

Looking Back

Courier Editor Recalls Work Of Press Pioneer

By THOMAS H. O'CONNOR

The death of Richard Reid, editor of the Catholic News, newspaper of the Archdiocese of New York (Jan. 24, 1961) brought us, up this way, deepfelt sorrow. I knew Dick Reid for close to 40 years and always esteemed him as a Catholic newspaperman to be emulated and a layman of whom all of us could be proud.

First account of Richard Reid's activities in Georgia where he was named in 1921 executive secretary of the Catholic Layman's Association of Georgia and editor of "The Bulletin" Catholic newspaper of the Southwest was brought to me in the old Rochester Echo office in the early 1920s by seminarian Thomas J. Knox of Georgia. Father Knox later became ranking chaplain in the United States Navy.

The account of the laymen in Georgia was read to members of the Catholic Central Verein who were interested in the activities sparked by Richard Reid.

While it may seem to discredit the work done down there, we remember Father Wilfrid Parsons, S.J., then editor of America saying: "the non-Catholics do not dislike the church members in Georgia less but they love Dick Reid more."

A graduate of Holy Cross College, Dick was admitted to the Bar in Georgia in 1929 and practiced in the firm of Mulherin and Reid.

Dick was a journalist, author, teacher, lawyer, historian and leader in many phases of Catholic Action. Pope Pius XI made him a Knight of St. Gregory in 1937 and Pope Pius appointed him a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre in 1952 and a Knight of the Grand Cross in 1956.

His wife who survives him was Katherine Mary O'Leary of Georgia and one of Dick's smiling remarks was that his daughter said she was "half cracker and half Yankee." Dick was from the north.

My first recollection of Dick was at a national convention of the National Council of Catholic Men at Columbus Civic Center. One of the meetings was on the Catholic press. I was new in the business and had to speak on the same program with Reid and the late Maurice F. Sammons, then executive K. of C. secretary. I represented the Rochester Echo. Dick Reid made me a friend for life by telling me after I had made some contribution to the program by my talk.

Just prior to his election as president of the Catholic Press Association in the early 1930s, I met Dick again at the Baltimore convention. I remember that he and a few others gathered in our room with Father Leo C. Mooney and the late William C. Heindel to discuss problems of the Catholic press then and there were plenty at the time.

At the 1937 convention of the national Catholic Press Association held in Rochester, Richard Reid took a leading part. This was prior to his appointment as editor of the Catholic News of New York.

A Columbus Day program of Rochester Council Knights of Columbus in the early 1940s brought Dick Reid together with the Rev. James P. Gillis, C.S.P., then widely known editor of the Catholic World of Rochester. Father Gillis spoke at the morning Mass in St. Joseph's Church and he and Reid were principal speakers at the dinner in Powers Hotel. My wife, Helen, and I had an hour's well-remembered visit with Dick prior to the dinner.

This writer was honored by Dick and other leaders in the Catholic Press field in 1949 at a dinner under the auspices of Bishop Kearney and managed by Monsignor John S. Randall, our managing editor to mark 25 years in the C.P. work. Pictures were taken of the celebrities including Monsignor Aloysius Coogan, Frank R. Hall, director of NCWC News Service, Monsignor Patrick J. Flynn of the Catholic Courier Journal and others but the one in which Richard Reid can long be remembered is the one in which Bishop Kearney, the Rev. Gerald R. Kerwin of the Albany Evangelist and my wife and I appeared.

The same year, 1949, another convention of the Catholic Press Association was held in Rochester. Dick was active in all sessions he could attend. One of our recollections of him is a pow-wow in Monsignor Flynn's office with Bishop Thomas Gorman of Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, former editor of The Tidings, Los Angeles, and Patrick Scanlan, managing editor of the Tablet, Brooklyn.

Last official visit of Richard Reid to Rochester was for the regional convention of the Catholic Press Association at the Sheraton Hotel in 1959. As usual he lent his experience, advice and humorous comments to the sessions. We cherish a photograph taken with him at the time.

Illness, the past week and a half, prevented my paying tribute to Dick and extending sympathies to his family. Reading the tributes in Catholic papers from throughout the country make me realize I can only endorse them, not top them.

One of the most sincere tributes I read was not in a Catholic paper but in the Savannah Morning News which said:

"For the work he accomplished, for the friends he made, for the sterling example he set in his own dedicated life, Richard Reid will be long remembered."

New CWV Auxiliary Formed At St. Patrick's

A new auxiliary of the Mon-cenza Colantoni, president; Mrs. roe County, Catholic War Vet- Isabel J. Russell, Mrs. Joseph erans was formed at St. Pat- Jeffredo and Mrs. Mary Del- ric's Church hall, Feb. 9. The Clara Terrigno, treasurer; Miss County Board aided by Post Betty LaFrank, welfare officers; Commander Gerald Russell or- Mrs. Marguerite Wilmont, ritual ganized the group of ladies' officer; Mrs. Pearl Russell, Mrs. Rev. Anthony F. Calimeri of Betty Costano and Mrs. Virginia St. Patrick's took an active part. Ranaletta, trustees.

