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## Jesuits To Study Missions

New York—(NC)—Twenty-six Jesuit mission superiors and observers from around the world will meet at Le Moyne College, Syracuse, Jan. 25 to 28, to reappraise Jesuit mission approach in light of the Vatican Council.

Father James P. Cotter, S.J., director of Jesuit Missions, Inc., here, said the four-day meeting sponsored by Jesuit Missions and the Jesuit Mission Procurators of the United States and Canada, will be the first worldwide meeting of the society's mission superiors.

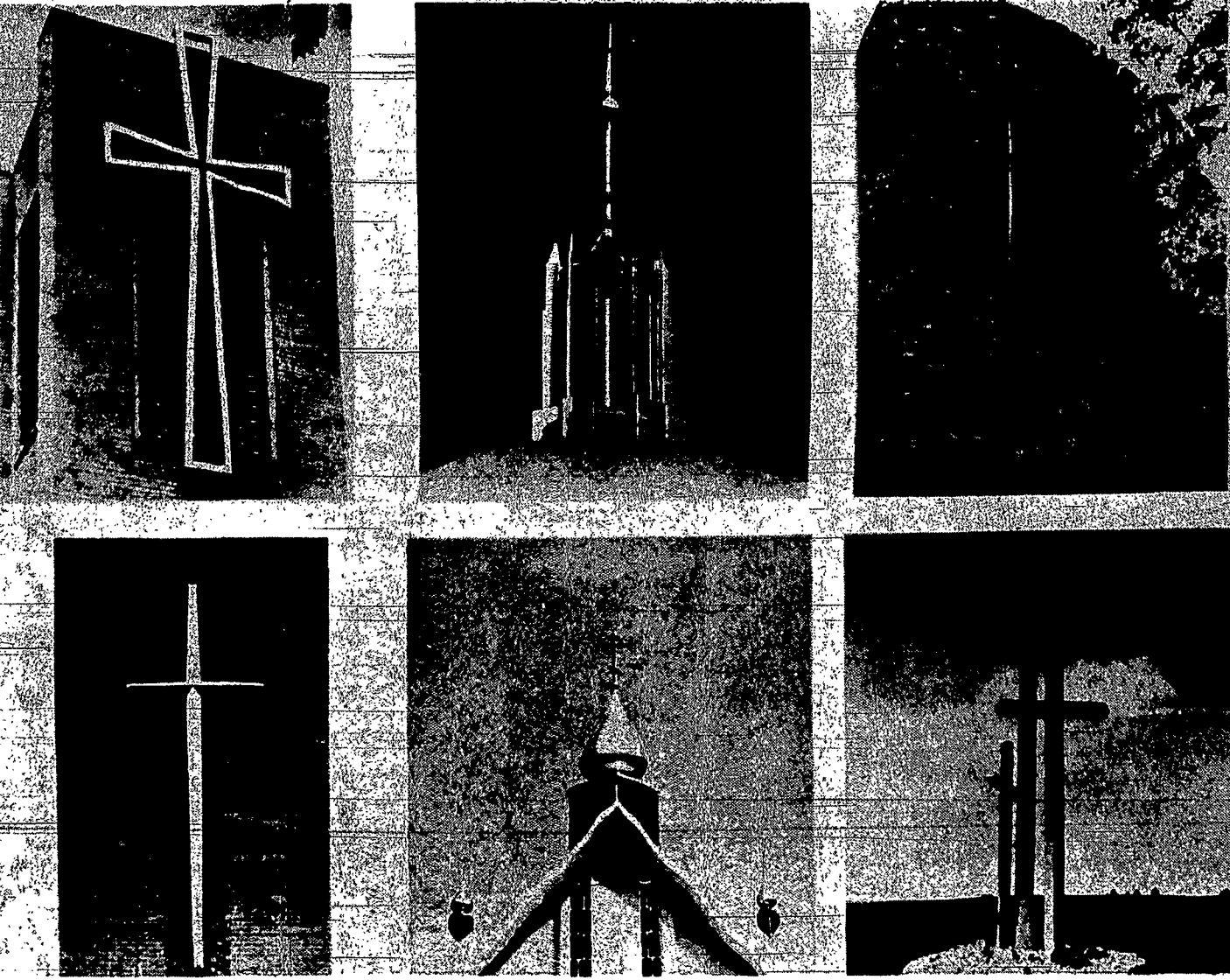
Position papers for the meeting will cover the mission structure in the United States and Canada; the use of Jesuit manpower; the use and development of financial and material resources; auxiliary sources of manpower; collegiality and the missions; co-operation with diocesan bishops in the missions and with religious orders and congregations and ecumenism and the missions.

