

Queried about how he plans to cope with ace scorer Oscar Robertson, he professed complete indifference to America's famed "Big O."

"Robertson? Robertson?" he deadpanned. "We don't know him, so how can we worry about him?" Then he let his guard down a bit: "He is only 6-foot-5," the Russian skipper said. "He cannot worry us as Bill Russell did at Melbourne."

While admitting he has dazzling speed and shooters to spare, American Coach Pete Newell said cagily: "But we're not looking at it as a cinch. Over-confidence is the one certain way to get knocked over!"

* * *

Hammer Throw

It may surprise some to learn that hammer-throwers aren't necessarily hod carriers, stevedores or pro wrestlers for a livelihood. Of Uncle Sam's 1960 Olympics threesome, Hal Connolly is an English professor: Al Hall is a chicken disease consultant from Cornell, and Lt. Ed Bagdonas is a West Point man.

* * *

Jesse's Tired

"We wanted to put the fear of the Lord in the opposition," head Olympic Coach Larry Snyder said, referring to the world record binge his U.S. trackmen staged at Mount San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif.

Ralph Boston, who sailed almost 27 feet to shatter Jesse Owens' quarter-century old broad jump record, wears a gold cross and chain in competition. He told me it's a gift from his girl friend in Ol' Miss. When asked if he wasn't embarrassed about stealing away Jesse Owens' final world record, he replied earnestly:

"Oh, no! Jesse said it'd be perfectly all right. He's tired of it anyway."

This likable biochemistry student from Tennessee A. & I. gets almost high enough off the takeoff board to go into orbit, and he does more kicking while airborne than a kangaroo.

Olympic Committee Priest

Rome — (RNS) — Msgr. Nicola Pavone, president of an official committee set up to provide religious assistance to all athletes taking part in the forthcoming Olympic Games, is actually skilled in any number of sports himself — ranging from football to tennis and skiing. As head of the special Olympic Committee, he says: "My role is not so much that of a Catholic priest but a friend and advisor, respecting all religious faiths and being of assistance to all."

Rome — (RNS) — The tall, lean, bronzed young prelate assigned by Pope John XXIII to be coordinator of religious assistance at the Olympic Games here, might pass for a contestant if you overlooked his clerical garb.

Even if he were to enter the games, Msgr. Nicola Pavone would not come off too badly. He is an expert football player and skilled in several other sports ranging from tennis to skiing.

The 37-year-old prelate also is an executive of the Italian Catholic sports association and is a sports consultant to the Italian government.

CONFRONTED with this impressive background, the Pontiff never hesitated in selecting Msgr. Pavone for a position that might otherwise have been filled by a Cardinal.

In his olympic capacity, Msgr. Pavone heads a special committee set up to provide religious assistance to the athletes from 87 countries who are taking part in the games. Already his reputation has grown as a friend to those with spiritual problems.

"My role," he explained, "is not so much that of a Catholic priest, but of a friend and advisor, respecting all religious faiths and being of assistance to all.

"The creed of the individual is his own personal affair. I supervise the publication of a buletin giving details on church services in Rome for all, whether they be Catholic, Protestant, Moslem or Buddhist. And within a few minutes I can call on some priest or minister who is fluent in any of the athletes' languages.

"That is my task, to link the men and women who come from all countries with their own cults, whatever they may be."

Msgr. Pavone noted that all of the 5,000 Olympic athletes had been invited to one of the two special audiences that the Pope will hold at St. Peter's Square in connection with the games.

Asked if the Catholic Church would hold any kind of ceremony inside the Olympic Village or on the various fields outside, he replied: "That is just what the Holy Father does not want. Ours is a delicate and tactful mission, and even I shall not show myself on the grounds or beyond the office building at the entrance to the village."

Msgr. Pavone pointed to the title on the door of his office — "Coordinator of Religious Assistance."

"That's what I intend to remain, no more, no less," he added.

Keeping off the playing fields, however, will be a severe penance for the young prelate who has assisted the athletic careers of many Italian youngsters.

And it's no mystery whom he'll be rooting for.

"Thirty per cent. of the Italian Olympic team is made up of my lads," Msgr. Pavone noted proudly.

Invade Rome

Rome —(RNS)— Monasteries, convents, colleges and other Roman Catholic institutions in Rome will offer economical accommodations for visitors to the Olympic games.

Nearly all of the Eternal City's 400 religious houses will be opened to tourists of all creeds.

Nixon Bars Religion Talk In Campaign

The following news service releases were received this week regarding the upcoming presidential elections.

Washington, D.C.—(RNS)— Vice President Richard M. Nixon has directed his election campaign staff and volunteer workers to keep silent on the religious issue in his Presidential contest with Sen. John F. Kennedy (D.-Mass.), a Catholic.

