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2 Sections



One Thing Missing

About the only thing missing was the proper graduation gift — a foster or adoptive home — as Sister Mary Leocadia congratulates some of the "smallest graduates" in the world at the Guardian Angel Home in Brooklyn. The 2-year-olds had received diplomas from a pre-pre-nursery course which included such basics as putting on clothes, using a cup. (RNS Photo)

The Mideast... a Background Report

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Courier-Journal

No Vacation For Spirit

Vatican City — (NC) — Vacation time may mean "flight from monotony," Pope Paul VI told a crowd in St. Peter's Square on the first Sunday of July, "but the spirit does not take a vacation."

To back up his assertion, he cited Christ's injunction to pray always. The Pope said:

"Above all, because this is the law of the spirit: to watch, to watch always. And if the rhythm of our usual occupations slows down a bit and allows us some moments of relaxation, our conscience must take advantage of this to re-enter into itself and ponder."

Wednesday, July 15, 1970

Bishop Discusses New Council with Area Protestants

Area leaders of six Protestant denominations held an all-day meeting with Bishop Hogan at the Cenacle Retreat House last Friday discussing the structure and goals of a proposed ecumenical agency which will replace the Rochester Area Council of Churches. No announcement of their conclusions was made.

The new agency, primarily directed toward "social ecumenism" and under discussion by Protestant leaders for about three years, has offered membership to the Rochester Diocese.

It will be organized by denomination instead of by individual church organizations. The Area Council presently has 250 member Protestant church congregations.

A report of the opinions of the participants at the meeting would not be revealed, Bishop Hogan as host announced, until a consensus of their discussion had been relayed to invited churchmen who had not been able to attend, to members of the restructuring committee and to the heads of the area Council of Churches.

The inter-faith agency would concentrate on works of "social mission" beyond parish capabilities and would enlist the denominations to share projects proposed for ecumenical activity.

Bishop Hogan said he hoped that the restructuring committee would soon invite representatives from the meeting he had arranged to hear the opinion.

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Bishop Walsh Release Greeted with Joy

New York—(RNS) — Reactions of joy and relief greeted news of the release of Maryknoll Bishop James E. Walsh from a Red Chinese prison and his subsequent "walk to freedom" across the border-bridge into Hong Kong.

The 79-year-old prelate, now resting in a Maryknoll hospital, and described as in "pretty good" condition, was given a hero's welcome, receiving streams of cables of "good wishes" from around the world.

Father John D. Moore, a Maryknoll spokesman in Hong Kong, quoted Bishop Walsh as telling border police, "I've been in China a long, long time. I'm very tired and I'm glad that I am out."

Bishop Joseph L. Bernardia, general secretary of both the U.S. Catholic Conference and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, stated:

"The release of Bishop Walsh by the Chinese Communists after nearly 12 years of imprisonment is glad news for all Americans and especially for American Catholics."

"Bishop Walsh's stance," he added, "has given distinguished testimony to the power of Christian conviction in the face of the most difficult and painful circumstances."

The American-born Maryknoll bishop crossed the border "unshaven and wearing dirty khaki trousers and checked shirt," according to a newsman's report.



BISHOP WALSH

The last known word from Bishop Walsh was received last Fall in a letter he wrote to his brother, Judge William A. Walsh of Cumberland, Maryland: "My health is quite good and leaves nothing to be desired, and when that is said, why, my whole story is told, done, sealed, signed, and delivered . . . You don't expect much else these days from a tired old man like me."

Bishop Walsh entered the newly-founded Catholic Mission Society of America (Maryknoll) on Sept. 15, 1912—the second of its six original stu-

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