

Cardinal Urges 'Real' Sharing of Riches

By FATHER ED GOLDEN

La Paz, Bolivia — Cardinal Maurer, Archbishop of Sucre, and president of the Bolivian Episcopal Conference, has published a letter on poverty in the Church.

The Cardinal reflects that the Universe and all it is, was created for all mankind, that is for all men without distinction, observing that all men have equal dignity.

Speaking of a conversion that calls for immediate action in favor of the poor and of those oppressed by unjust structures and exploitation, he points out that it is clearly stated that one of the points of our conversion, equally for us as for the early Christians, is the sincere disposal of our earthly goods in benefit of the poor.

Gratified by the efforts already made in Bolivia, the alphabetization programs, the clinics, the public dining rooms, the cooperatives, the radio work, he asks if there is not more that we could do.

At this point he calls attention to the riches of the Church, the lands, the big buildings, some priests' homes, the treasure (art and jewelry) and even some private Catholic schools, noting that these riches do not serve any collective utility to the Church, nor to the people but rather are the source of sharp criticism.

He invites all men to join forces, disposing generously of their wealth for housing, clinics, rural schools, roads, new industries, doing this in such a way as to truly liberate man

while avoiding the creation of new dependencies.

He speaks of the money ill-spent in government, in politics, on armaments, in bribes and extortion, asking that this money also be spent in benefit of the people. He expresses the hope that his letter be a call not so much to reflection and talk, as a call to action.

There has been mixed reaction to the Cardinal's letter. A group of Canadian Oblates have already turned a modern school with all its facilities over to the Government. Others have said the Church has no riches, while others have said that the letter is just so many words.

It could be hoped there would be a day when the Church and its leaders would

be the first to heed Christ's command to dispose of their earthly goods in favor of the poor, that there would be a day when the many men of good will who are involved in working for justice in our world would unify and finally begin a really effective work in benefit of the poor and oppressed.

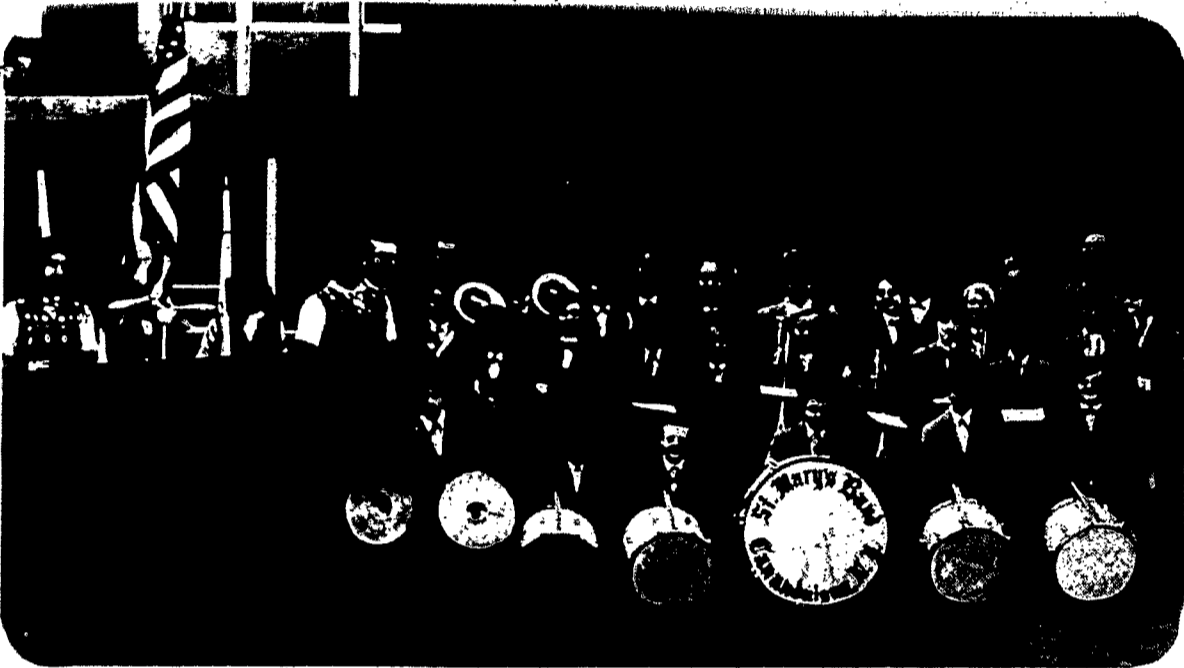
In Rochester's mission here there has been, to our satisfaction, quite a bit of activity on the part of the people.

Our immediate neighbors are going through the red tape at City Hall to get our street leveled and paved and to get sewers installed. A group of young men of high school age and up are busy every Sunday morning with pick and shovel

getting a plot of ground in shape for a football field, something very badly needed in the zone. In the clinic, the finishing touches are being put on the new maternity section.

Father Pete Deckman, with mixed emotions, is getting ready to leave us. According to our plan he will be gone from the parish for a year, spending some time in the States and then the rest of the year in a colonization project in Bolivia.

