

# Religious Freedom to Be Reality in Spain, Official Contends

(NC News Service)

Madrid — "The government fully intends that religious freedom, as understood by the Second Vatican Council, be a reality in Spain," Alfredo Lopez, the head of the government commission on religious freedom, said in an interview here.

Lopez, who is also vice min-

ister of justice, released a new cabinet decree clarifying the law on religious freedom passed last June by the Cortes (parliament).

Previous objections on the law from religious leaders, including some Catholics, often expressed the view that the law did not follow the Vatican

Council directives and was still too restrictive. The predominant feeling is that the law increased "tolerance" for non-Catholic denominations, but did little to bring them full religious freedom.

Lopez said that the law had the approval of Spain's highest advisory body, the Council of State. He said that the Holy See

was not consulted because "this is a matter for us Spaniards to resolve."

The new decree includes 27 points designed to legalize public worship by non-Catholic Christians and other religious groups.

Among the main points are the following:

—Non-Catholics can hold religious activities, including outdoor functions, provided they obtain a permit from the provincial governor;

—Lists of membership and accounting will remain classified matter;

—Ministers and other reli-

gious leaders of non-Catholic denominations must register with the ministry of justice; lay membership is exempted;

—The government cannot interrupt nor suspend religious activities of non-Catholics without due process of law and within 30 days of indictment;

—Religious denominations

have the right of appeal before authorities and the courts.

Nine of about 30 non-Catholic religious bodies in the country have already shown a willingness to register their ministers.

Recent disagreements among Protestants over their position have led to the resignation of their top coordinator, the Rev. Francisco Garcia Navarro, a

minister of the Spanish Evangelical Church. He has resigned as chairman of the Commission of Evangelical Defense, established some time ago to coordinate public activities and joint legal action by Protestant groups in this country.

Present estimates place the number of Protestants at about 30,000.



## APACE Breakfast

APACE, Aquinas Institute Parents, will sponsor a parents and students Communion Breakfast to be held May 19 at the Mapledale Party House. Shown here are Father Roy Oggero, moderator with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mellen and Mr. and Mrs. James Powell. Bishop Kearney will be guest speaker.

## Honors Taken At Press Day

Rochester area Catholic High Schools took top awards and Honorable Mentions in the annual Press Day Awards competition at St. Bonaventure University last week.

First prizes went to Pearl Stewart of Nazareth Academy in the feature writing class and to Mary Ann Satter of Our Lady of Mercy High School in the verse contest.

Cited as outstanding publications were "The Coronet" of Bishop Kearney which was runner-up for the Times Union trophy in the newspaper category; "The Crown and Sceptre" of Bishop Kearney, special citation in the yearbook class; the "Spectrum" of Nazareth Academy, runner-up in the magazine class; "The Palm" of St. Agnes, cer-

tificate of merit in the yearbook and magazine classes.

Honorable Mentions were won in the following contests: column writing—Rosemary Helmicki, Janice Taddeo, Deborah Fantigrossi, and Maureen Whalen of Nazareth Academy; fiction—Certificate of Achievement, Vicki Hasenauer, Our Lady of Mercy and Certificate of Merit, Shannon Wixson, Nazareth Academy; feature writing—Alice Tallmadge, Our Lady of Mercy; news writing—Kathy Urbanc, Bishop Kearney; Janice Taddeo and Kathleen Wedlow, Nazareth Academy.

Other Honorable Mentions were: verse—Kathleen Clifford, Marciana Kowalewski, Teresa Miller, and Shannon Wixson, Nazareth Academy; editorial—Catherine de Cocq,



Planning for the 20th anniversary reunion of the Aquinas Institute, Class of 1948, are from left, standing: Joseph Dimino, Vito Casson, John Della Villa and Harry Lane; seated, William Belkirch, Thomas Falk (chairman), and Don Blitner. The reunion will take place on May 24 at 6:30 at the Party House on Behan Rd. Reservations by calling Tom Falk at 381-3308.

## Brazilian Girl Breaks Trails

Maria Jose Macedo is a real trail breaker with the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Rochester Diocese.

Not only is she the first Brazilian girl to enter the local community, she will be the first to take her novitiate abroad—right back in her native land.

The bright-eyed, black haired young lady is just completing her year of postulancy with the local religious community. She is scheduled to return to Brazil early in June to begin two years of novitiate formation in the community's newly opened House of Studies in Uberlandia, state of Goias in Brazil.

Miss Macedo first met the Rochester Sisters of St. Joseph three years ago, when they took charge of a Catholic school in which she was teaching. After a year's association, she was offered a scholarship to Nazareth College in Rochester and came here in September 1966 to use it. (She had already completed a normal school education in Brazil, but wanted to further her training.)