MARIE LOGAN, county aux- Mrs. Angela Fornarola was liary president installed the appointed secretary and Father following officers: Mrs. Vin- Calimeri will serve as chaplain.

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Friday, February 17, 1961

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'Viva La Cuba'

Refugees Need Help, But Full Of Hope

By ROBERT SMETT

For the first time since colonial days, people of an oppressed country are finding their first haven of refuge in the United States.

Within a few months over 50,000 Cubans have arrived in Florida, fleeing from the Castro regime.

AT THE INVITATION of Tracy S. Voorhees, President Eisenhower's personal representative on the Cuban refugee problem, Father Donald Mulcahy, director of the Rochester Diocese Catholic Family Center, attended a national conference on resettlement for Cuban refugees last month in Miami.

Although almost all contact between the U.S. and Cuba, is cut off, Father Mulcahy reports that refugees continue to pour in. According to Miami Bishop Coleman Carroll, his diocese has already expended a quarter of a million dollars in the care and placement of Cuban refugees and continues to spend \$100,000 a month. This from a new diocese already burdened with excessive and much needed parish building campaigns.

WHAT IS THE Cuban like who flees the terror that has overtaken his beloved country? Ninety per cent of the refugees are Catholic, professional or skilled technicians by vocation, cultured, polite and handsome in bearing.

They have come by plane, ship and, more recently, smuggled in small boats for the ninety-mile trip by water from Havana to Miami.

About a third of the refugees speak English. They come with the clothes on their backs, little or no money.

Holy Hour For Youth

Catholic Youth Adoration Holy Hour will be held at St. Joseph Church, Franklin St., Rochester, Sunday, Feb. 19, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Rev. Robert J. Downs, assistant pastor, St. John the Evangelist Church, Rochester, will conduct the exercises.



Father Mulcahy discusses Cuba problem.

At the Cuban Refugee Emergency Center, they are interviewed, background and needs recorded, given a medical examination and choice of relief agency offered.

SINCE THE majority of the Cubans are Catholic, they are then sent to the Centro Hispano Catolica, operated by Dominican priests and nuns. Here, the particular needs—housing, employment, food—are investigated. Other major private agencies aiding the refugee problem are the Church World Service, a Protestant organization, and HIAS, under Jewish auspices.

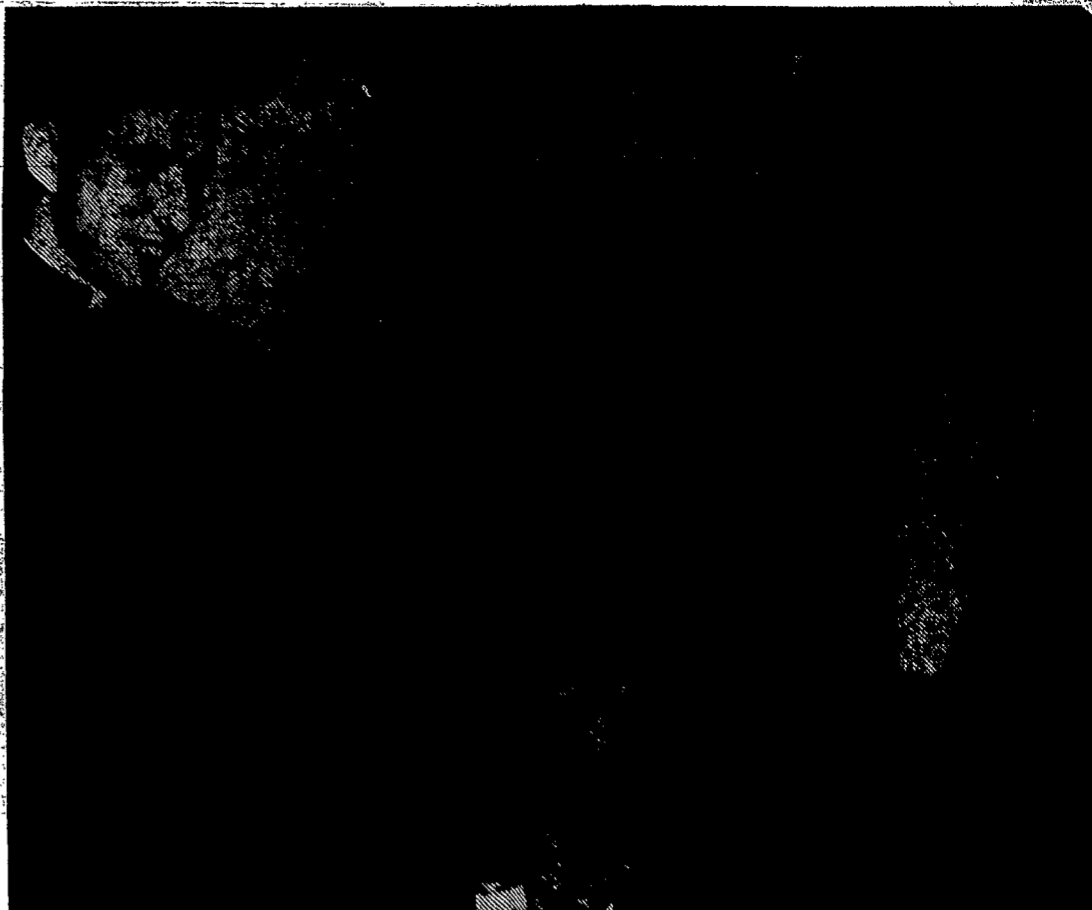
The problems are severe. An overpopulated Miami has admitted some 50,000 Cubans in a few months' time. They have come in family groups, singly and, a special problem—the unaccompanied child, sent by parents not able to leave Cuba themselves.