The Republican nominee, a Quaker, has instructed his campaigners not even to discuss the subject "either informally or casually" and has ordered that "no persons or organizations conditioning their support on religious grounds will be recognized."

Mr. Nixon's instructions were communicated to "all persons connected with his campaign" in a confidential memorandum signed by Leonard W. Hall, general campaign chairman, and Robert H. Finch, campaign director.

'Vote As You Like But Not Catholic'

Cleveland—(NC)—A Presbyterian minister told participants in a meeting sponsored here by Protestants and Other Americans for Separation of Church and State (POAU) to "vote as you please—if it's not for a Catholic."

Dr. T. Christie Innes, pastor of the Collingwood Presbyterian Church in Toledo, said in an (Aug. 16) talk at a Baptist auditorium that "the Roman pontiff is a grave danger" to America.

HE ADDED THAT Sen. John Kennedy of Massachusetts, Democratic presidential nominee who is a Catholic, is "merely giving the latest American Catholic line" when he says he believes in complete separation of Church and state.

Sect Questions Catholic 'Fitness'

Memphis, Tenn. —(RNS)— The Council of Ordained Ministers of the Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.) adopted a resolution here placing it on record as questioning the fitness of a Catholic as President.

"We honestly doubt that a Catholic President could or would fully resist the pressures of ecclesiastical hierarchy," the ministers stated.

Philadelphia — (RNS) — After a three-year novitiate at the motherhouse of the Medical Mission Sisters near Philadelphia, these three doctors were professed in a ceremony which brought the number of physicians and surgeons in the order to 43. The three are (from left): Sisters M. Pia of Manila, P.I.; Miriam Paul of Louisville, Ky.; and M. Fides of Manila. They will shortly be assigned to one of the order's chain of Holy Family Hospitals in Asia and Africa.

Medical Nuns

'Our Work Has Just Begun'

Rome — (RNS) — "Our work has only just begun," said Mother Anna Dengel, M.D., the dynamic, soft-spoken nun-physician, whose Medical Mission Sisters are know throughout the world.

"There is so much to do, so much more to be done, to relieve suffering, establish modern hospitals, and bring men of all nations, and all creeds, together," she added.

The famed surgeon, missionary, foundress and superior general of the still-expanding Medical Mission Sisters has for the past 35 years been combatting disease, ignorance, superstition and, occasionally ill will, in the four corners of the globe.

MOTHER DENGEL, who is 67, founded the society in the United States in 1925 as the first Catholic Sisterhood dedicated exclusively to the task of bringing professional medical care to the sick in the missions.

Since that time the society grow from sisters to more than 600, the scope of their work extending to Pakistan, India, Burma, Vietnam, Indonesia, Ghana, the Congo, England and the United States.

In each of these countries, the order's nuns staff hospitals and clinics, with many more in the planning stage. The order maintains a motherhouse in Rome and administrative offices in Philadelphia.

Recalling how she started her apostolate, Mother Dengel said: "When I went out to north India as a lay missionary after the first World War, I saw so much maternal and infant mortality due to so little or no medical assistance at all that I thought something had to be done about it."

"Protestant missionaries and doctors were doing a wonderful job, but we Catholics at that time were not in the field, as no Sister doctors were then authorized by the Church," she continued. "But there was — and still is — such a field of charity open to Catholic women that a new community was necessary."

She founded the Medical Mission Sisters in Washington, D.C., and today said proudly, "Ours is a truly international organization. The Sisters come from all parts of the earth.

"And I'm a cosmopolitan myself," she added with a smile, "being Austrian born, having studied in Ireland, practiced in India and lived, well, almost everywhere."

Diamonds of Quality. Reasonably priced. William S. Thorn Jeweler, 30 Main St. East. — Adv.

Pegis — Corcoran — McLaughlin — Meder

St. John Fisher College

New Staff Members Announced, Miss Sheehan Named Consultant

Miss Mary Sheehan, former principal of Monroe High School in Rochester, is among the five new members of the faculty of St. John Fisher College whose appointments were announced this week by the Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, C.S.B., President of the College.

The others are Charles Meder, Associate Professor of Education; Wayne Corcoran, Assistant Professor of Accounting; Robert McLaughlin, Assistant Profesor of Philosophy; and Richard Pegis, part-time instructor in Mathematics and Physics. All appointments are effective Sept. 1.

MISS SHEEHAN will be an assistant in the department of Education and will serve as a consultant for the President of the College.

A graduate of Cathedral High School, Rochester, Miss Sheehan received a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Pedagogy from the College of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, N.J. She gained her Master of Arts degree from the University of Rochester.

Nazareth College presented Miss Sheehan with an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in 1950.

