

North Carolina Catholic

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His Holiness Pope Pius XII, left, conferred the Red Hat upon His Eminence Jon Cardinal De Jong, Archbishop of Utrecht, Holland, at a ceremony held recently at Castelgandolfo, the Papal summer residence outside of Rome. The Netherlands Cardinal was one of the 82 prelates named to the Sacred College last December, but until recent days was prevented by illness from coming to Rome for the Red Hat. (Acme-NC Photo)

North Carolina Sisters of Mercy Land on the Pacific Island of Guam

Three Sisters of Mercy from North Carolina landed this week on the island of Guam in the Marianas to begin their work on that American Island.

The Sisters, first to serve on the island, will open a school and establish a novitiate house. One of them, Sister Mary Inez Underwood, is a native of Guam and will be reunited with her parents. She holds her bachelor's degree from St. Vincent College, New York, and her master's from Catholic University in Washington.

The other Sisters are Sister Mary Louise Weisenforth, Troy, N. Y., and Sister Mary Annette McBennett, Fayetteville, N. C. The mission to Guam was accepted when the Most Reverend Apollinaris Baumgartner, O. F. C., Vicar Apostolic to Guam, made an appeal in person to Rev. Mother Mary Maura, Superior of the Sisters of Mercy at Belmont.

Guam is considered of great military importance to the United States, ranking now with Pearl Harbor as an American naval base. The people of Guam are almost 98 per cent Catholic with only about 200 Protestants among the more than 25,000 people.

The cities of Guam were destroyed. The United States government is planning to reconstruct the destroyed cities and will build

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Prominent Citizens Quit Red Group

New York.—(NC)—Three other prominent persons have joined Senator Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts in withdrawing sponsorship from the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. They are Harold L. Ickes, former Secretary of the Interior; William L. Batt, former vice chairman of the War Production Board, and Judge Learned Hand of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. Messrs. Ickes and Batt attributed their resignations to disagreement with policies or activities of the council, while Judge Hand gave no reason for his withdrawal.

Greatest Confraternity Congress Makes U. S. Catholic History

Boston.—One hundred million Americans are drifting without religious guidance and many of them are learning through bitter experience that civilization cannot endure when founded on nothing more than man-made laws, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine was informed as it closed its eighth and greatest national congress.

The Rev. James F. Keller of Maryknoll, N. Y., speaking at a session on the apostolate of good will, declared that most people were beginning to recognize that "the world conflict, narrowing down to the issue of being for God or against Him, involves the very dignity of Man."

Once the majority of Catholic laity become aware that, by God's grace, "we have in our hands the blessing of Christ belonging to all the world as much as to ourselves," he said, "we will shift in a notable way from concentrating exclusively on ourselves, spiritually and materially, to a dynamic program of bring Christ to the World."

In a particular way, he asserted, Catholics would concentrate on the 100,000,000 persons who were "drifting" "because no one of Christ is taking a realistic, persevering interest in them."

He urged Catholics to be alert to bring by prayer, example and action the principles of Christ into all phases of man's daily life, "particularly those fields which affect and control the thought and living of most of mankind." These fields he listed as labor government, education, social science, management and writing for newspapers, magazines, books, radio and motion pictures.

"While the majority of Catholics seem to withdraw into their own little worlds, anti-Christians are working day and night to take over the big world itself," he warned.

"They are literally swarming (Continued on Page 6)



Very Rev. Robert J. White, Dean of the School of Law at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., who was elected President of the Chaplains Association of the Army and Navy, at its 16th annual convention just held at Washington, D. C. Father White, who was a line officer in World War I and Chaplain in World War II, is the first Chaplain to attain the rank of Commodore. (NC Photo)

New Papal Decree On Confirmation

Vatican City.—(Radio, NC)—The new issue of Acta Apostolicae Sedis, official Vatican publication, contains the text of a decree issued by the Sacred Congregation of the Sacraments under which priests, acting as "extraordinary ministers," may administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to those in danger of death from serious illness.

Summarizing Catholic doctrine (Continued on Page 7)

Boston.—Fading out on the stirring strains of "O, Holy Name" sung at Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the eighth national congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine passed into history here, destined to rank with the greatest Catholic assemblies in the nation's history.

Some 4,000 persons crowded every nook and corner of the huge ballroom and overflowed into the spacious lobby of the Copley Plaza Hotel for the closing service. Boston's own beloved Archbishop Richard J. Cushing was the celebrant.

Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara of Kansas City, Episcopal Committee Chairman of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, at the conclusion of the five-day sessions which brought some 70 prelates and upwards of 50,000 persons to this city from all parts of the country and from nine foreign nations, evaluated the congress as the greatest in the history of the Confraternity.

He said that the immediate objective of the Confraternity was a project of quality and not quantity. The Bishop pointed out that the Confraternity now is firmly organized in 114 dioceses of the United States in emphasizing the spread of the movement.

