

CARMEN VIGLUCCI

# The Slot Man



Have you ever been 2,000 miles from home and afraid to take an airplane?

Such a predicament befell the editor of a local Catholic weekly newspaper recently when he and his general manager went to Houston, Texas, for a session of the Catholic Press Association.

The only thing in common the newsman has with flying is that a chicken has wings.

But he braced himself for the chore, realizing that he'd never really had a bad flight and that, after all, statistics were on the airplane's side.

About 423 miles from Houston and 30,000 feet up—30,000, count 'em—the cold truth came seeping through as his general manager's soda pop went bouncing off the winged creature's window and upon both of them.

Not did it help to see the stewardesses strapped in their chairs — one white-knuckling the arm of her seat.

In adversity, however, enlightenment can be found. The editor learned that lightning ripping at the wings of one's airplane can make you forget headache No. 25 quicker than any other medication.

Through it all, the general manager, an inveterate flyer, tried to convince his hired hand that there was really nothing to

worry about. He hummed to prove his point; it was probably a mistake that he chose "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder, I'll Be There."

Anyway, the plane reached its destination and the director of passenger service used his most professional voice to assure us that although the flight had been a "bit unusual" he was sure we all understood such minor difficulties and couldn't wait to get back up there.

The editor thought it odd that the airline official's voice worked so well because just seconds before he was so thirsty he gulped down a small bottle of pop. The same flavor the GM drinks.

Shortly afterward, as the pair trudged safely through the sterile hallways of Houston Intercontinental Airport, the editor was still shaken. He vowed two things—first, to do something specifically good with his new lease on life and, second, never to fly again. At least not that very week.

The general manager walked along, singing "The High and Mighty" softly to himself.

"Tony," I said, "there's something I want to tell you about how I'm going home."

"I know, I know," he said.

How the pair solved the editor's dilemma will be the subject of next week's piece.

# Presbyterians Near Close Of Rochester Meeting

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan participated in an ecumenical service at the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in Rochester.

Earlier, in a significant action, the assembly adopted a resolution asking an end to U.S. military involvement in Indochina by the end of 1971.

The ecumenical service took place Sunday night at the War Memorial. Bishop Hogan read from Matthew, Chapter 7, verses 15-23.

Others participating included Rt. Rev. Robert Spears Jr., Episcopal bishop of Rochester; Rev. W. Ralph Ward, Methodist bishop of Syracuse; Rev. Arthur R. McKay, president of the Rochester Center for Theological Studies; Rev. James R. Smucker, conference minister of the United Church of Christ, Syracuse; Rev. Hugh Morton, executor, Monroe Baptist Association; Rev. Murphy Greer, president, Rochester Area Ministers Conference; Mrs. Elizabeth Perry, Central Presbyterian Church, Geneseo.

Rev. Bruce Kenrick, of the Church of Scotland, delivered the main sermon.

Meanwhile, the assembly was winding up its 10-day session under the guidance of the first woman ever to occupy the moderator's chair.

Mrs. Ralph Stair of Waukesha, Wis., defeated three men, two of them ministers, in a tight contest on opening night, May 17. For a year, she will hold the highest elective office in the

## INFLATION CONTROL

A funny thing happened at the Presbyterian's General Assembly.

At a time when tax-supported delegates to various legislative bodies freely grant themselves cost-of-living raises, the assembly commissioners voted themselves a cut. They elected to take \$21.25 a day for expenses, against the \$23 per diem paid at the 182nd assembly last year in Chicago.

3.2 million-member church. There were 774 commissioners empowered to vote by their regional presbyteries.

Among the committee chairman appointed by the new moderator is the Rev. Diane Tennis of Rochester, moderator of the Genesee Valley Presbytery and first woman to hold that position. Mrs. Tennis will head the national standing committee on women.

The delegates and observers, in continuous open sessions in the Community War Memorial, in workshops and committee meetings and a series of tangential breakfasts, heard many distinguished speakers on the problems that plague the world.

Resolutions touching on foreign policy, war and peace; underdeveloped nations, human development at home and

abroad; poverty and discrimination, are among the statements that will serve to influence attitudes and church policy.

The assembly heard that church membership decreased by nearly 77,000 last year, but that giving was up by more than \$4.5 million. Total contributions in 1970 were \$357,450,979, William P. Thompson, stated clerk reported.

The pattern, he said, showed larger gifts for local purposes, declining support for the wider work of assembly agencies.

"None of us dares forget," Thompson declared, "that the church has work to do at all levels."

The so-called Fifty Million Fund, is moving toward \$62 million, with 86.7 per cent of pledges in, according to the fund director, John Park Lee. He said it had contributed to 884 projects in 59 countries, in Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America. The Genesee Valley Presbytery was among those cited for outstanding performance in securing pledges and collecting on them.

The commissioners voted to continue in the Consultation on Church Unity, and they rejected amendments that would have altered major concepts in this developing plan for reorganization and consolidation of churches.



## Religious Art

Debbie McKee, a receptionist at Xerox, gazes into the face of Xochi, a bronze sculpture by Cleo Hartwig, now on exhibit at the Xerox Square Gallery. Above right is Gaetano Cecere's serene Mary, carved from Tennessee Marble. Below right two feisty Cardinals wonder

whether each other's girth will allow them to pass through a cloister arch. The piece is a bronze by Elaine Gelsinger. The show, which runs through June 30, is of the prizewinners in this year's National Sculpture Society exhibition. Photos by Peter Steiner and George Platteter.

## CYO Softball Standings

Cries of "Play Ball" echoed throughout the greater Rochester area as the CYO Elementary Softball League slid into a new season.

Results of last week's games produced the following team standings:

RED DIVISION	
W	L
Mother of Sorrows	2 0
Christ the King	2 0
St. Rita	2 0
St. Thomas Apostle	1 1
Holy Trinity	1 1
St. James	1 1
Our Lady of Mercy	1 1
Holy Rosary	0 2
St. Francis Xavier	0 2
Annunciation	0 2

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BLUE DIVISION	
W	L
Corpus Christi	2 0
St. Andrew	2 0
Good Counsel	1 0
St. Joseph Pen.	1 0
St. Louis Pitts.	1 1
Sacred Heart	1 1
St. John-City	0 2
Good Shepherd	0 2
Blessed Sacrament	0 2

Each team plays a schedule of six games and the winners in each division meet in the championship game.

## THURSDAY DEADLINE

Remember that the news and photo deadline for the Courier-Journal is Thursday noon for the following week's newspaper.



## 50th FOR CARDINAL

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle, Catholic archbishop of Washington, observed the 50th anniversary of his ordination at a concelebrated Mass in St. Matthew's Cathedral here May 21.

Cardinal O'Boyle, 75, was consecrated as the first resident archbishop of Washington in January 1948. During his tenure, the Catholic population in the area has more than doubled — from 165,000 to 386,420. The number of parishes has risen from 82 to 123.

Wednesday, May 26, 1971

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