A native of Cambridge, Mass., Miss Sheehan has taught on both the elementary and secondary school level. She was principal of Monroe High School from 1947 until her retirement this year. For many years she was a senior lecturer at the University of Rochester.

A past president of the Rochester Teachers Association and the New York State Teachers Association, Miss Sheehan has served as an officer and board member of numerous educational and community service organizations.

She has received honors from Brockport State Teachers College, the University of Rochester, College of St. Elizabeth and has been cited by many other educational and civic groups.

In making the announcement of her appointment, Father Lavery stated that "the next

MISS SHEEHAN

five years are the most critical for this community and the nation in the field of higher education, and Miss Sheehan's years of experience will be invaluable in developing plans which will be helpful to the students in the local high schools who plan to enter college in this community."

Miss Sheehan will continue as a consultant for the State Department of Education in Albany and for the National Testing Services at Princeton.

Charles Meder was formerly a member of the faculty of St. John Fisher College and for the last four years has taught at Benjamin Franklin High School in Rochester. A native of Rochester, he graduated from Aquinas Institute. He received his B.Ed. degree in Education and Social Science in 1949 from the State University of New York Teachers College at Brockport.

His M.A. degree in history was earned in 1950 at Lehigh University. In 1956 he obtained his Doctorate Degree in Social Science from the Maxwell Graduate School at Syracuse University.

Besides teaching in the Rochester School System, Meder taught for one year in Syracuse, two years as an assistant in the Department of History at the University of Rochester, and one year at St. John Fisher College.

He did active duty with the Air Force from 1952-54, and was a Director of Training at Sampson. He is a member of several Honor Societies in Education and the social Sciences.

ROBERT McLAUGHLIN, now a resident of Syracuse, was born in Rochester and received his early education in this city. He received his B.A. degree in Philosophy in 1951 from the University of Toronto. After military service with the U.S. Army in Korea and Japan, he returned to the University of Toronto and received his M.A. degree in 1954.

From 1954-57 McLaughlin was a member of the faculty of La Moyne College in Syracuse where he taught English and Philosophy. In 1957 McLaughlin returned to the University of Toronto to take his doctoral work in the history of medieval philosophy which he completed in 1960.

He will be an Assistant Professor of philosophy at St. John Fisher College.

RICHARD PEGIS was born in Milwaukee and is the son of the noted Philosopher and writer, Anton C. Pegis. After his early education there, he took his high school and college work in Toronto. He received his B.A. in 1937 in honor Mathematics and Physics. In 1938 he received his M.A. degree from the same University. While doing graduate work, he taught mathematics at the University of Toronto.

In 1938 Pegis was employed by Bausch and Lomb, where he does research work in mathematical methods in optics. He has been teaching applied mathematics in the graduate program at the University of Rochester, and in the Engineering Department at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Pegis is also a national consultant in Mathematics and Mathematical Physics. He will be a part-time instructor at St. John Fisher College.

WAYNE CORCORAN was born in New York and graduated from All Hallows High School. He began his college work at the University of Florida and then transferred to Cornell where he received his B.S. degree in Hotel Administration in 1954.

He received his Master Degree in Business Administration from the University of Rochester in 1960 and was awarded his certificate in Certified Public Accountancy in 1960.

Corcoran has had experience in both public and private accounting, and has been employed by the national firms of Ernst and Ernst, and Hoskins and Sells. He presently conducts his own practice in Palmyra. He has taught at the University of Rochester.

Corcoran will be an Assistant Professor of Accounting at St. John Fisher College.

Friday Delivery

Beginning with next week's issue (Sept. 2) of the Catholic Courier Journal, we will resume our normal Friday delivery schedule. Deadline for news and photographs is Tuesday noon.

Crime At Record High FBI Report Reveals

Washington — (RNS) — Crime in the United States during the first six months of 1960 showed an ominous increase of 9 per cent to reach a new all-time high, the Federal Bureau of Investigation reported here.

Attorney General William P. Rogers, calling the report "startling," said that the FBI's new quarterly reporting system on uniform crime statistics from police departments in cities over 25,000 showed that the increase earlier reported for the first quarter of this year continued even more seriously during April, May, and June.

Robberies, up 13 per cent, reflected the highest increase. Murders were up 6 per cent over 1959, and forcible rapes were 5 per cent higher to reach the most alarming rate in the nation's history. In other categories of crime, grand larcenies increased 8 per cent, auto thefts 5 per cent, and aggravated assaults 4 per cent.

A total of 462,000 offenses involving theft of property were reported to police in the first six months of this year, the FBI report showed, an increase of almost 40,000 over the same period of a year ago. Minimum property loss to thieves, burglars, and robbers was $134,000,000 in the six-month period.

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