

600th Year
Vienna — (RNS) — Delegates from leading Roman Catholic and secular universities around the world are expected to attend celebrations here May 1 marking the sixth centenary of the famed University of Vienna, oldest German-language institution of higher learning.



POVERTY IN BRAZIL is embodied in this disabled shut-in, receiving a visit from Father Drexel. All his worldly possessions are hanging on the wall behind him.



FREE SCHOOL UNIFORMS are distributed to the impoverished students of the grade school of Palot Grande, by Father Drexel. It's located in Southern Brazil, about 120 miles from Sao Paulo.

Father Drexel:

Brazil's Mission Needs Are Great

Brazil's teeming millions present a real challenge to missionary zeal, said a young Rochester priest just home after his first duty in that Latin American nation.

Brazil has 70 million people—95 per cent of whom are baptized Catholics," said Father John Drexel, a member of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, "but only about 4 or 5 per cent are practicing Catholics."

Largest nation in South America, Brazil has only 13,000 priests (of whom 60 per cent are foreign missionaries) to minister to its multitudes.

"We could use 80,000 priests," stressed the former Rochesterian, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Drexel, live at 240 Meadowdale Drive in St. Helen's parish.

For this reason, the O.M.I. priests have set as their primary aim in Brazil to develop and nourish native vocations. They are presently staffing a minor seminary in Pocos de Caldas, with a student body of 75 aspirants to the priesthood.

Education in general is a focal point of the Oblates' total

This is a Catholic camp for some 200 boys and girls of more advantaged families. More than just a pleasant summer camp, however, it strives to impart a Christian formation to its young people, to motivate them toward helping their less-fortunate countrymen.

One valuable fruit of this camp is already in evidence. It is a grammar school for the poor children of the area, which was built through the generosity of the parents of the campers. Some 200 youngsters from the surrounding area are benefiting from the school now.

As these students are quite poor, the school provides a free lunch daily, and some good-

hearted women from the neighborhood have made uniforms for the children.

The Bishops' Relief Fund, to which Catholics of the Diocese of Rochester contributed so generously recently, provides much needed help in his area, Father Drexel noted. Food, clothing and medical supplies, reach the Brazilians who need them, through Caritas, which is the official Catholic relief agency

almost 8,000 members, worldwide. Their number in Brazil is small, however, with 24 priests and 1 brother staffing their parishes.

By coincidence, another Rochester priest in the O.M.I. ranks, Father Thomas Brown, is also in the Brazil group. He is Director of Vocations, working out of Sao Paulo.

While Brazil has a great deal of poverty, it also has a tremen-

dous economic potential, Father Drexel commented.

"With many natural resources, and a rich cultural heritage, it has great possibilities for the future," he said.

Father Drexel will be home for about 10 weeks more, and would be happy to talk about the missions in Brazil to any parish or school group. He can be reached at FA 8-9077, his parents' home.

missionary effort. Besides caring for 5 parishes, they direct a business and home economics school, 2 high schools and 3 grammar schools. (Their nun-teachers are the Felician Sisters, whose motherhouse is in Buffalo.) Best estimates are that 82 per cent of the people of Brazil are illiterate.

Besides their schools, the O.M.I. Fathers conduct a large catechetical program, assisted by well-trained lay catechists. The Legion of Mary is a potent force in their parish work, with one parish boasting of six praesidia. (Legion units)

After serving for two years in the Oblate parishes in and near Sao Paulo, Father Drexel was appointed to direct a Technical-educational camp at Palot Grande, some 120 miles from Sao Paulo.

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"We are able to help only a percentage of the needy," he stressed. "In our section, we are helping feed about 150 families—but there are 3,000 which could use supplements for their meager diets."