After a year's study at the East Avenue college, the young Latin American decided to enter the Sisters of St. Joseph as a postulant. While her first goal had been to teach among her own people, she was assured that she could still do that as a missionary nun with the local community.

"As a result of this understanding, I saw that I could fulfill my ideal of working with my own people by becoming a Sister of St. Joseph," she said last fall.

Since her apostolate was always aimed for Brazil, her religious superiors have decided to let her fulfill her novitiate back in home territory. This



Sister Maria Jose de Macedo (left), Brazilian postulant with the Sisters of St. Joseph in Rochester, talks about her native land with Sister Anne Mary, director of vocations.

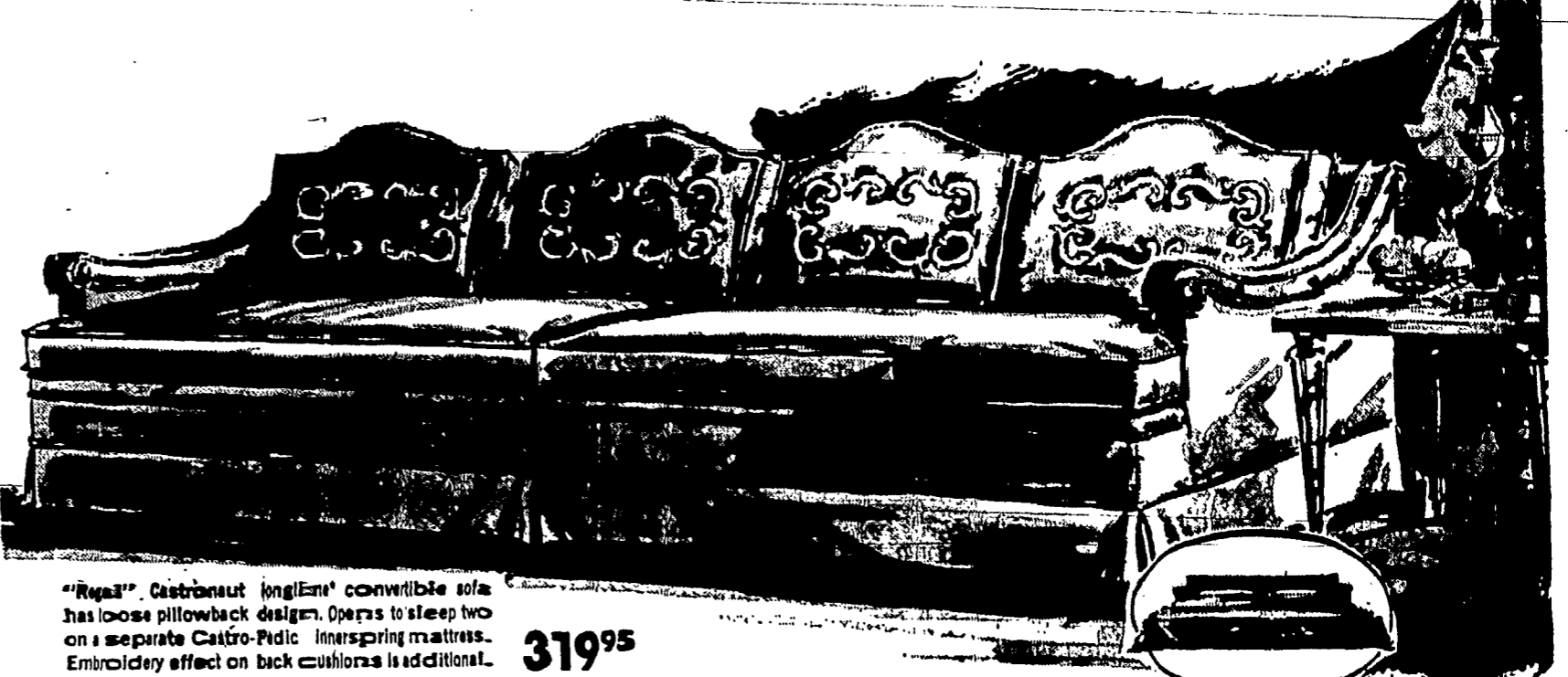
year, after a vacation with her family in Sao Simao, she will spend the first part of her novitiate working with Sisters Rose Alma, Regis and Jogueis in the Uberlandia area.

At the end of that year, she will enter the period of intense prayer and study known as the Canonical Novitiate, at the close of which she will make her first profession of vows.

The Rochester community presently has 11 sisters working in Brazil, plans to increase that number to 16 this year.

