

AROUND THE WORLD



First Time Outside Italy

For the first time in the history of art, 70 Italian frescoes have been removed from their architectural settings and are being shown in the United States. Another outstanding feature of the exhibit at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art is the display for the first time anywhere of the drawing which each artist placed on the wall before painting the fresco. These drawings, called *sinopia*, reveal that the artist sometimes changed his mind between the execution of the drawing and the final fresco (bottom painting). Shown at top is the *sinopia* and fresco entitled "Christ Appears to St. Bernard." It was painted by artists of the School of Perugino (1500) and is from the Church of Santa Maddalena dei Fazzi in Florence. At the bottom is "The Trinity and St. Jerome with Sts. Paula and Eustochium." The *sinopia* and fresco, painted by Andrea del Castagno (1423-1457), are from the Church of Santissima Annunziata in Florence. (RNS)

Douai 400 Years Old

London—(NC)—The 400th anniversary of the foundation of the English College at Douai, in northern France, is being observed this year.

Douai was founded by William Cardinal Allen, the last Roman Catholic Archbishop of Canterbury. The college trained hundreds of priests who came to this country secretly to maintain the faith in the worst days of persecution. Many of them knew they were coming here for martyrdom.

Conversions Virtually Prevented

Bhopal, India—(RNS)—The Madhya Pradesh legislative assembly here has passed a bill that will make conversions to Christianity virtually impossible in the state.

Called the Freedom of Religion Bill, the legislation is ostensibly intended to outlaw conversions that result from "force, allurement or fraudulent means." According to many observers, it may prevent missionaries from undertaking any conversion activities at all. The bill stipulates imprisonment of up to one year for those contravening its provisions.

Cardinal Hopes To Go Home

Berlin — (RNS) — Josef Cardinal Beran, exiled Archbishop of Prague, would like to return to Czechoslovakia, "but now one would have to tell that to the Russians," an aide said. He reported that the cardinal was recovering slowly from a hernia operation performed two months ago at Stuttgart's Marien Hospital.

Cardinal Beran has been serving at the Vatican since his exile — following 15 years' imprisonment and house arrest under the old hardline Stalinist regime in Prague. It is expected that he will return to Rome in early October. He will mark his 80th birthday Dec. 29.

French Section of Louvain to Move

Louvain, Belgium—(NC)—The French-speaking section of the Catholic University of Louvain will transfer out of this town over a period of 10 years at a cost of \$340 million.

The Belgian bishops, trustees of the university, approved and sent to the Belgian government (Sept. 20) the plan of transfer submitted to them by the academic council of the French-speaking

section which has been in a language controversy for several decades.

The French-speaking faculty of medicine is to be established in the suburbs of Brussels, the Belgian capital, and the other faculties will be set up at Ottingnes, some 30 miles from the capital in the French-speaking section of the country.

The Louvain controversy

has been a focal point for opposition between Belgium's two linguistic groups, the Dutch-speaking Flemings and the French-speaking Walloons. The town of Louvain, where both sections of the university have been located, is on the French side of the linguistic frontier established in 1963 to settle the country's language issue.

The refusal until this year

of the French section's faculties to leave Louvain, the Flemings said, was an attempt to impose French culture on a Flemish town.

It was the pressure of repeated demonstration and strikes by Flemish-speaking students and professors, which resulted in incidents of violence, that caused the government to yield to their demands for the transfer of the French section.

Churches Issue Black University Prexy Tells Why He Took Unpopular Job

Capetown, South Africa — (RNS)—The most powerful attack on apartheid yet made by any religious body was issued here by the South African Council of Churches in a 2,500-word document entitled "A Message to People of South Africa."

Although the Catholic and Dutch Reformed signatories are not members of the South African Council of Churches, they authorized its publication with their names. Also represented were the Methodist, Anglican, Presbyterian, Lutheran and Baptist churches.

The statement said the "policy of separation or apartheid is a demonstration of unbelief in the power of the Gospel. . . . Advocates of this policy inevitably find themselves opposed to the church if the church seeks to live according to the Gospel and show that God's grace has overcome our hostilities."