The unprecedented meeting of Jesuit mission officers was given added impetus by the recent discussions in the Vatican Council on the missionary activity of the Church. In those discussions, Father Pedro Arrupe, General of the Society of Jesus, criticized what he termed "deformed ideas" regarding mission work.

### New Magazine On Missions

A four-language, six times a year magazine "Christ to the World" will expand the scope of its articles and audience as a result of the Vatican Council.

Founded ten years ago, the magazine is available for \$3 a year at Via G. Nicotera 31, Rome, Italy.



### Ageless Symbol Of Faith

New York—(RNS)—One of the oldest and most popular symbols known to man, the cross came into widespread use as a Christian symbol with the conversion of Emperor Constantine to Christianity in 312 A.D. The form also has been found among the earliest vestiges of civilization, with recorded usage dating from 4,000 years before Christ when pagans associated the cross with awe and power. Shown here are several of the many varieties of crosses as fabricated by the Overly Manufacturing Co. of Greensburg, Pa.

### New Almanac On "Renewal"

New York—(NC)—A section of a group of Franciscan clerics on "Renewal in the Church" is the almanac staff of St. Anthony's Guild and is distributed by Doubleday.

The almanac is scheduled for publication Jan. 21. It is compiled under the editorial supervision of Father Felician A. Foy, O.F.M., with the assistance of other new features in the 1966 edition will include a cumulative report on the Second Vatican Council; "Confusion in the Church," an article by Father Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R.

## Pius Frustrated In Peace Effort

By JAMES C. O'NEILL

Vatican City—(NC)—Most of the world is generally aware that Pope Pius XII tried to avert the outbreak of total war in Europe in 1939. But only recently has there come to light a detailed documentation of his desperate efforts during those crucial days.

The document is contained in a book published by the Vatican on orders from Pope Paul VI. The book is entitled "The Holy See and the War in Europe" and covers the first 18 months of the reign of the man who succeeded Pope Pius XII in March, 1939.

Unfortunately, the volume was brought out in the first week of December, 1965. The excitement surrounding the final week of the Second Vatican Council all but obscured the appearance of the book and an understanding of its significance.

In it are recorded the private conversations, secret negotiations, personal appeals and frantic diplomatic activity which surrounded the attempts of Pope Pius to avert the outbreak of total war in Europe. The actual reports and documents are taken from the Vatican's own secret archives normally not available to the historians of our day.

And important as it is, it is only the first of a series of volumes of documentation that will embrace the full activities of Pope Pius and the Holy See during World War II. A second volume, containing the letters and communications between the Holy See and the bishops of Germany is expected to be published in February of this year.

The entire series—it is not yet decided exactly how many volumes will compose it—is to be known as the "Acts and Documents of the Holy See in Relation to the Second World War." It is being prepared by three Jesuit historians who have been commissioned by the Pope and other officials of the Papal Secretariat of State to search through all the various archives of the Holy See for documents which can shed light on this period of history.

The first volume, although it covers only the first 18 months of the reign of Eugenio Pacelli, consists of 552 pages. A 91-page introduction in French reviews in general the Holy See's activity between March, 1939, and August, 1940. This is followed by the presentation of 319 separate documents, each in its original language.

Broadly the volume illustrates clearly the efforts Pope Pius XII made to try to avert the outbreak of total war in Europe in early 1939, and then his efforts to alleviate the suffering that automatically followed the European war.

In its pages are chronicled the abortive attempts by the Pope and by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to arrange peace conferences to stop the sweep of nazism over Europe. There is also the history of the establishment of informal relations between the Holy See and the United States which culminated with the appointment of Myron Taylor as the President's personal representative to the Pope.

Many of the conversations and reports on American-Vatican relations, documented by the book, never before have been made public. But the volume by no means confines itself to relations between these two states. Rather it shows the strong, though largely unsuccessful, role the papacy played during the early days of World War II.

This first volume is the result of approximately a year's work by the three Jesuit historians. They are French-

trained historian Father Pierre Blet, S.J., of the faculty of history of the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome; Italian Father Angelo Martini, S.J., history specialist of Civita Cattolica, a fortnightly magazine published by the Rome province of the Society of Jesus and German Father Burkhardt Schneider, S.J., professor of modern Church history at Gregorian University.

