

Local Girl Given Audience With Pope Pius XII

(Continued From Page Six) seen before so I knew it could be quite elaborate and costly. The center of the room was completely bare, the floor being inlaid with wood. The Swiss guards escorted me around casually, snapping to attention or looking on one of the benches around the side of the room. Several doors led off to the hall to the elevator, two to red-lined rooms containing famous portraits of all the Popes, two on the next wall opening for guards I guess, one on the next wall into my little man in black. There were also windows looking down on bits of buildings. My attention then came to the people around me, the guards first. Their costumes had been designed by Michel Angelo and consisted of yellow, red, rust, striped doublets, breeches and stockings. They are colorful to say the least. Every so often one of them would shout something in Swiss German and they would all leap to their feet, to the right face, wheel completely around, relax and slump into their seats again. There were also about three plump men of average height dressed in red velvet, long coat and breeches. The coat had two long flying panels swinging from the shoulders and was embroidered or embossed with a higher red velvet design. Under it they wore a white shirt with-out collar and white bow tie. Their shoes were black with a buckle. As "civilians" arrived, clustered in the doorway and were directed, these red-plush men stroled around the room. One of them with a long piece of paper finally approached the center of the room. In a loud clear voice he called out "Professor Blank," who answered and was whisked away. Next he called out "Signorina Michelli," that was me. I tried calling out in a clear musical voice, but had to repeat about six times I was there and stumble across the room before he heard me. Then, he waved majestically in the direction of the room where my little man in black was and my coat. I went there. Man in black let me through a little door behind him and there I was. The room was red again, but had only a runner on the marble floor. There might have been furniture, but all my startled eyes saw were two guards standing next to the carpet runner. They were dressed in black and

white, had huge bushy Buckingham Palace guard hats on, white breeches, I rushed on to the next room. It again was red and was more luxurious. At the end of it some men in plain black uniforms gestured towards the room turning to the right. This was a vast room with framed tapestries covering the walls, a painted ceiling, a rug with leopards and Leo VIII name on it. About 35 mahogany chairs, stool like with pointed backs on them, were arranged in a fan around the room. On one of these clear across the room by the door leading into the next room, was the professor. A red plush man seated me beside him. One by one other people entered the room, including the young Canadian couple I met in Peppino's restaurant one noon. Two diplomats with morning suits were there, some Chinese, assorted priests, a shabbily-dressed Italian woman and a soldier from Genoa, who was stiff with fright. The man in the red plush suit called out names, again I was second, and seated us in that order from the door. I who had been so concerned about being properly dressed looked around the room, all the women had hats or veils over their heads, but there the uniformity ended. The Canadian girl had a box full of things for the Pope to bless. An old lady had a whole armload of rosaries, others carried things in their hands. I had some medals for Catholic friends, the silver bishops' cross Mother gave me when I was confirmed in the Episcopal church, hanging around my neck. I think that was what caused the Pope to murmur twice a "Special Blessing." A tinkling clock chimed the hour of twelve and hardly a minute later we heard a rustling as people rushed out of the other room. They were officials mostly dressed in black with medals galore across their chests and they almost ran from the room. They were followed by six guards, two by two in black with gold stripes down their pants, swords and magnificent golden helmets. They advanced to the center of the room, stopped. Behind them were six officer type guards, with the same uniform of my friend, and sure enough, as they about faced, he was there smiling at me. Two priests dressed in red robes edged and buttoned with red velvet came next, then the Pope. He was dressed all in white and looked exactly like his numerous photographs. He looked tired, old and quite ordinary. His shoes were red and had little gold tassels on them. His white fur cape was carried by one of the four black-breeched men behind him. The plush man wheeled around and there was momentary confusion as the guard went over to the other door, my friend standing there grinning at me. The Pope turned to face the professor and me, the first two in line, the black men stood behind him with gaping pouches of black leather in their hands. One gave a packet of purple envelopes to the Pope, who then turned to us. The professor kneeled, kissed the ring, stood up. The Pope asked where he was from, what he did. He was from Los Angeles and taught school. The Pope gave him an envelope, bless him and turned to me. Of course he didn't know where Oregon was and silly me had depended upon finding something to say on the occasion, but my voice chose that moment not to work so well. Sympathetically he looked at me and

