



School Addition in Bath to be Blessed

NEW ADDITION of the second floor of St. Mary's School shown above will be blessed by Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey on Sunday, April 4, at 2 p.m. The new addition consists of 3 new classrooms (making a total of 9 for the school), a large audio-visual room, a library and Principal's office.

Pope Paul's Message:

Mary, Bond of Unity for Church

Santo Domingo (RNS) — Pope Paul VI stressed that all who place themselves under the Virgin's protection and guidance could "draw from her trust and faith they need" in a world beset by problems and widespread conflict and unrest. "All those who follow the history of the world and the present events that afflict humanity," he said, "will agree that among all men there is a universal desire for peace. And yet in many parts of the world it is apparently only fragile, being constantly threatened by social differences, by the conflicts of different sections of opinion and power, or simply by human weakness." The Pope said that "when the Church proclaims the motherhood of Mary over all humanity, she does so on a doctrinal basis and in keeping with the will of her Divine Founder, as well as taking into consideration the human setting." "The Church," he added, "wants humanity to be more fraternal and to lead it mutual understanding, to greater collaboration. And this can be encouraged by the presence of Mary as the mother of the human family." The Marian Congress, following immediately on the heels of the fourth International Mariological Congress—attended by scores of theologians and scholars from around the world—was marked by many colorful ceremonies designed as acts of public homage to the Virgin. They included torchlight processions, Midnight Masses, the consecration of the Dominican Republic to Mary, cultural programs, a dawn rosary, organ concerts, general Communions and lectures.

Vatican Council

Doing Luther's Job Better

Providence—(RNS) — The 16th-Century Reformation was described by a Roman Catholic layman addressing Our Lady of Peace Retreat League here as an "aggiornamento" (updating) in the Church which "did not take." Citing current changes in Catholic life—spearheaded by the Second Vatican Council—Mr. Horschler continued: "Most Catholics respond to these changes with exhilaration and joy that the Church they love is being mended, cleaned and restored, that the wounds of division are being healed and that the Church has stopped saying 'no' to the modern world and is embracing it with love." "However," he told the guests, "there are many good and sincere Catholics who are bewildered and disturbed by the sudden reversal of attitudes they have held all their lives. The anxiety they feel is understandable, and even the dedicated 'progressive' Catholic must recognize that there is great difficulty, pain and, yes, risk, in the metamorphosis the Church is attempting." "And yet," the speaker continued, "the Church needs and must have this reform and renewal. Difficulties and even dangers are no justification for leaving undone the work we are called to do by the Spirit as He has moved at the Vatican Council. The errors and failings of the past must be admitted, and they must be corrected. "The new Christian life will make heavy demands on all Catholics, particularly the layman, who is untrained and unprepared for witness and service in the world, in public life, after centuries of emphasis only on personal, private morality. But the future holds not only challenges and problems for the laymen of the revolutionized Church, but also thrilling hopes and prospects." Among the "joyous prospects made possible by the aggiornamento," Mr. Horschler, who was in Rome during the last session of the Council, cited "a community of love" to replace the quasi-military organization which the Church has been in the past, a more mature, more human, higher spiritually, clerical-lay relations marked by new trust, honesty and sympathy, a faith that means something to modern man," and one that "permits the Catholic to be at home in a world committed to freedom and democracy."

And Postpone Confession?

Cincinnati—(NC)—First Confession should be delayed until the fourth or fifth grade, a Catholic psychiatrist has urged, instead of being required in the second grade. Writing in the St. Anthony Messenger magazine, Dr. Conrad Baars of Rochester, Minn., said First Communion should still be given in the second grade, while the child is "unspoiled by fear of mortal sin and hell." The listings of sins is abstract and unreal for a young child, Dr. Baars said, and may encourage him "to interpret the most innocent acts as possible sins" and to develop an over-scrupulous conscience.

