

Teenage Lads Reach Mission

Five teenage mission helpers of Father Bernard Brown arrived at their first target—a mission outpost for fifteen Indians—after nearly a month of travel by canoe, jeep and airplane.

Oblate Father Brown is spiritual guardian of a string of missions in the remote Northwest Territory of Canada. His five companions are young lads just out of high school who volunteered a year's service to the missions.

The priest and the youngsters are, all Rochesterians.

The boys are Robert Haughwout, Barry Haeefe, Frank Wratni, Bryan Martin and Francis McDermott.

In an air mailed letter to the Courier-Journal they reported their first two days' assault on the forests and icy rivers of upper Canada to reach their destination, Colville, a village about twenty-five miles above the Arctic Circle.

Their two previous reports took them from Edmonton to the Great Slave Lake to Fort Norman. Following is their story which takes them a hundred miles deeper into the north country.

Monday, August 6. After the weekend spent with Father Labat in his modern new Mission at Fort Norman we again launched our freighter canoe and continued down river past the splendour of Bear Rock which rises up 1200 feet at the junction of the MacKenzie and Bear Rivers. Toward sunset we approached the oily smoke of the Imperial Oil Refinery at Norman Wells. Since 1920 this station has been the scene of the only production of petroleum products in N.W.T. It saw great activity during the second world war when the American Army built a pipeline from here to White Horse to refuel the Pacific fleet. We pulled into the shore and pitched our tent in the "Yacht Club" section near several speedboats and canoes. An oil company jeep took us to the little church to meet Father Biname who doubles as chaplain and boat captain.

It was arranged with the local pilot of the Pacific Western float aircraft (a D'Haviland Beaver) that we would fly to Colville Lake the next day weather permitting. With this expectation in mind we settled down for our last sleep on the shores of the Mighty McKenzie.

Tuesday, August 7. At nine o'clock after Father Brown had said his morning Mass with Father Biname in the tiny chapel of St. Anthony, the 7 dogs were loaded into the aircraft along with a large tent and two packtrucks and we took off the river and flew straight north. We climbed to 6000 feet to clear the range of mountains behind the Wells and continued over a vast empty expanse of muskeg and lakes. Under our right wing we could see the Smith Arm of Great Bear Lake. And soon we could see a large lake ahead which was to be our destination.

As we approached Colville Lake from the south the cluster of tents and log cabins appeared immediately on the west side of a small bay on the south shore. We circled and landed and all the town was out to greet us at the shore. About fifteen souls. They seemed very glad to see Father who came in his cassock and missionary cross so there would be no doubt about our purpose in coming to Colville. Among the greeting committee on the shore was one solitary white man who introduced himself as a member of the lay-evangelist church who had heard the "cell" last spring while driving a tractor on a farm in Southern Alberta.

After unloading our tent and dogs our pilot took off with a promise to return for Father Brown later in the day. Our first impressions of the settlement were that it was smaller and poorer than anything we had imagined. It consisted of seven log cabins and nine tents plus five new cabins under construction. Many of the winter residents were evidently away. We fell to clearing a piece of ground on the lake next to the town and erecting our tent. The black flies were fierce.

Our Bible-thumping friend proved to be in charge of a trading post (one end of a cabin) in the absence of Charlie Mazuzum, the regular storekeeper. We quickly exhausted his stock of most brands and also bought up some cooking utensils. A few of the Indians wandered around after

Seeks \$30,000

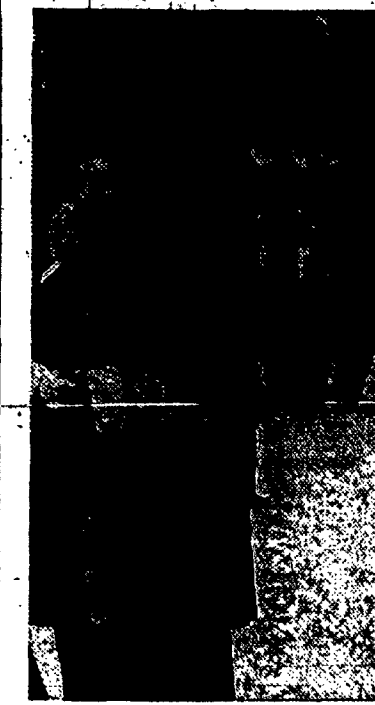
Allied Forces, a voluntary organization which conducts a program of education on problems of alcohol and narcotic addiction, is currently seeking to raise \$30,000 in a fund drive Sept. 10 to Oct. 10, to continue the program for this year in Rochester and Monroe County.

Chairman of the campaign are Alexander Beaber, Frank Donnelly II and Lawrence W. True. Rev. George A. Wood is vice president of Allied Forces.

supper. We all sat out in front of the tent on the moss and watched the sun set.