Housing alone is an almost insurmountable difficulty, but finding jobs in an area that is suffering acutely from unemployment is next to impossible.

Cuban medical doctors are pumping gasoline in service stations and lawyers have taken jobs as hotel waiters.

THE SCRIPTURAL phrase was never truer—"no room in the inn." The Resettlement Conference has sent out a plea for help from the rest of the nation to aid in placing families, individuals and unaccompanied children. Miami, nor any other city in the country, can bear such a swift and heavy burden of population and provision.

According to Father Mulcahy, the Cuban refugees he interviewed were full of hope for an early overthrow of the Castro government. They are anxious to return to their native land. Although they have suffered, their faith is firm and they respond strongly to the cry of "Viva la Cuba!"



BISHOP KEARNEY looks on as the Rev. P. David Finks, Chaplain of Our Lady of Mercy High School, is presented the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus memorial chalice by James O. Stein, faithful navigator.

Fr. Finks Receives Fourth Degree Chalice

Formal presentation of the Memorial Chalice from Rochester Fourth Degree Assembly, Knights of Columbus to the Rev. P. David Finks, chaplain of Our Lady of Mercy High School took place Sunday at the Sheraton Hotel.

Occasion was the annual Lincoln Day dinner of the Fourth Degree. Bishop Kearney was the principal speaker.

THE CHALICE upon which are inscribed the names of 15 sir knights who died during the past year was presented by Faithful Navigator James O. Stein. The members will be remembered in each Mass said by Father Finks and the chalice will stay in his possession. Each year the Assembly presents a chalice to a priest.

Bishop Kearney asked that prayers be said that President Kennedy may receive divine guidance during these perilous times. The Bishop mentioned that the President is a loyal member of the Fourth Degree. Patriotism being the principle of the Fourth Degree, he said, the sir knights should give whole hearted support as good citizens to the President.

Forty Hours

Devotions of the Forty Hours will be conducted in the following churches of the Diocese of Rochester:

- Feb. 18—Holy Family, Auburn
- St. Mary's—12:10 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- St. Joseph's—12:05 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Corpus Christi—12:10 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Our Lady of Victory—11:40 a.m. and 12:10, Monday through Saturday
- Auburn St. Mary's—12:10 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Elmira St. John the Baptist—12:10 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Our Lady of Lourdes—11:30 a.m., Monday through Saturday
- St. Mary's, Horseheads—12:15 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Geneva St. Stephen—12:10 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Zithaca Immaculate Conception—12:10 p.m., Monday through Saturday

Prayer Day At Fisher

The Rev. Joseph Trovato, C.S.B., spiritual director at St. John Fisher College, has scheduled a Day of Recollection for the students of the college on Sunday, Feb. 19.

PREACHER WILL be the Rev. Francis D. Neely, O.P., assistant professor of Religion at the University of Notre Dame, and a former World War II Army chaplain. He will be assisted by priests of the college faculty. The exercises for the day will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will end with Holy Mass at 4:15 p.m.

Day Of Recollection

An afternoon of recollection for young adult Sodalis of the Rochester area will be held at Holy Apostles Church on Sunday, Feb. 19, from 2 to 5 p.m., according to the Rev. Joseph P. Beattini, parish Sodality director.

CONFERENCES will be given by the Rev. John Sheehan, C.S.B., of Aquinas Institute faculty. All adult Sodalis have been invited, and all other young adults of the area who are interested are invited.

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