Father Martini has denied charges that the volume is a sort of "White Paper" published as a defense of Pius XII in the wake of post-war criticism of some of his policies. Rather it is published to afford scientific researchers and contemporary historians the opportunity of having available source material that normally would remain classified for years to come, he said.

The researchers were given full freedom of the archives, Father Martini said. "They were opened to us by the men who knew what was in them, by the Pope himself, who worked in the Secretariat of State in those days, and by his assistants in the secretariat."

### Pope Speaks To NASA Men

Vatican City—(RNS)—American space scientists heard Pope Paul VI voice the wish that in "discovering the laws and energies that God has placed in the world," they would be able to "recognize God as the Author of Creation and the law of brotherhood that is found in Him."

The occasion was an audience given by the pontiff to scientists and technicians of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The delegation was accompanied by Dr. Luigi Broglio, head of the Space Research Center at the University of Rome.

Addressing both groups, Pope Paul stressed the value of scientific cooperation by experts from different countries, saying that this had already become "something deeper, something more significant and more human."

### Prompt Delivery For Zip Code

North Little Rock, Ark. (NC)—Msgr. Thomas J. Prendergast, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish here, is ready, willing and able to testify to the effectiveness of the Post Office Department's zip code system. He got an air mail letter from Rome, Italy, addressed simply: "Msgr. T. J. Prendergast, Zip Code 72118, U. S. A."

## Faith Is An Ailing Giant

(Continued from Page 1)

lion persons, and the movement continues to expand.

A principal reason, he suggested, is the lack of proper Catholic instruction which has produced a folklore.

"They want to be Christian, but they simply do not know what Christianity is," he said.

"The lack of religious assistance has produced in people a definite spiritual vacuum. To fill this lacuna, they turned to fetishism and primitivism. And spiritism was accepted as an ersatz, a marvelous Ersatz, one with direct contact with the world of spirits," he said.

Other conference highlights include:

• British economist Barbara Ward's warning that the contrast between the world's rich and poor is sharper in the Americas and that Christians who ignore the difference will call down "God's anathema on our rich, indifferent society."

• The disclosure of Angelo Cardinal Rossi of Sao Paulo, Brazil, that the Brazilian and Chilean hierarchy have petitioned the Holy See for programs to use married lay deacons in priest-short areas.

• The reminder by Archbishop John P. Cody of Chicago that while U.S. Catholics and others are responding generously to the call for help from Latin America, "staggering tasks remain."

• The presentation of CICOP's annual awards to Msgr. Luigi Ligutti, a U.S. priest who is permanent observer of the Vatican to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, and to Jose and Luz Maria Alvarez, founders of the Christian Family Movement in Mexico and the first couple named lay observers at the Vatican council.

• The appeal of a young scholar, Dr. Richardo Arias Calderon, a University of Panama professor, that Christian thought and its capacity to influence social developments be given as much attention as manpower, bricks and mortar.

Reciting figures which show that Latin America has only two priests for every 10,000 Catholics, as against nearly 35 for every 10,000 in North America, Jesuit Father Renato Poblete of Chile said the psychological studies show that contact with a priest and activities of apostolic groups nourish vocations.

Consequently, he said, "it is of great importance that we analyze the existing image of the priest in any specified area before setting up structures for the fostering of vocations."

"Many priests," he said, "blame the world, its comfort and the lack of ideals in our youth as being the more important obstacles to vocations."

"Priests should examine their consciences as to whether we, as priests, are not ourselves obstacles," he declared.

### Pray Together, Unity Prelude

Toronto—(RNS)—Common prayer by Roman Catholics and other Christians is a "stage" in the advance toward "that providential time when we will find ourselves at last reunited," according to Paul-Emile Cardinal Leger, Archbishop of Montreal, in an article in an Anglican Church of Canada publication.

The views of the French-Canadian cardinal are contained in "When We Pray Together" in the current issue of "Anglican Dialogue," theological journal. Publication of the quarterly magazine was taken over recently by "Canadian Churchman," national paper of the Anglican Church of Canada, so that it might be more widely circulated and focus attention on interreligious dialogue.

The cardinal asked: "Why do we leave the churches familiar to us and come together in a place where we risk close contact with strangers?"

"I believe it is because we want to show that we are still brothers—brothers who wish they had never been estranged. We seek to express, by means of such short-lived gatherings, our ardent desire for a Christian community which will be stable and permanent, and in which all will be re-united."

### Faith Trebles In Burundi

Vatican City—(RNS)—The Roman Catholic population of Burundi in Central Africa has grown from 50,000 in 1950 to an estimated 1,570,000 today, more than half the country's population.

