



Carters Visit Shrine

President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, bow their heads in homage after laying a floral wreath at the Mahatma Gandhi Shrine in New Delhi, India, on Jan. 2. Shortly before his departure from India, President Carter seemed to reflect the prevailing theme of his visit saying, "At the heart of the friendship between India and the United States is our determination that the moral values of our people must guide the actions of our states. Both our nations were the conscious creations of men and women who believe that spiritual principles could find political expression. Gandhi and Nehru, Washington and Jefferson, the thousands who worked with them and the millions they led were all determined to present a shining example to the world." (RNS)

Death Penalty Study Finds Discrimination

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — Some recent studies on executions in the US reveal that while there are now more whites and blacks on "death row," assessment of the death penalty depends on the race of the victim.

whites are more likely to be sentenced to death than killers of blacks, according to preliminary findings of a study conducted by the Center for Applied Social Research at Northeastern University in Boston.

form of discrimination has emerged — not in who did the killing, but who got killed," said William Bowers, head of the study and director of the research center. The study is supported by the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala.

But legal experts have noted that blacks still constitute 45 per cent of those facing execution, far out of proportion to the 10 per cent of the population who are black.

Bowers said, the final figures for the Northeastern University study have not been completed, but patterns have emerged. "We found out for example, that people who kill blacks seldom get to death row," he said.

"The pattern used to be that discrimination was against offenders," with black offenders more likely to get the death penalty than whites, said Bowers.

Carroll said, "The common denominator today seems to be poverty and the race of the victim," rather than the race of the offender.

Convicted killers of "It appears that a new

fortunately this is not the case.)

Nowa Huta is a modern industrial Polish city near Cracow. Here is where the Socialist government (of Russia) planned a city for 200,000 workers, who in the New Lenin Steelworks would produce steel for the Soviets. According to plan, Nowa Huta was to become a "model city" without God. Although Poland, a land of deep faith, was to supply the workers to satisfy Russia's steel needs, no account was taken of the history, the traditions, the culture and the religious faith of these people. No church was to be built in Nowa Huta. And, as religious meetings in non-church-related buildings are punishable by Soviet law, it was believed by the government that religion would soon be extinct in the hearts of the Polish people. With the advance of the new generation of Poles, the steel city without God would soon be inhabited by people without God.

"The Poles have known more oppression than freedom; more persecution than security. They have so often had to bend that it is difficult to break them. The Poles find the courage to bend and find the strength not to break in their true faith in Jesus Christ, their love for Mary and their loyalty to Poland. (In the early 50's) they built a little wood chapel near the edge of Nowa Huta. In the summer heat or the bitter chill of winter the working Poles attended Mass. At the same time they started sending requests to the Soviet authorities to build a parish church. "In 1956, permission granted, they erected a large wood cross on the site."

I quote from a little Belgian booklet distributed by Aid To The Church In Need, an international organization which exists to help fight oppression, poverty and tyranny in this world. (It is, by the way, one of the many Catholic organizations which performs all the services performed by UNICEF with the notable exception of the destruction of human life before birth. As such, Aid To The Church In Need should be familiar to every Catholic in the United States, and should be supported by us. Un-

Life, Liberty and Law



Nancy Murphy

Frequently my good intentions "overleap my ability" to perform, but this time I have made one steadfast New Year's resolution which I will not break. From now on I refuse to allow a "Polish joke" to reach my ears without a firm defense on my part of a proud and noble people who have more moral courage than many of us here in Rochester. I am especially incensed when Irishmen tell these gutter puns... where do we, Irish get the right to call anyone clumsy or foolish. Surely we are blessed (most of us) with gifted wit, and it is unnecessary for us to stoop to ridicule in order to get a laugh.

High School Placement Test Jan. 14

Catholic high school entrance examinations, placement tests, are scheduled at 8:30 a.m. Jan. 14 at each of the Catholic high schools in the Rochester area — McQuaid Jesuit, Our Lady of Mercy, St. Agnes, Bishop Kearney, Cardinal Mooney, Nazareth Academy, and Aquinas.

The tests are also scheduled at that time at DeSales in Geneva.

The executive director of the New York State Federation of Catholic School Parents recently called attention to proposed legislation that would give tax relief to tuition-paying parents. In a statement concerning the Tuition Tax Credit bill introduced in the Senate and the Tuition Relief bill in the House of Representatives, William P. Gallagher of Binghamton urged that "all citizens get behind the concept" as a response to the "fundamental educational needs of the country."

Referring to the recent Supreme Court decision that it was unconstitutional for the state to reimburse religious schools for the expense of mandated record keeping, he quoted Justice Byron White's dissent thus, "The Court continues to misconstrue the first amendment in a manner that discriminates against religion and is contrary to the fundamental needs of the Country."

"There is no more candid way," Gallagher said, "to describe the performances of the majority of Justices in recent religious school aid cases."

But, "there is a way to prevent further discrimination," he continued. "That way is to secure legislation for parental aid vis-a-vis school aid. If a share of their tax dollars is returned to parents, even the Supreme Court will be hard pressed to introduce a phony Church-State."

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