



**JOINS NEW RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY**—Mrs. Winifred Sullivan, mother of five grown children and grandmother of eight, has found a new life as an Oblate of the Little Sisters of the Poor. The new community, which accepts women between the ages of 18 and 50, is of particular attraction to older women without family obligations. Mrs. Sullivan, a widow of four years, is the first Oblate to join the Indianapolis chapter attached to the Little Sisters Home for the Aged Poor here. (Staff photo)

### A LIFE OF SERVICE

## Widowed grandmother follows unique calling

The Oblates of the Little Sisters of the Poor, a new religious community, were tailor-made for Mrs. Winifred Sullivan, a member of Holy Cross parish, Indianapolis.

Grandmother of eight and a widow, Mrs. Sullivan has been without family obligations for many years. It seemed only natural for her to devote more volunteer time to aid the Little Sisters in their Apostolate of the Aged Poor, an activity she has enjoyed for 40 years.

"It was merely a matter of bringing her suitcase," commented Good Mother Marie Mathilde, superior of the house. "Mrs. Sullivan has been one of our most devoted housewives through the years. Nothing is new to her except the routine of an Oblate."

**GOOD MOTHER** explained that permission was granted to organize the Oblate chapters 18 months ago in homes of the Little Sisters throughout the world. The Baltimore Province, to which the Indianapolis home belongs, has 21 Oblates in 18 separate homes.

The Oblates live in community in the Little Sisters' homes, do substantially the same work, help in caring for the aged, but take solemn promises for one year instead of vows.

Mrs. Sullivan, for instance, has charge of the sacristy, parlors and serves the old people at meals. She is the only Oblate at present in the local home.

Separate quarters are provided for Mrs. Sullivan in the home. She conducts her spiritual exercises in private, at least until there are additional Oblates. At that time they will live in a community life, although distinct from that of the Little Sisters. The superior of the Little Sisters' houses, which they live, serves as local superior of the Oblates.

"We only have facilities for one more Oblate in our present home," said Good Mother. "Provisions will be made in our projected new home for additional Oblates."

**THE OBLATE** rules are not as strict as those of the Little Sisters. They may visit home once a month and stay over night if

they wish. Permission for more frequent visits home may be given by the Little Sisters' superior for sufficient reason, such as sickness in the family.

While the Little Sisters take vows, the Oblates make solemn promises—poverty, chastity, and obedience—for one year. The promises are renewed each May 1, feast of St. Joseph the Worker, their patron.

**THE OBLATES** do not change their names when they join the community. They retain their family name and are referred to as Miss or Mrs.

The Oblate habit is a plain, modern blue dress. They have a blue veil for chapel, but wear no head covering while working in the home. Outside, they wear a modern blue hat, and in summer, may go bare-headed.

Candidates may be 17 to 50 years old, and unlike the Little Sisters, widows who no longer have family responsibilities are permitted to join. Candidates may seek admission at local homes of the Little Sisters.

**BEFORE** beginning formal training, prospective Oblates may remain in the home for a few days or weeks—depending on the individual—to test their vocation.

After receiving the blue habit, they begin a six-month training period in one of the Little Sisters' homes.

The six-month period is followed by a more intensive preparation in which the candidates develop their individual skills. It may involve going outside the home to school for training in nursing, bookkeeping, or secretarial work.

At year's end they make their first solemn promises and receive a crucifix as a symbol of their consecration to the apostolate of the aging.

# Warns of 'faulty methods' in pursuing Christian unity

### True nature stressed by Abp. Alter

WASHINGTON — Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati warned here about faulty methods of pursuing Church unity and an erroneous understanding of its true nature.

"To correct such false impressions and to set forth the true meaning of Christian unity may well be one of the chief objectives of the coming Second Vatican Council, the Archbishop said at a Pontifical Mass in honor of the 80th birthday of His Holiness Pope John XXIII.

Cardinal Francis Spellman, Archbishop of New York, offered the Mass in the great upper church of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

More than 180 members of the hierarchy—here for the annual meeting of the U.S. Bishops—were present.

