

Palm Sunday procession in Tanganyika

• Mass in Swahili

• Smallpox and Leopards

• Sunday Collection—10¢



FATHER DAMIAN MILLIKEN



Two young African parishioners

Life in Africa — Never a Dull Moment

The liturgical renewal is more than just a phrase for the people of Namupa, Tanganyika, East Africa. Father Damian Milliken, O.S.B., native American and missionary for the past four years in this area, writes:

"WE HAVE MASS facing the congregation and many parts of the Mass in Swahili. In my little parishes I also have an offertory procession, and offertory prayers with special petitions for everybody in Swahili. Some of the poor old lepers, burnt-

out cases, get so much joy out of being allowed to hobble up to the priest and put their hands on the paten."

More observations on Father's work at his mission outpost show how he spends his Sundays:

"Today is also something of an anniversary for me. Twelve years ago I started my novitiate. I don't know just how to evaluate the subsequent progress, but one thing can be taken for certain and that is, I had absolutely no idea then of the circum-

stances in which I presently find myself."

"This morning, for example, I was slated to say Mass at a station about twenty miles from here, through paths covered with five-inch deep sand. Nothing worse for motorcycles. Anyway it took me about an hour this morning to get the thing in running shape, mostly with wire and some persuasion. When I did get to the station the people were all lined up for confession. Heard them for two hours, trying to think between-

contents what my sermon would be."

"The altar was nicely decorated with banana plants and reminded me of Christmas. For some reason my sermon turned out to be a Mother's Day affair. It is not a custom out here to celebrate Mother's Day, so we just made today an unofficial one. I just wanted to use today to remind the children to be a little more appreciative of what their mothers have done for them, and the husbands to show their wives consideration."

"The pastoral work is what I like best, but of course who is there that has just what he likes. But I do find that I can't do it at the present rate. The work here at the seminary is such that every day is filled up and over with work. If I started full-scale pastoral work every Sunday I don't think I could keep it up for very long."

Back at St. Benedict's Seminary where Father is regularly occupied during the week, he adds a humorous touch showing that boys are the same all over the world:

"THIS WEEK I am back in the old seminary where I was three and a half years ago. We have 120 fifth, sixth and seventh graders here. The regular Father is on safari looking for more prospects for next year. I gave the boys a conference last night on what it means to be a seminarian. Some of the little guys fell asleep. During the religion part their neighbors let them sleep, but when I started stories, the slumberers were awakened rather rudely with the news that 'He's selling stories now!'"

Damian is an ever-present reality of the mission as Father brings out in a recent letter:

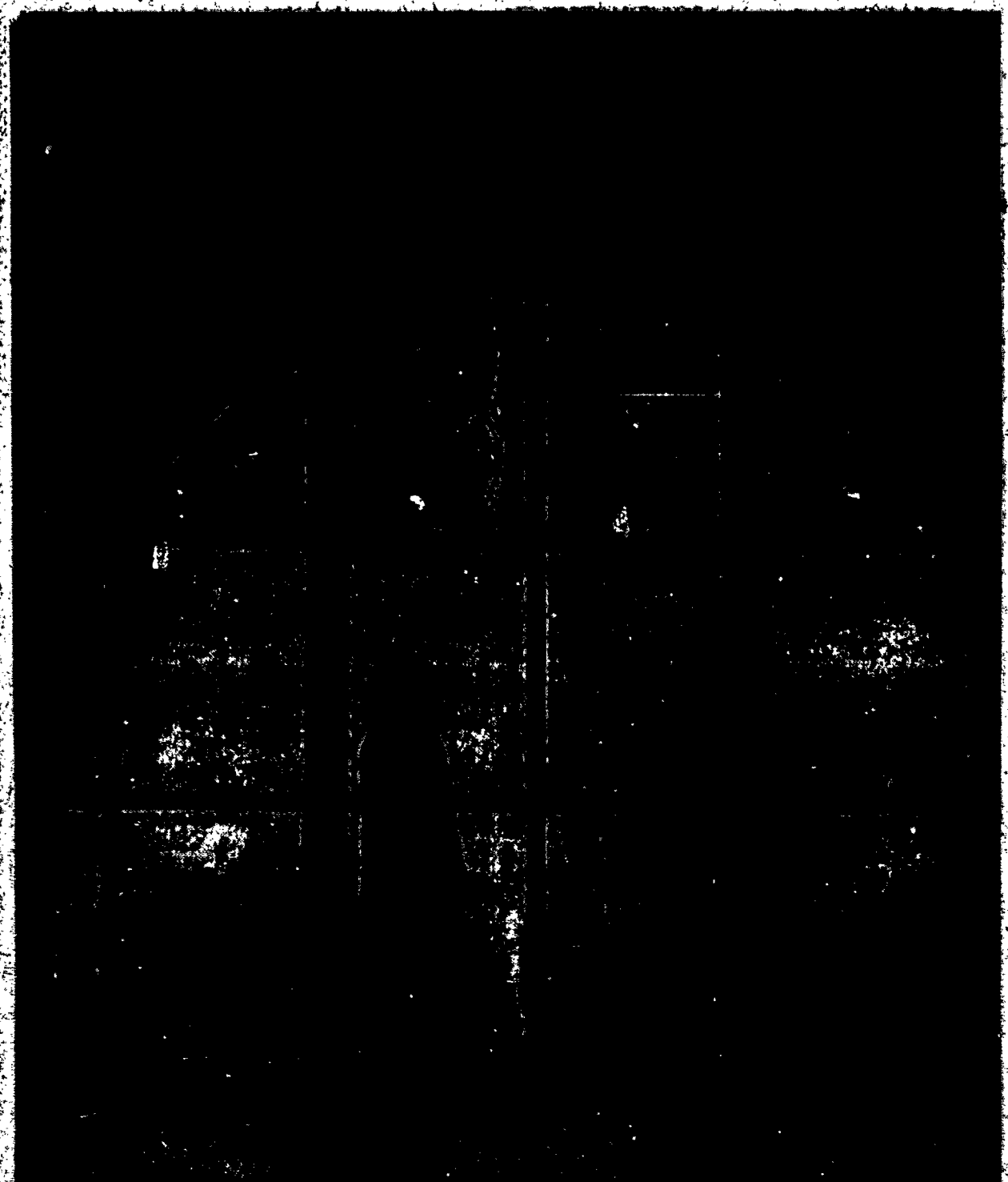
"We had a smallpox epidemic. It's almost run out by now, but still seems to be around and so we are coming around now to vaccinate."