Then we said the rosary together and the Indians said "Mardi cho" which means "Thanks very much." Then with no light or no radio, we unrolled our sleeping bags. Father was given one by an Indian as he had brought nothing. Soon it started to rain and someone came asking if we needed anything. Then several children came bringing a small stove and stovepipe and even wood. They had soaked themselves in carrying out their corporal work of mercy.

So it was with those poor people those first few days—always coming to us with whatever their poverty could furnish to show their appreciation for the Mission—fresh trout or smoked whitefish, fresh caribou, dried moose meat, a tin of blueberries, some steaming bannock from their fires—all offered with love from a people who never knew plenty and who still eat with memories of starvation vivid in their minds. We accepted all with gratefulness because we had less than they but soon we will be able to repay.



Teenage mission helpers of Father Bernard Brown (center) at their first target—a mission outpost for fifteen Indians.



Prayers For Freedom Of Loved Ones

New York — (RNS) — Prayers for the freedom of Cuban men who are held captive by Castro. Prisoners released since the abortive 1961 invasion of Cuba, accompanied by women relatives of others who took part in that invasion and are still imprisoned, gathered at St. Ignatius Loyola church in New York at a special Mass. Special intention of those attending was the success of ransom negotiations with Castro begun by James B. Donovan, New York attorney.



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First Cuban Exile Ordained

Miami Beach — (RNS) — At center bareheaded and in the robes of an ordinand, the Rev. Daniel Sanchez enters the Miami Beach Convention Hall to become the first Cuban exile to be ordained to the Catholic priesthood. Following closely behind him is Cardinal Spellman of New York who officiated at the ceremonies. Thousands of Cuban refugees crowded the hall to witness the ordination of the 27-year-old native of Pinar del Rio. Father Sanchez fled Cuba a year ago along with some 100 other seminarians. He completed his training for the priesthood at Montezuma Seminary in New Mexico.

If Catholic Schools Close

'Chaos' in Public Schools

Chicago — (NC) — Catholics victims of disaster. children are not suffering academically," he declared. The nationally known educator, a former assistant director of the National Catholic Welfare Conference's education department, indicated a similar crisis could occur throughout the nation if the record 4,500,000 youngsters in U.S. Catholic elementary schools were forced for lack of funds to attend public schools. "The most recent results," he said, "show that our pupils scored marks in arithmetic, reading, spelling, social studies and English grammar and composition which were well above the national averages for all their schools. Catholic school pupils tested."

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Diocese Status for Alaska

Washington — (NC) — Pope John has elevated the Vicariate Apostolic of Alaska to the status of a diocese.

The name of the new diocese is Fairbanks, and the Most Rev. Francis D. Gleason, S.J., Titular Bishop of Cotenna and Vicar Apostolic of Alaska since January 8, 1948, has been named the first Bishop of Fairbanks.

The territory of Alaska, embracing an area of 586,400 square miles, was made a Prefecture Apostolic in 1894 and entrusted to the Society of Jesus. In 1916, it became a vicariate and in June, 1951, some 70,800 square miles along the coast were detached from it to form the Diocese of Juneau.

At the present time, the Diocese of Fairbanks has a Catholic population of 15,500 in a total population of 81,900. There are in the diocese 35 priests, of whom 30 are Jesuits. They serve 18 parishes, 18 missions and 50 stations. Eleven Catholic schools—six elementary and five secondary—enroll a total of 805 pupils.

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Billion Endure Galling Hunger

Rome — (RNS) — "There are more hungry people in the world today than at any time in recorded history," Dr. Binay Ranjan Sen of India, director general of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) declared here in a speech warning that "hunger is an international responsibility."

He addressed the opening session of the International Catholic Rural Life Congress which brought together 350 delegates from 50 countries. Among them were President Antonio Segni of Italy, members of the Italian government, and a group of Vatican officials, including Msgr. Luigi Ligutti of Des Moines, Iowa, executive director of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference in the United States.

DR. SEN SAID that between 300 and 500 million people suffer from undernutrition and a total of 1,000 to 1,500 million suffer from varying degrees of malnutrition.

"The answer to this problem," he declared, "is the balanced economic and social development of the developing countries in which such conditions mainly exist."

Referring to the Freedom from Hunger campaign launched by the FAO two years ago, Dr. Sen said it was aimed at promoting a much wider understanding of the complex factors in planning and organizing development in the stricken areas.

He said that the FAO's policy was endorsed by Pope John XXIII in his "historic" encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*.

Monastery At Dachau

Munich — (RNS) — Negotiations on the planned construction of a Monastery of Reparation on the grounds of the notorious Nazi concentration camp at Dachau, near here, began between the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising and Dachau city authorities.

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Three Parishes High School

Detroit — (RNS) — Three parishes in the Detroit Roman Catholic archdiocese are planning to launch a new cooperative high school which will be staffed by the Christian Brothers and three women's religious orders.

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