"Apartheid is a view of life and man which insists we find our identity in disassociation and distinction from each other. It rejects as undesirable the reconciliation which God gives us through His Son. It reinforces distinctions which the Holy Spirit calls on God's people to overcome. It calls good 'evil' and therefore such a policy is a form of resistance to the Holy Spirit."

"Christians betray their calling if they give highest loyalty, which is due to God alone, to one group or tradition, especially where that group demands self-expression at the expense of other groups. Christ is inevitably a threat to myth that is called 'the South African way of life.'"

Archbishop Shuns 'Policeman' Role

Paris — (RNS) — Archbishop Francois Marty of Paris said here that he is "not a policeman" and that he did not feel it was his duty to "super-vise" the political ideas of his priests.

He spoke on a French network radio program in answer to complaints by listeners who said that the Church in France was becoming "increasingly political." Listeners had charged that priests had secretly encouraged the student revolt last Spring and that some had even been seen at the barricades.

Some said that in many parishes "the Church had gone further than the Communists," thus "scandalizing many Christians."

In reply, Archbishop Marty said that any priest who acted politically during the upheaval "was acting as an individual."

New Orleans — (NC) — Why would anyone in his right mind accept the leadership of a private, church-related university with a predominantly Negro student body at a time when chaos on the campus is becoming a national pattern?

Norman C. Francis, a new president of such an institution, Xavier University, answered that question in a convocation attended by students and faculty on the campus of the predominantly black New Orleans university.

"I'm here for the same reason you are," President Francis told the students. "I want to be where the action is, and I believe there is meaningful action here at Xavier University. We understand the American system, and we know we must be a part of that system if we are going to live meaningful lives."

"I believe most students are here to prepare themselves for competition in an open society, where they can

get their part of the action," he said.

The new university president, the first layman and Negro to head Xavier of Louisiana, expressed the belief that the majority of students are not bent on wrecking or running universities today.

"They want a university sensitive to their needs and the needs of society. They want more than an academic and spiritual approach to education. They want a human approach — a commitment to people."

The 37-year-old educator promised a people-oriented administration at the university, established in 1925 to offer higher education opportunities to Negroes in New Orleans and the Deep South. Now well integrated, the university draws students from 30 states and several foreign countries.

Katharine Drexel, foundress of a Catholic religious order dedicated to American minorities, knew about black power when she founded Xavier, according to the university's current president.

An outside agitator, as she would have been called in recent years, Mother M. Katharine Drexel, S.B.S., came to New Orleans and other diverse locations throughout the country to develop black power by educating black men and women to be teachers, lawyers, scientists, pharmacists and doctors, President Francis stated.

"In effect, she said to a hostile community, 'Black is beautiful. There is equal likeness of God in all of us.' The finest buildings, the best teachers and the strongest dedication must be made available to teach black people, to help them overcome the cruel limitations imposed on them by a rigidly segregated society," Francis told the students.

INTER-RACIAL SCENE

Diocese Sponsors Housing

Nashville, Tenn.—(RNS)—The Catholic Diocese of Nashville will sponsor low and middle income housing here which will be open to all citizens regardless of race, creed or national origin.

The \$2-million project in East Nashville, to be known as Marina Manor East, will consist of 160 units in two-story, garden-type apartments. It will be financed through the Federal Housing Administration. The diocese will provide "seed" funds necessary to launch the project.

Each apartment will have air conditioning and built-in kitchen. One bedroom apartments will rent for \$82, two-bedroom, \$91, and three-bedroom, \$102.

Negro Pastor Installed

New York —(RNS)—The first Negro to hold a pastorate in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York was installed at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Harlem.

Archbishop Terence J. Cooke conducted the formal ceremony which placed the area's largest parish in the hands of Father Harold A. Salmon.

A mixture of rock music, the calypso beat and blues notes with the solemn words of the liturgy was the keynote of the ceremony.

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