Priests Played Into Red Victory

Calcutta—(RNS)—A Roman Catholic writer charged here that some priests had unwittingly contributed to the victory of pro-Red China Communists in heavily-Christian Kerala State. K.J. John, a Kerala correspondent, made the charge in a special article front-paged by The Herald, a Jesuit-edited publication. He called for a "code of conduct" for priests in Kerala, citing incidents in the recent general elections which saw the National Congress Party suffer serious reverses and the pro-Communist emerge as the largest single party—although no party controls a majority of legislative seats. According to Mr. John's article, some priests campaigned for the Kerala Congress, thus nullifying a great number of votes that were essentially anti-Communist. In doing so, he claimed, they had ignored the pleas of their bishops.

Buddha, Forgotten God

By FATHER LAWRENCE M. ONEILL, M.M.

When young Japanese are asked the question: "What is your religion?" the typical answer is: "My parents are, I think, Buddhists, but I have no religion."

Many Buddhist monks and parents admit their neglect to educate Japanese youth in the religion which is theirs. But it may be too late to stem the growing tide of indifference to their religion.

The majority of Buddhists in Japan know little more than the name of the sect to which they belong. To them Buddhism is a matter of a few annual ceremonies and funeral rites.

This is why many people, including the experts, feel that Buddhism as a religious force is drawing its dying breath in Japan today. The signs are everywhere.

It is common to see children playing in abandoned temple grounds. Other temples have rented part of their property for parking space. Many of the 70,000 Buddhist temples across the length and breadth of Japan are in shameful state of dilapidation and disrepair.

Buddhism itself is looked upon as "Furusaki" or "old-fashioned" (the word literally means "striking of old age"). This is because the only function which most Japanese still call upon the monk to perform is the burial rite. Were it not for the revenues connected with funerals most monks would have no means of support at all.

At these funeral ceremonies priests chant sutras with due solemnity, not a word of which is understood by the laymen.

The Buddhist monk himself is often made a figure of ridicule in novels and movies. Recently Frankie Sakai, Japan's leading comedian, played the part of a monk in a movie called "The Gleeful Buddha."

Also among the signs of decay are the superstitious practices which have crept in to corrupt primitive Buddhism. Faith healers can be seen right in the temple precincts. There is a profusion of neighborhood shrines that are cared for by the laity whose devotion is a curious mixture of Buddhist, Shintoist and animist practices. As such, to most youth Buddhism is unattractive.

It has been argued in some Buddhist quarters that this attitude of youth should not be taken seriously for, to the Japanese, religion is a matter of his family rather than of himself personally.

This may have been so during the Tokugawa period, about 400 years ago, when Japanese families were registered with a certain temple and the members of the family automatically belonged to the sect of that temple. Unless the head of the family changed his allegiance from one sect to another, the family faith remained unchanged.

The position today is not the same. During the decades preceding World War II, the Meiji reform leaders and the subsequent military rulers of Japan had stipulated that the Emperor be placed over and above the Buddha. But since the end of the war, the Buddhists have been relieved of this democratic control and the worship of the Emperor has completely disappeared from the consciousness of the Japanese people.

Although this has given Buddhists the opportunity to treat their objects of worship properly, the majority of temples give the most important place to the founder of their sect rather than to Buddha. And Japanese generally are indifferent to the fact that the image of Buddha is used as a trademark on towels, matchboxes and ashtrays, as seen in the many souvenir shops in Nara and Kamakura.

Only the Zen temples—and not even all of those—seem to offer any fulfillment in the undeniable Japanese Shukyo-shin—"sense of the sacred." The Zen sect teaches self-discipline, meditation and attainment of enlightenment by direct intuition.

Some Zen communities hold periodic retreats for lay people. A book of sutras by a Zen monk from Kobe is currently having a brisk sale.

Morover, the cultural, as distinct from the purely religious influence of Buddhism still permeates Japanese society, though patterns and even language. Many of the most modern artists and architects exhibit strong Buddhist influences in their work. Had Buddhism nothing to offer it could not have left its indelible imprint on so many countries, nor could it have withstood the test of 25 centuries.

