

Arch Towers over Cathedral

St. Louis — (RNS) — The last section is lifted into place on the 630-foot high arch — the Gateway to the West — which towers over the 131-year-old St. Louis Old Cathedral. The church — a reminder of the city's spiritual heritage — and the Gateway are part of the national memorial park being built on the Mississippi riverfront in St. Louis. The Gateway is the largest man-made memorial in this country; the old record was held by the Washington Monument which is 555 feet tall. The much-heralded arch was designed by the late Eero Saarinen.

Liverpool's New Cathedral

Liverpool — (NC) — The new May, 1967. Although plans for first grandiose plan made 30 years ago—a massive crypt already in use and large enough to be a cathedral in its own right.

The present building is a tribute to John Cardinal Heenan of Westminster who, when he was archbishop of Liverpool, became exasperated by the lack of a cathedral in England's most Catholic city. There were plans on the drawing board for a building of traditional style that would cost about \$56 million.

Archbishop Heenan scrapped the old plans and sought an architect for a contemporary building costing no more than \$1 million in addition to the completed crypt. The winning design was presented by English architect F. W. Gilbert, a Presbyterian.

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Shamokin, Pa. — (NC) — Catholics should not be afraid to venture outside of their own little circle, to go where there are people who disagree with their ideas, Carl A. Balcerak, managing editor of the Catholic Witness said here.

"Let's learn a lesson from the example of Pope Paul VI," Balcerak told his audience, "Who at an age at which many men are content to sit on their social security, did not hesitate to leave the relative comfort of the Vatican to make three grueling journeys—to the Holy Land, to India and to our own country."

Pope Terms Families Nursery of Vocations

Vatican City — (RNS) — Delegates of the Women's Union of Italian Catholic Action heard Pope Paul VI stress the vital role of the family in fostering priestly vocations.

The Pope interrupted a talk to some thousands of pilgrims at his midweek general audience to address a special word to Catholic Action women who were in Rome for a meeting devoted largely to the topic of vocations.

"The family," he said, "is the nursery of vocations. There it is easy to destroy, there it is easy to cultivate. In the immense need that the Church has for pure and generous souls to consecrate themselves to God, the first care is not to impede — to assist, not to force, certainly, but never to retard a vocation."

"This has assumed enormous importance, and thus the family must be regarded as one of the most important factors of the apostolic efficiency of the Church today."

Portugal's Salazar Eyes Catholic Underground

Lisbon — (NC) — The government of Premier Antonio Salazar is preparing to stop the efforts of a Catholic underground organization to form itself into a political party.

All political organizations other than Salazar's National Union are outlawed in this country.

A few months ago a group called the "Democratic Christian Action Movement," reportedly made up of young Catholic lawyers and intellectuals, began circulating a manifesto calling on "conscientious" Christians to repudiate Salazar's regime. They also criticized high-ranking churchmen for "mistakenly identifying themselves" with the conservative position in political and social fields. The anonymous manifesto has been circulated from hand to hand throughout the country.

Salazar replied in August with a public statement criticizing "groups which stress their spiritual motivations but which are in fact promoting political aims."

He also warned against "Catholic progressivism," which he said is apparently willing to cooperate with communists to attain its goals.

Although Portugal recognizes only one party, the electoral law states that any group can present candidates during a campaign period. Legislative elections will be held here late in October or early in November.

The Church can Christians the nation but I think it should stop there," Salazar said recently. "It cannot substitute for the state nor do its work in the material or profane order."

Diario Da Manhã, the National Union Newspaper that supports Salazar, said "Communist maneuvers are behind the present agitation for the creation of a Catholic party."

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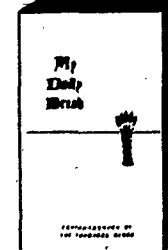
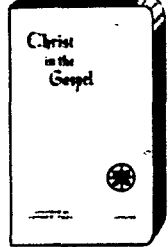
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