Nearly 150 officials represented the Federal administration and the District of Columbia government, as well as U.S. and D.C. courts and the foreign embassies here, including representatives to the Organization of American States.

**ARCHBISHOP** Alter first called attention to the esteem in which Pope John II held by both Catholics and non-Catholics. He then praised the Pope's "virtue of magnanimity" and stated: "The always high hopes and aspirations are quite evidently the conviction of a General Council of the Church."

"If there is any one gift that will merit the approval of the Holy Father as he celebrates the anniversary of his birth," Archbishop Alter added, "it will be the generous cooperation of all ranks of the Mystical Body in making the council fruitful in its deliberations and effective in its results."

**HE** asserted that a primary objective of the Pope in convening the ecumenical council "is to take advantage of the present favorable opportunity to advance the cause of Christian unity."

"This desire for Church unity cannot help but be a good desire," the Archbishop continued. "For it reflects truly the mind of Christ. But even though it be a good desire, the method of pursuing it may be faulty and the understanding of its nature quite erroneous. To correct such false impressions and to set forth the true meaning of Christian unity may well be one of the chief objectives of the coming General Council."

"It must be made clear to our separated brethren that unity, to be meaningful, must be the fruit of faith, of worship and of discipline. It is something which can never be created by human ingenuity."

**ARCHBISHOP** ALTER warned that there is "a false ironism which seeks to dissolve vital differences of belief through compromise, and which often subverts the truth." (Continued on page 9)

### MEMORIES OF AN EX-SERGEANT

## Pope makes old GI's laugh, cry

By MSGR. JAMES TUCEK

VATICAN CITY—Though old soldiers were moved to laughter and tears when His Holiness Pope John XXIII reminisced on his life as a soldier at a special audience for Italy's Bersaglieri regiment.

The Bersaglieri is a crack Italian unit famed for its feathered hats and for the fact that it never proceeds with a conventional march but goes always at a trot.

The Pope was greeted by such lusty cheering from the soldiers that he had to repeat, "Let me speak, let me speak. If you will let me speak, I have something to tell you."

About 60 years ago, he said, when he was still a seminarian, he was drafted into military service. He had no enthusiasm for military life, he confessed, but he passed his physical and was assigned to the infantry as a buck private.

"**LATER** I WAS promoted to corporal," said the Pope, "merely because one who has normal health and intelligence must become a corporal after six months."

After a time, he continued, he was a candidate for promotion to the rank of sergeant. He said his examination for promotion went "just so-so."

"They asked me to give the order for a platoon to attack," recalled the Pope, "I who had never yet given the command to stand at attention."

He recalled that "sometimes Sergeant Roncalli

had to inflict penalties on his men," but he could not remember that it was ever more than confinement to barracks.

One time, he said, he came across one soldier and asked, "Why aren't you outside?" When the reply came that he, Roncalli, had confined him to barracks, Sergeant Roncalli saved face by saying, "Well, now you can go out. I confined you to barracks only for the night."

**THE POPE** SAID that his experience in the Italian army gave him an appreciation of the goodness of youth and of their problems.

He compared his military duty with his duties in the papacy, saying that after a day of audiences, speeches and ceremonies, his work was "heavier than the times when we were sent on forced marches up the mountains with full packs."

In this connection he remembered a captain who would say that "a soldier must learn to stand even without legs."

When the audience ended and the Pope was being carried out on the portable throne, the Bersaglieri band played a medley of old military tunes. The Pope ordered the throne to halt in front of the band while he listened, sometimes tapping out the familiar rhythms with his fingers on the arms of the throne, sometimes repeating the sign of his blessing when ripples of cheers would go up again.

After the music was over and the Pope was gone, many an old veteran was seen mopping the tears from his eyes.



VOL. II, NO. 7

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, NOVEMBER 17, 1961

## Power problem

(AN EDITORIAL)

Our conscience bothers us. We have been unfair to the farmers. Now we want to make amends.