This program consists in moving farming people from the poorer farm areas of the Altiplano to more fertile lands in the lower, warmer regions of the country. In this rather new project, Pete will be working with a couple of Maryknoll priests.



Success Story

Kids on the March

By MRS. THOMAS McKENNA

Canandaigua — Seven years ago, Sister Rita Malone brought to Saint Mary's School a music program which turned into a modern day fairy tale. Sister's assignment was to teach piano and all musical instruments. But how does one do this when the only instrument to be found in the school is a beat up old drum?

She pursued the only road open to her. Go to the parents, tell them of her aspirations and see what would happen. She got the response she went after: 40 youngsters registered for a music program. At the end of the first year Sister and her band gave a delightful concert.

In the summer of 1969 the "fairy tale" began to form. The band was asked by the American Legion to parade in the Memorial Day Parade. They looked and sounded great! So great in fact that the Mutual Hook and Ladder Company (a

local fire company) began negotiations to have them lead the firemen in the numerous Firemen's Parades. So it came to pass that in the summer of 1970 the band marched in fifteen parades and won prize money in six.

Having done such a fantastic job for them, the firemen asked that the band lead them again in the summer of 1971.

But Sister Rita was being transferred out of St. Mary's. After much anguish, a band committee was formed by parents. They decided to run two benefit dances, and the proceeds helped purchase eleven used drums and two new baritone horns.

Long searching for a musical director located Robert Aman of Shortsville, who agreed to take the band for the summer. Richard Perron of Canandaigua volunteered to be the marching director and Donald Clark, also of Canandaigua, volunteered to assist Perron. The band could continue to lead the Mutual Hook and Ladder Company.

To date St. Mary's Band has paraded in fourteen parades, winning recognition in nine, and have performed a concert for the Ontario County Home. The number of youngsters turning out for parades and concert has never fallen below 27 out of a possible 35.

The band consists of youngsters from the third through the eighth grade.

As nine year old Rita Yarger, a fourth grader, said of the band, "I have learned so much. A lot of new songs and new music, I learned how to keep in step and guide right." When asked if there was a special moment for her, she replied: "Oh, yes! I loved the concert we gave at Stanley, on the carnival grounds. It made me feel real grown up!"

Joann Malone, a fourteen year old eighth grader, summed it up this way: "I think everyone, as well as myself, has enjoyed being in the marching band. I feel we have come a long way. Our prizes bear this out. We owe so much to Sister Rita, Mr. Aman, Mr. Parron, Mr. Clark and our parents. My big thrill came whenever I saw we were being judged by Western New York State Official Judges."

Rochester Priest Works On Peru's Highest Peak

A Rochester priest climbed the highest mountain in Peru and said Mass for victims of the 1970 earthquake, which caused an estimated 70,000 deaths.

Father Thomas Samway, a Maryknoll missionary, reached the top of Mt. Huascaran late last month, after an eight-day expedition. He is staying in the devastated Huaylas Valley.

The 22,109-foot mountain — second highest in South America — overlooks dozens of small towns and the ruins left in the wake of an avalanche. Some 30,000 people were believed to have perished in the giant slide, which a U.S. geological report called the worst earthquake avalanche on record.

The 30-year-old Father Samway, a novice mountain climber, was accompanied by four experienced climbers on his trek to the snow covered peak.

He was doing pastoral work in Lima when the quake occurred May 31, 1970, and has been working with its victims ever since.

No Bar To Tickets

It's a turn of events. Carrie Nation could appreciate: the Sisters of Mercy are manning the bar at the Town and Country Restaurant in downtown Rochester. The restaurant, now vacant and out of business, has become promotion and sales center for "People Please", the week-long "celebration of communion" sponsored by the Mercy order from Sept. 19 to 26.

Naturally, no drinks are dispensed across the horseshoe mahogany bar — only tickets. And the red velvet brocaded walls sport "Pooh" buttons and pictures of David Brinkley.

K of C Auxiliary Plans Dinner

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus, Council 178, will honor Mrs. Vincent Hannon, past president, at a dinner party Friday night, Sept. 10, at 513 Monroe Ave.

A social hour at 6:30 will be followed by dinner at 7:30. The event will be the first in a series planned in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the K. of C. Miss Anne Nary is chairman. Mrs. Robert Farrell will be toastmistress.

Area Knights In State Posts

James A. Ruh, state deputy of the New York State Council of the Knights of Columbus, recently announced the appointment of state chairmen and district deputies from the Rochester Diocese.

State chairman of community activities is Victor A. DeSimon, Rochester.

District deputies and assigned districts are: 95th, Francis H. Sally, Horseheads; Chairman of the Rochester Board of district deputies, Armond Iala, Auburn; 102nd, Frank A. Cutri Jr., Canandaigua; 103rd, James J. Philippon, Rochester; 104th, Dr. Peter Pelliteri, Rochester; 105th, David F. Letson, Hornell.

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