Paradoxically, it is often the Christian missionary who is most responsible for preserving the positive values of the Buddhist heritage. One of the missionary pastors in Matsuzaka has set up a special shrine for the dead in the rear of his church. The ashes of the deceased are stored in an alcove and during catechetical instruction great emphasis is placed on Catholicism.

There is a continuing attempt on the part of the missionaries to find out the positive values of Japanese Buddhism, especially Zen Buddhism. Zen has been the formative spirit in such distinctly Japanese cultural creations as the tea ceremony and haiku poetry. Apart from the teachings of Zen Buddhism there can be no understanding of the Japanese culture and mentality.

Pope Praises Paris' LaCroix

Vatican City—(NC)—On the occasion of the publication of its 25,000th issue, Pope Paul VI hailed the Paris Catholic daily, La Croix, for having been able to find the true formula for a Catholic newspaper.

"With its concern to give religious facts their proper perspective," La Croix renders the Catholic faith a great service. It does not, on the other hand, permit the judgment on facts other than religious."

"Today it is indeed absolutely necessary for everyone to form ideas concerning events and the progress of the world and it is not possible that these ideas remain in conformity with Christian principles without nourishment, advice and stimulation of the Catholic newspaper."

19 Pupils Win Grants to Mercy

Thirteen eighth graders have been awarded full tuition scholarships to Our Lady of Mercy High School, as a result of an examination administered at Mercy on March 27. Mother Mary Florence, Mercy principal, announces that there are also six partial scholarship winners. Winners of full tuition scholarships and their schools are as follows: Elizabeth Mahaffey, St. Louis; Mary Teresa O'Brien, St. Patrick's, Victor; Linda Allington, St. Louis; Lea Mutschler, St. Louis; I. Mary McDonald, St. James; Rosemary Krinsky, St. Andrew's; Paul Gerhardt, St. John the Evangelist; Jean Starkweather, Our Lady of Lourdes; Marie Afferi, St. Louis; Ann M. Taddeo, St. Cecilia's; Sharon Stacy, St. Monica's.

