

Nuns Back Negroes in Selma Turmoil



Selma police herd children to jail.

The Catholic COURIER

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Journal

Price 15 Cents

Corn Bread and Carrots in Jail

(Special to The Courier Journal from Selma, Alabama)

Corn bread, peas and carrots — twice a day — at noon and at 4 p.m.

That's the diet you get in jail at Selma, Alabama, if you're a Negro who wants to vote as an American.

More than thirty people packed in one room, its only window locked — a toilet in the middle of the room — and you're there without judge or trial.

This "unbelievable" situation is, however, reality.

In the heart of this turmoil in Selma are eleven Sisters of St. Joseph of the Rochester Diocese.

They staff a hospital and a school there for Negroes.

They have pledged their support to "our poor persecuted people" and ask prayers from their friends at home in this time described as "just awful."

Many Negroes who have tried to register to vote have been fired from their jobs by white employers. The nuns, however, assured hospital employees the nuns will back them in their efforts "wholeheartedly."

One of their nurses, a graduate of the nuns' school of nursing, and an estimated seven or eight of the children in the nuns' elementary school, were jailed for demonstrating against the well-nigh impossible conditions facing Negroes attempting to register to vote.

The Selma mission outpost is headed by Sister Mary Paul and Sister Michael Anne, a project of mercy launched by the Sisters of St. Joseph twenty-five years ago.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Baptist minister, Nobel Peace Prize winner and integrationist leader, promised to visit the nuns' Good Samaritan Hospital as evidence of his gratitude for their support of the voter registration drive.

Also backing the Negroes' efforts to register was a full-page ad in the Selma Sunday newspaper, the Times-Journal.

Signed by Father John E. Crowley, director of the Society of St. Edmund missions in Alabama and northern Florida, the advertisement declared that "the problem in Selma is that neither as a man nor a citizen are the rights of the Negro fully respected."

In calm tones the article described the Negro's dignity as a person created in the likeness of God, but deprived of dignity by racism. Turning to the role of law, it declared that while laws cannot induce morality they should be guides of behavior.

"We do not have ready, simple solutions to the problems that confront the community," Father Crowley wrote. "We realize their complexity. However, we know from personal experience the truth of the Negro's claims of injustice and the evil effects of discrimination on his mind, body and soul. That is why we support wholeheartedly those non-violent efforts to obtain their full rights as Americans."

Father Crowley praised the "philosophy of love" behind the non-violent efforts of Negroes to obtain voting rights. Paraphrasing Pope John XXIII, he declared: "Both as a man and as an American citizen the Negro has a duty to claim these rights which are fundamental to his dignity, and all others have an obligation to acknowledge those rights and respect them."

The 11,000 readers of the newspaper were invited to send their comments on the article to Father Crowley. The day after it appeared he said he had received only a few initial reactions, and that all were favorable.

"I took out a full-page ad because in a letter to the editor you can't develop the philosophy behind the 'civil rights law,'" he said. "I haven't seen anywhere around here an attempt to develop the philosophy."

On the previous Friday, Father Crowley and Father Eymard Galligan, superior general of the Edmundites, visited Dr. King in the Dallas County jail for about 45 minutes.

Father Crowley praised the change in climate toward Negro rights in Selma during the past year, but the intransigence of the county police was one of the targets of his advertisement.

"What a mockery it is... If law officers, bemused perhaps by misguided counselors or pushed into excess by the vehemence of their own prejudices, should forget the dignity of their role and betray both the law and their profession by their unfairness, their open disdain of particular citizens..." he stated.

On the morning the advertisement appeared, Edmundite Father Charles McNeice and his Negro congregation at St. Elizabeth's church in Selma in prayer for "the success of the voter registration movement here in Selma and throughout Alabama." Father McNeice and the church's pastor, Father Maurice Ouellet, have been conducting such prayers for about a year.

Father Crowley's advertisement, entitled "The Path to Peace in Selma," emphasized the dedicated service Edmundite priests and Brothers have been giving to Negroes in Selma since 1937.

"Our work has been that of preaching the Gospel, administering Christ's sacraments, educating Negro youths and, in general, encouraging the Negro people with whom we come in contact to lead good and holy lives," he wrote.

HAMILTON and Omega Watches—Budget Timepiece—Main St.—Thomas Jeweler, 215 Main St. East—Adv.

Sword Over Schools

By ELMER VON FELDT

Jerusalem — (NC) — Christian educational authorities in Jordan, a predominantly Moslem country, feel they are working under the sword of Damocles.

They fear that the present anti-Christian turmoil caused by the Vatican Council's preliminary action denying that Jews as a whole are responsible for Christ's death may send the sword plunging into the vitals of the Christian educational structure.

Catholic authorities here point out that conditions are such that the dangling sword could inflict any of three serious wounds.

There is a new law on the books — still to be implemented — that the Christian schools must teach other religions, particularly the Moslem, as part of the school curriculum.

Another law bars Christian educational institutions, or any religious group, from acquiring new land unless they can prove that the land is absolutely for their activities.