This was reported in a Vatican Radio broadcast which said the Catholic population had trebled in 20 years.

"In 1944," it said, "500,000 Catholics lived in Burundi; but today they number 1,570,000 baptised, and 112,000 catechumens."

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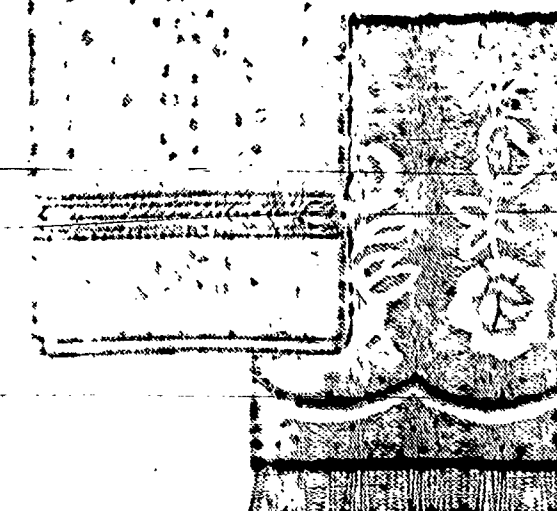
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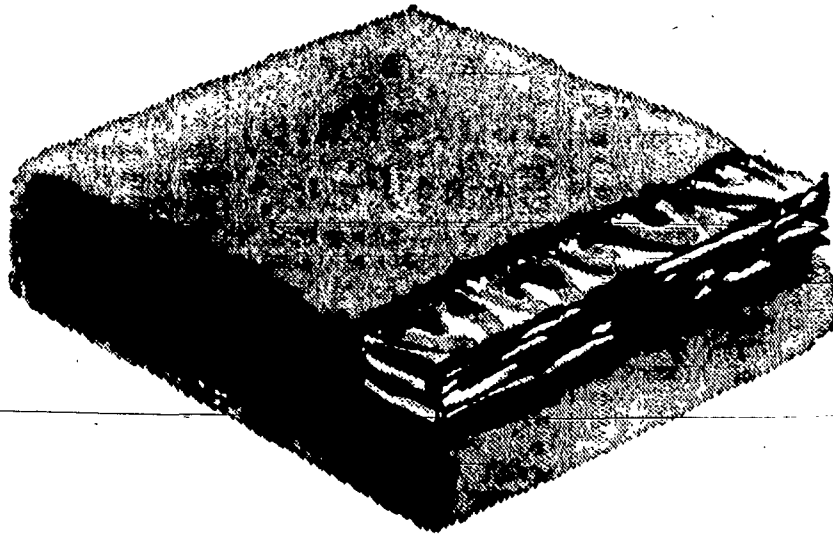
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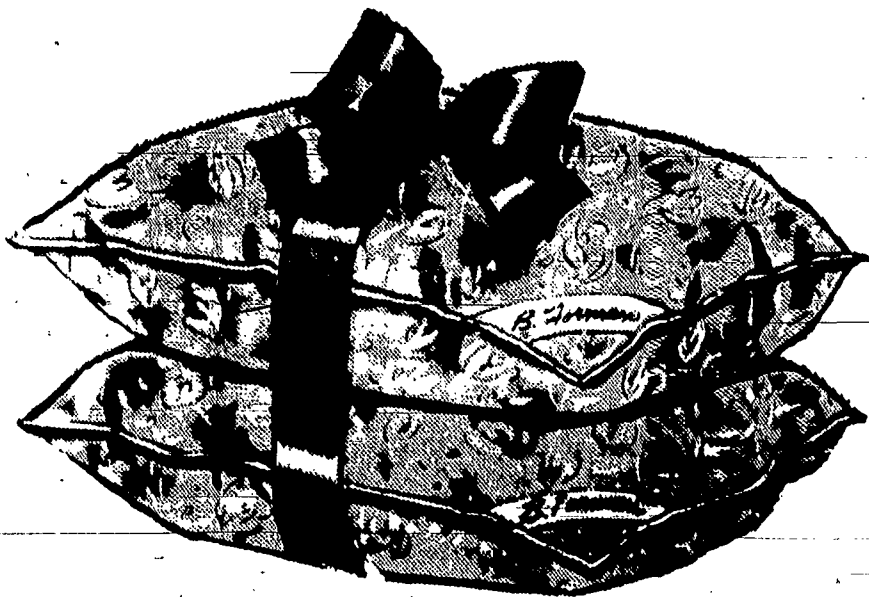
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