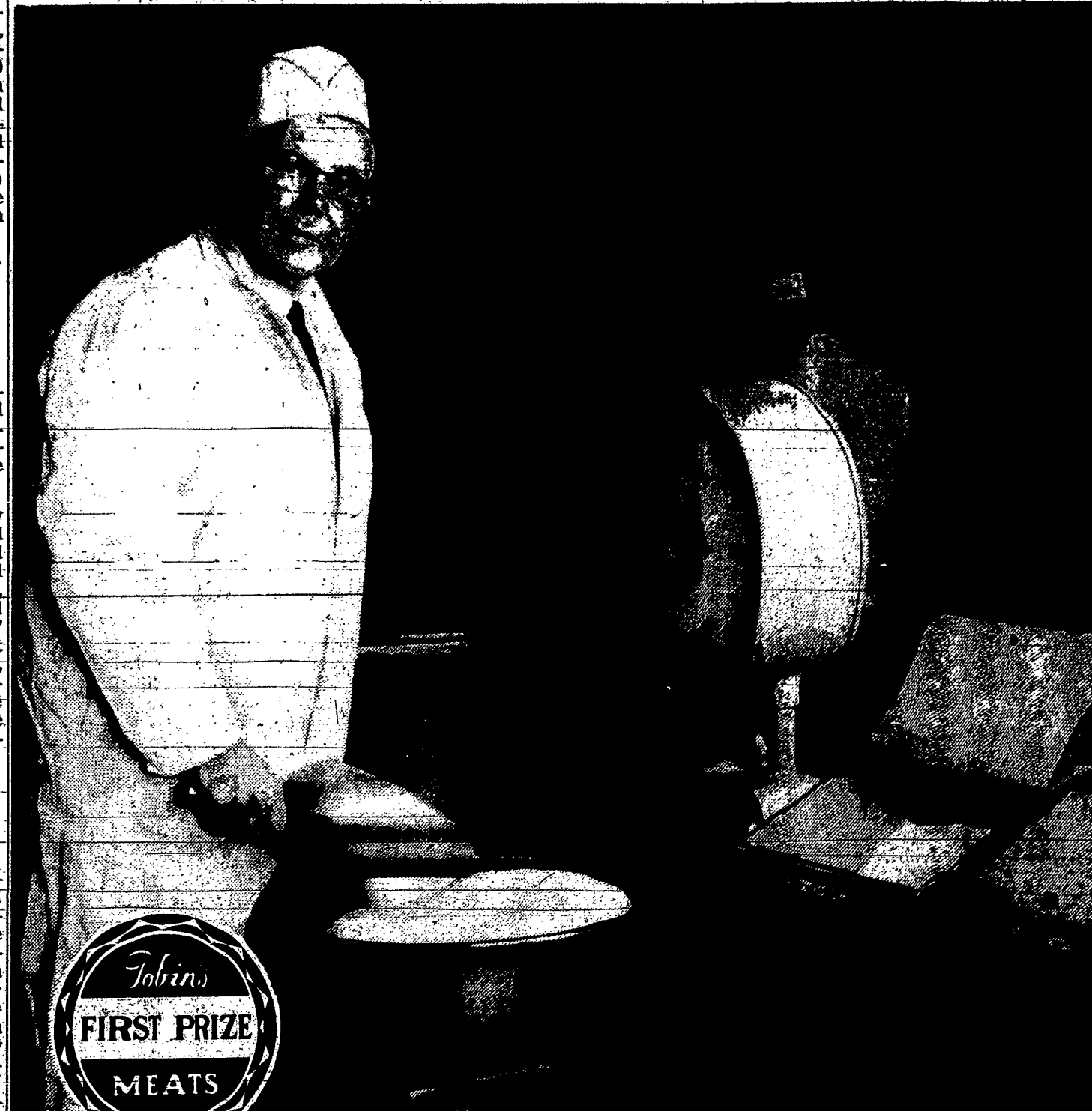
Partial scholarship winners are: Joanne Abrams, St. Rita's; Doris Ryan, St. John the Evangelist; Barbara Mulroy, St. Monica's; Karen Sivada, St. Mary's; Caridad Garcia. Winners of alumnae (partial) scholarships are: Carol Johnson, Corpus Christi; Patricia David.

65 CHEVY
SEE THE NEWEST MODELS
BROWN CHEVROLET
769 WEST MAIN ST.
FA 8-7220

Anderson's
Frametin Quality
BREMEN ALE
CLUB SODA
ASSORTED POPULAR FLAVORS
100% QUARTS

Bella Maria
MELLOW and LIGHT
ONLY \$2.79 per gallon
OLD PRIAR WINE CO. BUFFALO, N.Y.

BELTSVILLE TURKEYS
TOP FROST
6-8 LBS. AVG.
39^C LB.
FRESH BABY BEEF
LIVER 39^C LB.
STAR MARKETS SLICED
BACON 59^C LB.
DUTCH MAID BRAND HOTS & FRANKS 49¢ lb.
30 TOP VALUE STAMPS
WITH PURCHASE OF ANY PKG. OF FRESH
• GROUND BEEF
• GROUND CHUCK
• GROUND ROUND
Star MARKETS



He puts spice in your life

When it comes to seasoning FIRST PRIZE Pure Pork Sausage we're more than particular. We have men who do nothing but blend fresh ground spices for a living and supervise the purchase of natural spices from many parts of the world. They have to be experts, because at Tobin's just about right would never, never, do—not with our products are "Deliberately created the finest."

FIRST PRIZE PRODUCTS FROM THE FOLKS WHO CARE

Tobin PACKING CO., INC. - ROCHESTER, N. Y. U. S. GOVERNMENT INSPECTED