But by far the worst threat comes from current agitation in the Jordanian parliament to seize Christian schools in retaliation for the Second Vatican Council's preliminary approval of the statement on non-Christian religions.

The law prescribing religious instruction for Moslems and other religious groups in Christian schools was passed by the Jordanian parliament in May despite the vigorous protests of Christian school authorities and the plea of King Hussein for reexamination of the law by parliament.

The king refused to sign the law as it was passed by both houses of parliament and sent it back to the legislature with numerous suggestions. Some of the king's suggestions were adopted, but the basic law was again passed by both houses of parliament. That placed the king in a position where he could not easily refuse to sign the law.

One of the king's suggestions adopted by the legislature eliminated a provision barring the expansion of existing Christian schools.

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FATHER HARDING

FATHER BOLGER

FATHER O'BRIEN

FATHER HOGAN

Rector for House of Studies

Rev. Joseph L. Hogan, S.T.D., a member of the faculty at St. Bernard's Seminary, was named by Bishop Kearney this week to be first rector of the new diocesan House of Studies to be built on the campus of St. John Fisher College.

He will guide seminary students while they make their college studies according to a new format to begin this coming September.

Instead of the present six-six arrangement, students for the priesthood in the Rochester Diocese will make their four year high school studies at St. Andrew's Seminary, their four year college studies at Fisher and their four years theological studies at St. Bernard's Seminary.

Students now split their college studies, two years each at the two seminaries.

Fifth and sixth year students at St. Andrew's Seminary will launch the new plan in September. A transportation plan is now under consideration.

They will attend regular college classes with Fisher students.

Diocesan officials hope to complete a campus residence for the college seminarians by September 1967.

FATHER HOGAN, who will be responsible for the spiritual formation of the seminarians at college, has spent most of his twenty-three years in the priesthood in academic and seminary work.

Ordained in 1942, he was first assigned as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church, Elmira. Three years later he was named to the faculty of St. Andrew's

Seminary, then did graduate studies at the Angelicum University in Rome where he attained his doctorate in sacred theology. He returned to St. Andrew's Seminary and while continuing his teaching there also founded and headed the theology department of newly organized St. John Fisher College.

He was principal of DeSales High School in Geneva from 1953 to 1955 when he was appointed to St. Bernard's Seminary faculty. He continued his theology teaching at Fisher and also conducts classes in ascetic theology at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

He has taught at Canisius College, Buffalo, and for four years was a Sunday noon commentator on current events for the Catholic Courier Journal's radio program on station WHAM.

He is a native of Lima, N.Y., where he attended St. Rose of Lima parochial school and the Lima High School prior to studies at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries.

Three Priests Named To Pastoral Duties

Three priests of the Rochester Diocese were named to new pastorates by Bishop Kearney this week, the Chancery announced today.

The appointments, effective Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m., are as follows:

Rev. Bartholomew O'Brien is transferred from pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Elmira, to be pastor of St. Mary's Church, Horseheads.

Rev. W. Darcy Bolger is transferred from pastor of St. Catherine's Church, Addison, to be pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Elmira.

Rev. Francis Harding, from Holy Cross Church, Ovid, to be pastor of St. Catherine's Church, Addison.

Course for Lay Deacons To Begin by September

Chicago — (NC) — An organization will be formed sometime before Sept. 1 to train laymen to serve as ordained deacons in the Church in Latin America.

Preliminary plans for the group, to be called the St. Stephen's Society, were announced here by Bishop Alfredo Mendez, C.S.C., of Arecibo, Puerto Rico. He said Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston has agreed to serve as honorary chairman of the society.

The ecumenical council's Constitution on the Church, promulgated last November, cleared the way for territorial bodies of bishops, with the permission of the Pope, to create a permanent order of deacons who could assist priests and dispense some

sacraments. The diocese would be open to young unmarried men and "mature" married men. Thus far no permanent deacons have been ordained.

Bishop Mendez said he already has trained 40 men to serve as deacons and has recruited 1,500 more, largely from the Cursillo movement. He said he hopes Catholic public school teachers, mayors and other officials in Latin America can be recruited as deacons.

Express your sympathy — send flowers. Call BLANCHARD'S. You can be sure of the proper selection in perfect taste. Open daily 'til 6 p.m. 55 Lake Ave. Call 232-2255. Free parking.—Adv.

\$10,000 Award For Cancer Study

Nazareth College has a ten thousand dollar nun.

Biology instructor Sister Muriel Lippman was awarded that sum by the Damon Runyon Foundation for cancer research.

She will use the money for new equipment to study, as she explained to the Courier, "the effect of mucopolysaccharides on cell division."

Mucopolysaccharides?

They are "things that float on the surface of cells."

A new theory proposed by Sister Muriel suggests that the surfaces of cancerous and non-cancerous cells are different and that differences is caused by an insufficient or abnormal mucopolysaccharide coating. If this is true, cell division could be controlled by adsorbing on to the surface of the cancerous cell a sufficient quantity of normal mucopolysaccharides to correct the imbalance.