Here is what we did. We allowed the Electric Companies of Indiana to buy space in the pages of this newspaper to present their side of a controversy with rural electric co-operatives. Once a month, for many months, the "investor-owned" companies, as they like to call themselves, have presented their case to the readers of *The Criterion* forcefully and convincingly.

All the farms in Indiana, they argued, can now have electricity; 99.5% of them do have it. Why should co-operative electric companies be subsidized by the Federal government with low-interest loans to build a power plant that would only duplicate existing electric facilities?

The big utility people seemed to be making sense with their argument—if you look with a grain of salt their emotional trimmings about the loan to co-ops being a threat to the survival of the electric business and every other investor-owned business and industry in the United States.

If the rural co-operatives wanted to buy space in our paper to answer the Electric Companies of Indiana, that would be fine with us. Meanwhile it looked like a financial struggle that was none of our business.

That's how innocent we were. That's how ignorant we were.

Then along came Pope John's Encyclical on Christianity and Social Progress and we got to thinking seriously about the farm problem. The new encyclical had much to say that should make farmers happy. Here in brief are:

(Continued on page 4)

## Hits 'time and the law' approach to civil rights

NEW YORK—A Catholic editor warned here that it is naive for Americans to think that "time and the law" will solve the nation's problems of racial discrimination.

MSGR. FRANCIS J. LALLY called for a "people's program" in the civil rights field and warned that without such a program "we ourselves are putting together the volatile elements of disaster."

While the patience of the American Negro and his pacifism are now so well known and honored as to be almost a part of his character, we have no right to go on depending on these heroic virtues in the face of the rising pressures that are calling for action," declared Msgr. Lally, editor of the *Pilot*, Boston archdiocesan newspaper.

Msgr. Lally preached at the second Mass for the advancement

## Episcopal head visits with Pope

VATICAN CITY—His Holiness Pope John XXIII met with Bishop Arthur D. Liebenberger, presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, in an historic 35-minute audience last Tuesday.

The meeting, described as an "unofficial" courtesy call, was the first such audience ever granted a presiding Episcopal bishop. It followed a similar audience granted last December to Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, then Archbishop of Canterbury and head of the Church of England.

**THE VATICAN** CITY daily, *Osservatore Romano*, reported the visit of Bishop Liebenberger in a front page story and stated that Pope John cordially welcomed him and entertained him in affable conversation.

The visiting prelate, an erect silver-haired man of 61, wore his red episcopal robes during the meeting. He was accompanied by Dr. Lauriston L. Seafie, Episcopal bishop of West New York, and Clifford Phelps Morehouse, New York Episcopal lay leader. The group was escorted into the Pope's private library by Msgr. John Willebrams, secretary of the Vatican Council's secretariat for Christian Unity. Msgr. Igino Cardinali, of New York, an attaché of one Vatican Secretariate of State, served as interpreter.

"We never reached full agreement on the two broad issues involving education: What role, if any, should religion play in the nation's public schools? And what is to be said for and against government aid to parochial schools?"

"This statement is made in the final 80-page 'statement of principles' summarizing the conclusions of the study made by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions here. The Center is an offshoot of the Ford and for the Republic, New York.

**BISHOP** Liebenberger stated later in a news conference that His Holiness "spoke repeatedly of his deep interest in the unity of all Christian people and of his desire to help create an atmosphere of charity and understanding among all men." He added, however, that he felt that unification would be "a long process."

Following their talk, the Episcopal prelate and Pope John exchanged gifts. Bishop Liebenberger presented His Holiness with an artistically bound copy of the Book of Common Prayer and two works of crystal. The Pontiff gave his distinguished guest a special gold medal executed by Italian sculptor Giacomo Manzù. Medals were also given to Dr. Seafie and Mr. Morehouse.

Bishop Liebenberger is enroute to the World Council of Churches Assembly in New Delhi, India.