The Oblates of Mary Immaculate, mission group to which Father Drexel belongs, is a 150-year-old society which numbers



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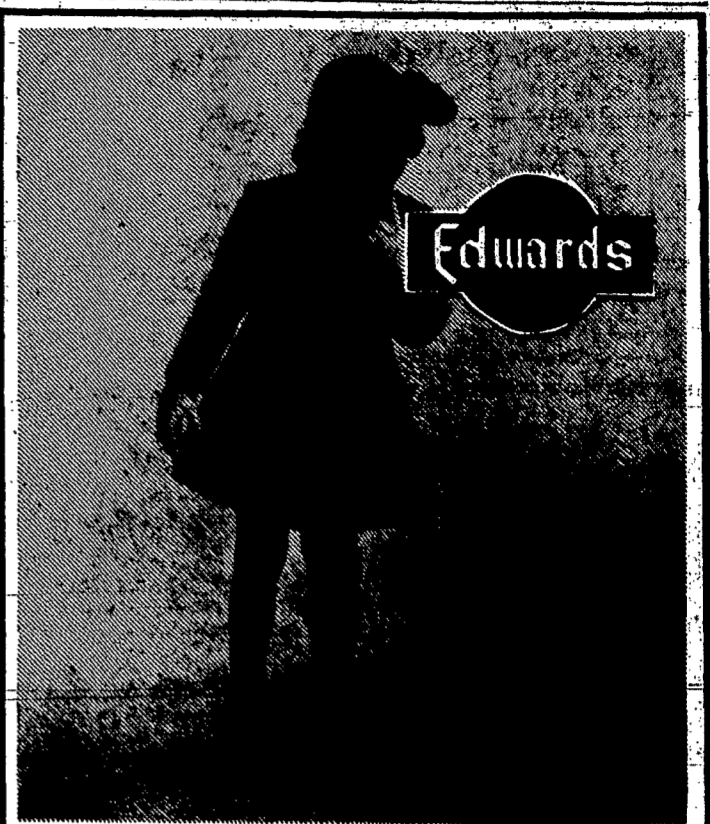
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'Catholic World' Jubilee

This year marks the first time in U.S. history that a Catholic magazine has celebrated one hundred years of continuous monthly publication.