Sister Muriel has been working in a house on the campus equipped as a research laboratory and called Roncilli Institute. Last year she studied the effect of heparin and related substances on tumor growth in mice. Her research this year will be concerned with the adsorption of these substances on tumor cell surfaces.

The Nazareth instructor began her research ten years ago, when she was studying for a Master of Science degree in General Physiology at the University of Pennsylvania and spending her summers at the Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory.

While teaching at Nazareth Academy she received a National Science Foundation research grant sponsored by Cornell University and last summer a program under the direction of Dr. Edwin Mirand enabled her to conduct experiments in connection with her theory at Rosewell

Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo. This work was done in the Institute's Department of Experimental Pathology.

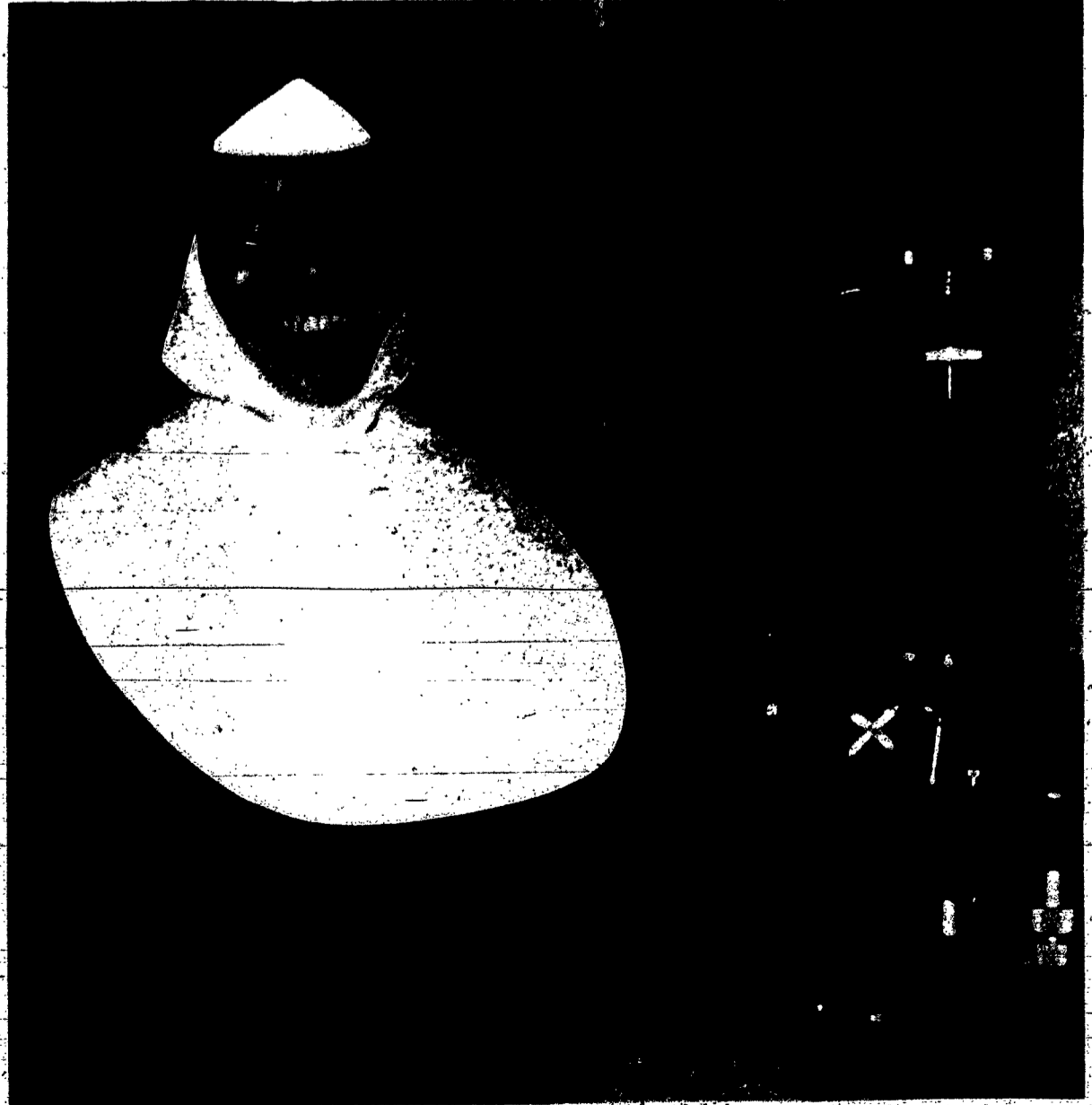
Sister Muriel, a native of New York City, joined the faculty of Nazareth College in September, 1963. She was invited to deliver a paper on her research and theory at the December meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Seminarians To Hear Bishop

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey will describe the third session of the Vatican Council in a talk to students at St. Andrew's Seminary Tuesday, Feb. 16.

Local News begins on page five.

Picture story of life at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph is on page six.



Nazareth College nun Sister Muriel was awarded \$10,000 this week for her research on cancer