Malaria is quite common; Father Damian himself has had several attacks since his arrival in Tanganyika. Last spring he was also afflicted with a severe case of hepatitis and spent several weeks in the hospital.

And then there are the animals:

"Last week one night about eleven we had another leopard scare. We thought we had wounded one with a bad shot and the animal was growling and thrashing about in very thick brush. Then I heard another animal come up to it, but it stayed out of reach of our lights. It turned out that the holy visitor was a big hyena. We (I and one of our African teachers) followed it but it was too far ahead. Then we went back to the first animal of the evening. It was still making a commotion, and a wounded leopard is no tidy bear to deal with. We finally got up enough gumption to go in after it. To our pleasant surprise, it was a fun-go-fungo (in Swahili), I believe a serval cat in English. It's smaller than a leopard but similarly marked and happily not at all as ferocious. We shot it again for good this time."

Milestone at St. Agnes High



A former teacher and a sister of St. Joseph will reminisce this Saturday when they see this photo taken ten years ago at the opening of the "new" St. Agnes High School on River Road. Bishop Kearney presided at the blessing and dedication ceremonies on Oct. 17, 1954.

St. Agnes High School has grown much since that day. Trees lining the drives and shrubbery gracing the building and grounds enhance an already beautiful setting and add to the atmosphere of being thoroughly established.

The enrollment of 260 students has expanded to 354. Twelve Sisters and 1 lay teacher for faculty and administration have increased to 38 Sisters and 7 lay teachers.

With the influx of a greater number of fully qualified teachers, the curriculum has expanded, also. Besides the academic subjects, majors may now be offered in secretarial science, in general office practice in art and home economics. Electives may be sought in sociology, advanced history, music, dramatics and public speaking. Twenty-seven organizations offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activity.

Modern equipment in science laboratories, audio-visual rooms and supplies allow for functional use and appraisal of the latest methods of instruction in all fields.

The year 1964 marks the 10th anniversary of the new building, the 20th anniversary of the issuance of its State charter, and the 25th anniversary of the founding of St. Agnes School. A significant achievement in the realm of Catholic education in the Diocese of Rochester.

The old St. Agnes High School

Seton Ball To Honor Bp. Kearney Birthday

Invitations were mailed last week to patrons and benefactors of St. Mary's Hospital for the Ninth Annual Seton Ball traditionally sponsored by all the Seton groups of the hospital. This year it will be a birthday ball in honor of Bishop Kearney and will be held on Saturday, Nov. 28 at the Manger Hotel.

THIS YEAR'S chairman is Mrs. Richard E. Maurer who will be assisted by Mrs. Arthur J. Timney Jr. and proceeds will be used for something important to patient care. Last year's funds were used toward the purchase of an auto-analyzer.

Other committees working toward the success of the ball are: benefactors; Mrs. Thomas F. Gallagher and Mrs. James E. Bryant; invitations, Mrs. Joseph A. Hudson and Mrs. John V. Wright; arrangements, Mrs. Dominic C. Russo and Mrs. Frederick W. Sarkis; entertainment, Mrs. Erwin J. Boenschlein and Mrs. Drew F. Röhler; publicity, Mrs. John E. Slattery and Mrs. Frederick D. Pestonius; if-

House Buying Meeting Topic

Dr. William Gilman of the University of Rochester faculty will speak on "Open Occupancy—What You Can Do" at the Rochester Catholic Interracial Council meeting in St. Anne's parish hall, Mt. Hope Ave., Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 8 p.m. The public is invited.

Forty Hours

Sunday, Oct. 18 — Carmelle Monastery, Our Lady of Mercy, St. Helen, St. Joseph, Rochester; St. John, Elmira; St. Mary, Genesee; St. Michael, Penn Yan; St. James, Waverly; Holy Trinity, Webster; Veterans' Administration, Bath.

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