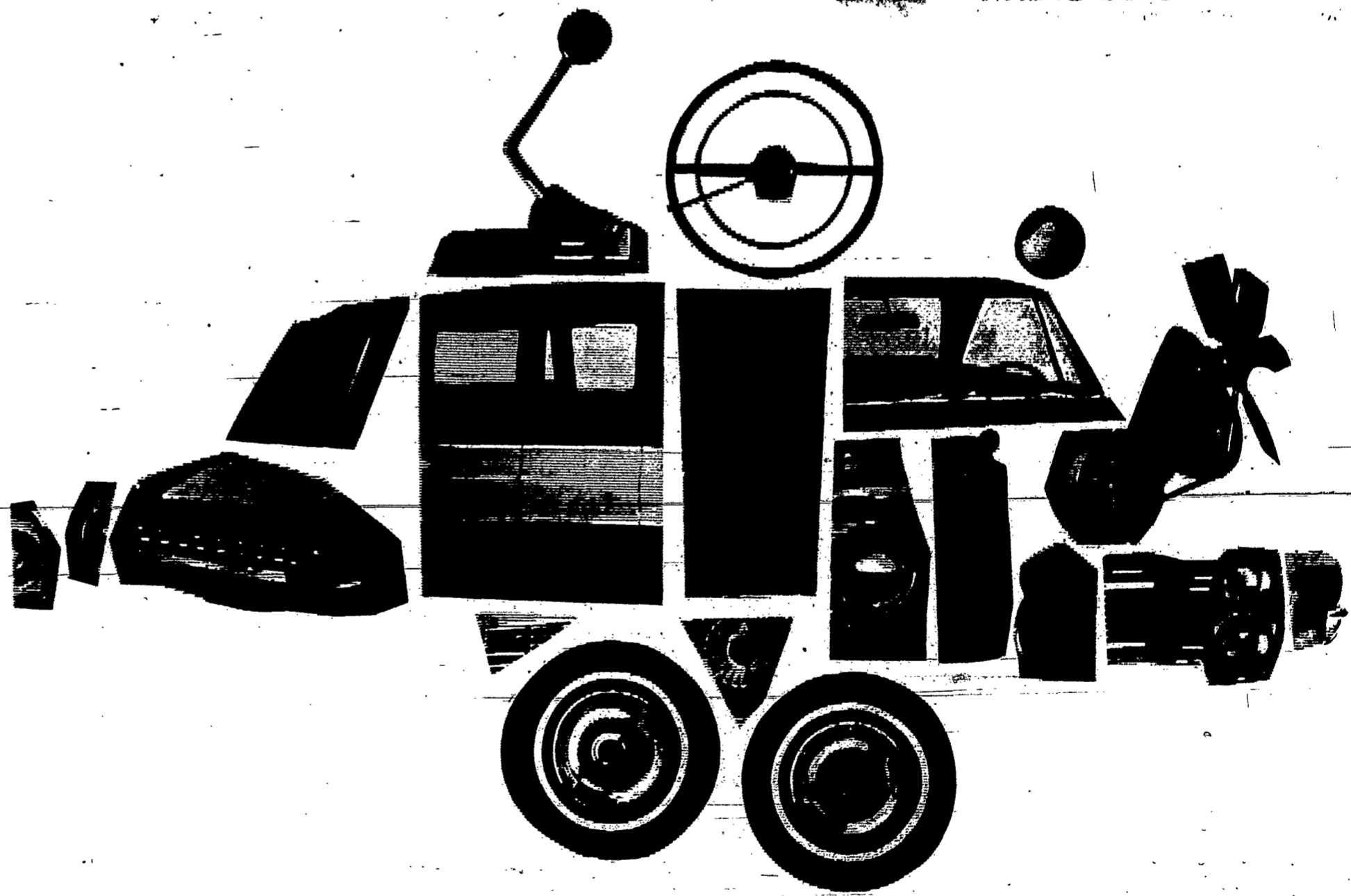
The first Catholic journal to reach the century mark is "The Catholic World." For 100 years it has been published in New York City by the Paulist Fathers. It is celebrating its 100th birthday with a series of articles commenting on the startling new reforms in the ancient church.

Contributors to the 88-page anniversary issue (April, 1965) include: John Cooley, pioneer lay leader and Vatican Council journalist; Rev. Joseph H. Fichter, S.J., recently appointed professor of Roman Catholic Theological Studies at Harvard; Dr. George N. Shuster, assistant to the president of Notre Dame University; Paul Horgan, historian and Pulitzer prize winner; Rev. Thomas F. Strzansky, C.S.P., authority on ecumenism and assistant to Cardinal Bea at Rome; Rev. Bernard Haring, C.S.S.R., the Pope's retreat master, September, 1964; Sister Mary Luke, first American woman auditor at the Council; and Hon. Genevieve Blatt, Secretary to Internal Affairs, Pennsylvania.

"The Catholic World" was founded in 1865 by Rev. Isaac T. Hecker, C.S.P., who seven years earlier had founded the Paulist Fathers. Father Hecker saw the need for a journal of significant thought on Catholic developments and contemporary issues. The first copy of the magazine appeared the month that Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

Among the editors who through the years have carried on the magazine's tradition of excellence were: Rev. John J. Burke, C.S.P., (editor 1904-1962), who founded the National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC); and Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P., (editor 1922-1946), whose civil rights editorials were always controversial and whose "Catholic Hour" radio talks on the Negro question were cut off brusquely by station after station in the South.

"The Catholic World's" present editor, Rev. John B. Sheerin, C.S.P., is responsible for the magazine's leadership in the ecumenical movement. His experience on the Press Panel of the Second Vatican Council and as Vatican observer at World Council meetings is reflected in his editorials.



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