## Castro Convertibles

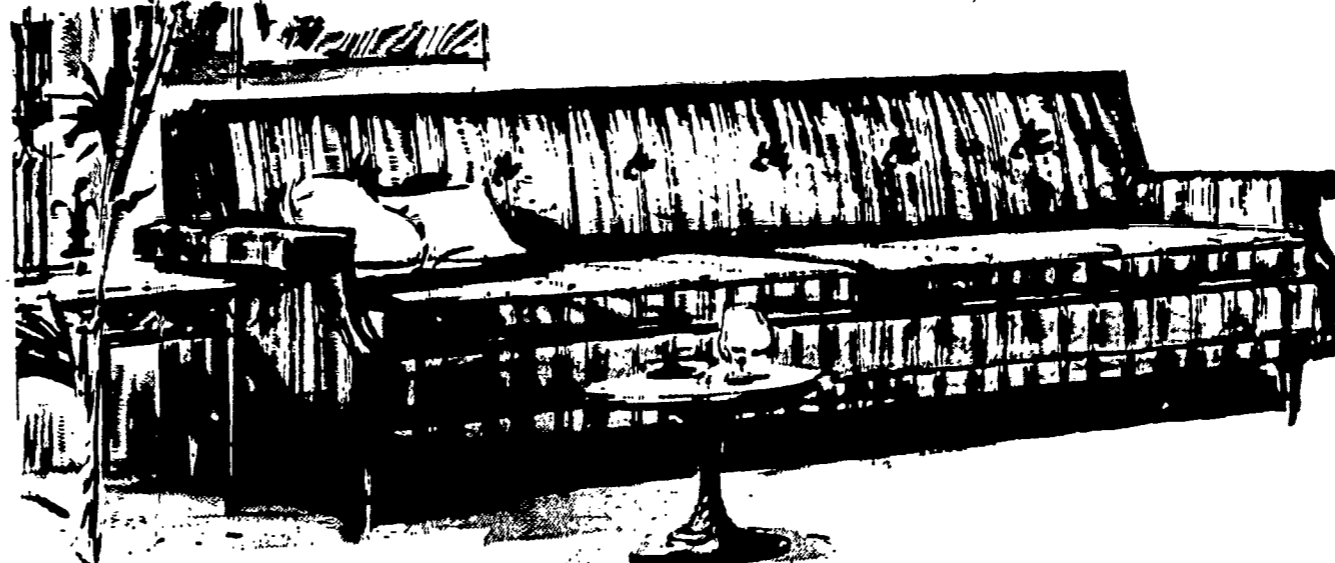
For 36 Years, America's Largest Maker of Convertible Furniture Selling Direct to You. CASTRO...FIRST TO CONQUER LIVING SPACE



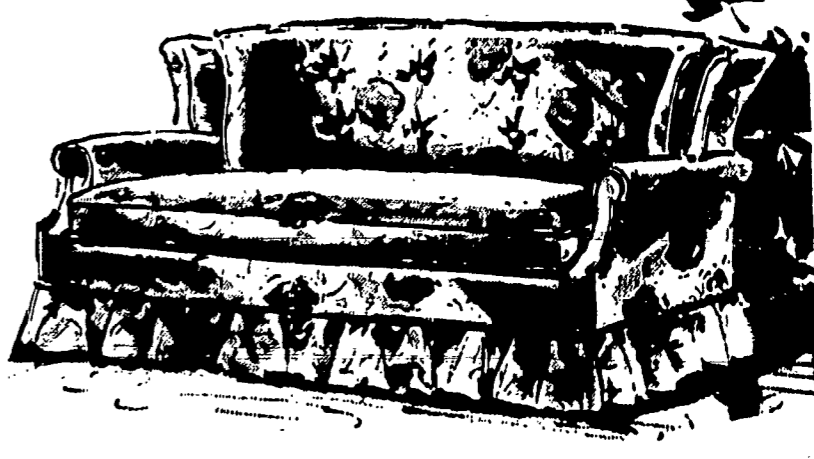
"Regal" Castonaut longline convertible sofa has loose pillowback design. Operates to sleep two on a separate Castro-Pedic innerspring mattress. Embroidery effect on back cushions is additional. 319<sup>95</sup>

## Annual Inventory Clearance

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## Scouters Attend D.C. Conference

Catholic Scouters from the Diocese of Rochester attended the 20th Biennial Conference of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting in Washington, D.C., May 6-9.

Attending from Rochester were Rev. Robert V. Winterkorn, diocesan chaplain and Mr. John C. McCarthy, Jr., diocesan lay chairman.



## Cadet Honored

Lt. Col. Joseph S. Fichera, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian Fichera, Fulton Ave., was voted "Cadet of the Year" by his classmates at Nazareth Hall Cadet School.

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