"Our most important objective now and forever," Bishop O'Hara said, "is competent leadership. There must be intensive training in leaders in this apostolate, which is the choicest form of Catholic Action. The spiritual motivation of leaders in every section must be deepened. They must not be merely informed, but spiritualized in their outlook."

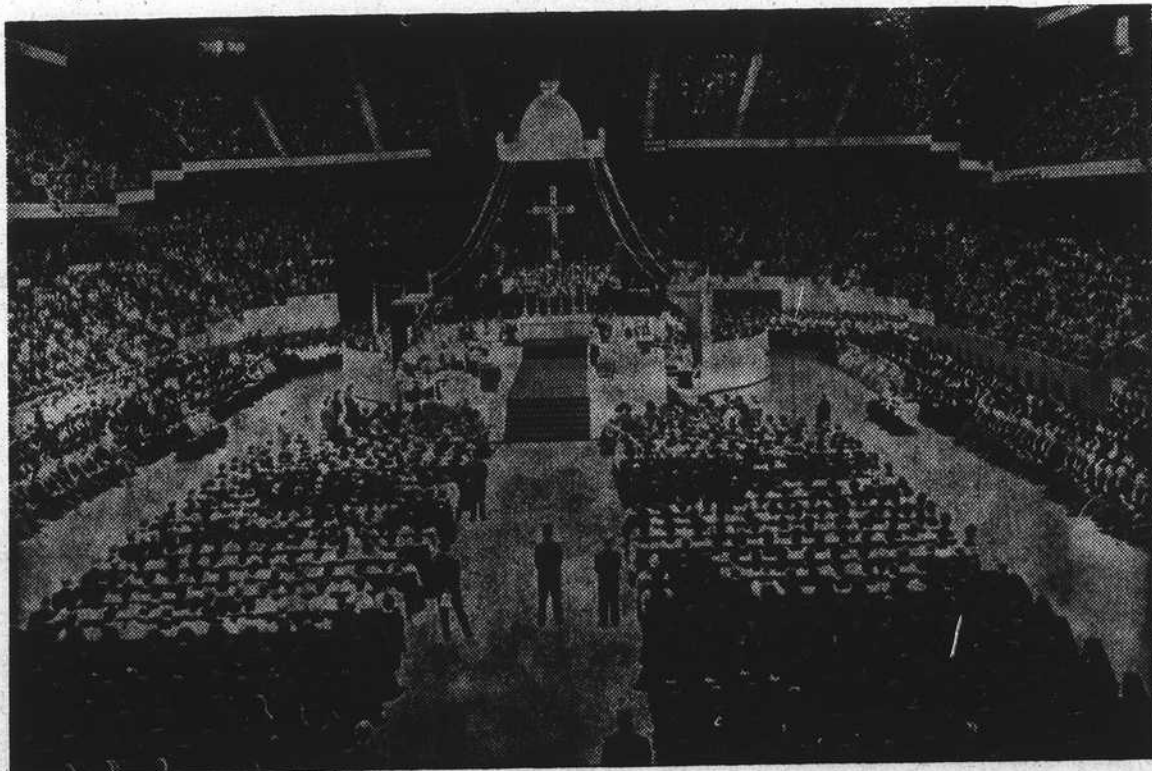
Bishop O'Hara said he felt the five major objectives of the program — religious education of Catholic elementary school children not attending Catholic schools; religious instruction of Catholic youth not attending Catholic high school; discussion clubs for adult groups; religious education of children by parents in the home, and instruction of non-Catholics in the teachings of the Catholic Faith — were covered amply in the formal as well as informal discussion at the congress.

"There was no fanfare in the speeches," Bishop O'Hara said. (Continued on Page 6)

Georgia Laymen Hear Judge Speak

Savannah, Ga.—(NC) — The Catholic Church was pictured as "the great stabilizing influence and the mighty bulwark around which the world must cling in the current threat to Christian civilization," by Justice Matthew McQuire of the United States District Court of the District of Columbia, in an address delivered to the members of the Catholic Laymen's Association of Georgia, at its

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General scene of the huge sports arena, the Boston Garden, taken on the occasion of the formal opening of the Eighth National Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine as His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States celebrated a Pontifical Mass there on the Feast of Christ the King, in the presence of 15,000 persons. Cardinal Spellman of New York preached the sermon. The huge auditorium was again filled on the evening of the same day for a general public meeting, at which the Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, of Boston addressed the delegates on "Restoring All Things in Christ." Photo by Boston Post. (NC Photos).

Catholic Virginian Newest Paper

Richmond.—(NC)—The Catholic Virginian, which for nearly 20 years has been the monthly magazine of the Diocese of Richmond, has changed its status with the issue appearing here this week to that of a weekly newspaper. John J. Daly is the new editor.

In explaining the changeover from a monthly to weekly publication, Bishop Peter L. Iretton of Richmond writes in the Virginian that "in the rapidity of life and news, a monthly magazine or paper yields to views rather than news; a monthly publication cannot diffuse the news of yesterday or tomorrow."