On education in institutions of (Continued on page 9)

## Protestant report cites growth in U.S. Catholics

NEW YORK—The number of U.S. Catholics grew last year at almost one and a half times the growth rate for all U.S. churches combined, according to a publication of the National Council of Churches.

Catholics last year increased from 46,871,292 to 42,104,900—a total increase of 1,233,398 or 3.2 per cent.

In contrast, the total membership of all U.S. churches, according to the 1962 Yearbook of American Churches, is 114,449,217, an increase of 2,227,312 or 1.9 per cent over the previous year.

**WHILE** Church membership was growing at a rate of 1.9 per cent, the total U.S. population was growing at a 1.8 per cent rate, according to the yearbook, whose

church membership figures are based on 1960 statistics.

Its new listing includes 259 U.S. religious bodies, an increase of four over the figure for the previous year.

The 227 Protestant bodies reporting show a net membership increase of 63,688,835, compared with 226 Protestant bodies with 62,545,502 members in the previous year.

**THE YEARBOOK** listed the number of members of Jewish churches at 5,267,000; Eastern churches, 2,688,087; members of the Old Catholic Church, the Polish National Catholic Church and the Armenian Church, Diocese of America and California, 389,819; and Buddhists, 20,000.

In the last 10 years, the yearbook showed, U.S. membership in all churches increased from 69,872,065 in 1951 to the present figure of 114,449,217. The number of Protestants grew from 52,162,432 to 63,688,835 in the last 10 years.

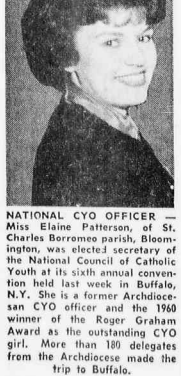
## Diocese slates 'rhythm' clinic

BUFFALO—Catholic married couples will be provided with medical and marital advice concerning the rhythm method of birth control in a family clinic to be established by the Buffalo diocese.

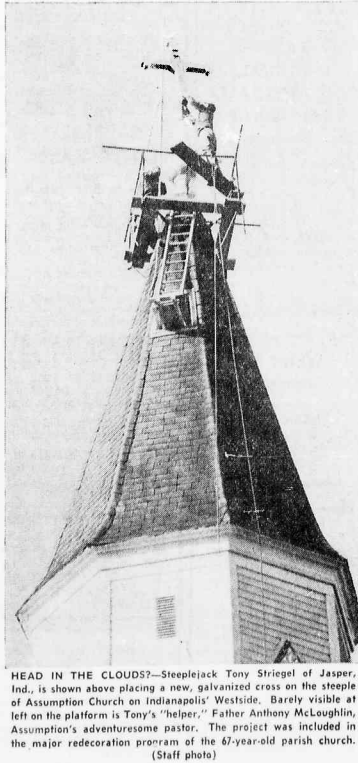
The diocesan Family Life Department, directed by Father Raymond F. Herzig, will supervise the clinic. Twenty Catholic specialists in obstetrics and gynecology have volunteered their services.

A priest-consiliant and a volunteer physician will be available at the clinic, which will be held one night weekly at each of five Catholic hospitals in the Buffalo area.

Friests of the diocese will be encouraging the interested couples to the Family Life Department.



**NATIONAL CYO OFFICER** — Miss Elaine Patterson, of St. Charles Borromeo parish, Bloomington, was elected secretary of the National Council of Catholic Youth at its sixth annual convention held last week in Buffalo, N.Y. She is a former Archdiocesan CYO officer and the 1960 winner of the Roger Graham Award as the outstanding CYO girl. More than 180 delegates from the Archdiocese made the trip to Buffalo.



**HEAD IN THE CLOUDS?**—Steeplejack Tony Striegel of Jasper, Ind., is shown above placing a new, gilded cross on the steeple of Assumption Church on Indianapolis' Westside. Barely visible at top on the platform is Tony's "helper," Father Anthony McLaughlin, Assumption's adventurous pastor. The project was included in the major redecoration program of the 67-year-old parish church. (Staff photo)