said his special blessing twice, gave me an envelope and passed on. I had held his hand, kissed his ring and actually spoken to him. I was very impressed with things in general and momentarily felt a little more holy. The Pope went on around the room, repeating the same performance with everyone though what difference it made I can't think. One of the plush boys gave the name to the black breeches, who in turn told the Pope. He asked most everyone where they were from, gave special attention to the children. One couple had two little boys, the French couple had a very small boy with blonde curls and French rompers holding a great wooden cross. He talked to two priests of the Order of the Holy Cross from California, one of whom was vitally alive and full of energy with the look of eternal youth although his hair was gray and bald on top. A Chinese priest brought special greetings from his President, but otherwise there was scarcely a break in the quick, rapid but utterly movement way the Pope moved from person to person. To all he gave small medals wrapped in purple, to married couples he gave rosary. The slightest movement of his hand would summon a black breech with his pouch to replenish the Pope's store. The terrified little Italian soldier was last. Then the Pope opened his arms, everyone sank from standing to kneeling position, the Pope gave three blessings to each direction, arose, and the entire company was gone. The little blonde French child went running after them, his mother being too slow to top him although she tried going after him. He was brought back by an irritated black breeches who brought him into the room demanding, "to whom this bambino belong." The mother crept out to get him, the child unabashedly joined her. Then the group broke up and we left the same way we came in. I followed the two New York girls into one of the red rooms for their coats to look at the portraits of the Popes, then went on downstairs to the elevator. Crossing the courtyard, we found a number of tiny sterling St. Francis medals dropped I supposed by someone with a hole in his pocket. Two men ahead of us scooped them up for some of their school children. They undoubtedly had been blessed and it seemed such a shame to have lost them. From the middle of the courtyard they formed a scraggling path to the main staircase, and there must have been over four dozen of the tiny glittering things. Once downstairs the Canadian girl asked the sergeant of the Swiss Guards seated at a table in the hall about having a photograph made of her husband and her with the Pope. He told her what I had investigated, that it is very very difficult and requires extra special permission, either for the personage to be photographed by the Vatican photographer or to the Press photographer. I had given it up. I asked him in English about the special guards preceding the Pope, although I knew I should have asked my most intimate friend again. The Sergeant told me these were made up of the most noble noble Italian families and I thought that was as it should be for never have I seen a more dream-like fairy-tale Prince. Then we walked out into the courtyard of St. Peter's and I felt a bit sad for I realized it would be a long time before I could again go walking freely through the Vatican offices. We took turns standing on the marble medallion sunk into the courtyard where the four-deep columns on the colonnade leading up to the church appear to be only one column deep. I walked through the gates to the splashing water in the fountain, climbed on the bus and came home to write this all before I forgot one detail.

PARGETERS ENTERTAIN WITH CHRISTMAS PARTY AT NEW RESIDENCE Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pargeter entertained at a Christmas party Sunday evening at their new home on the Melrose road for a group of friends. Christmas decorations were used in the living room. The children enjoyed Christmas carols and games and later gifts were exchanged. Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chapman and three daughters, Sherrill, Kay and Raina Lynn; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Allen and children, Roger, Noreen and Nancy; Rex Roberts and daughters, Becky and Julie; Charles Ostrander and daughter, Sharon; the host and hostess and their children, Brian and Carolyn Sue.

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First Conservative Baptist Church Roseburg, Oregon EDGAR B. LUTHER, B.D., Pastor wishes you all a Joyous Christmas Season and extends a hearty welcome to all services Christmas Sermons: 11 A. M.—"Our Guiding Star" 7:30 P. M.—"The Seven-Fold Christmas Spirit"

Faith Lutheran Church invites you to Christmas Worship Christmas Matins, 6:00 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. (at the Roseburg Armory) Sermon: "The Word Became Flesh." Willis F. Erickson, Pastor 242 South Rose St.



Illustration of Pope Pius XII surrounded by people in a church setting.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST Main and Lane Sts. J. J. Robertson, Elder Res. 950 Hamilton St.

SABBATH SERVICES (Saturday) Sabbath School, 9:30 a. m. Worship Hour, 11:00 a. m. Youths' Meeting, 3:00 p. m. Mid-Week Service: Wednesday, 8:00 p. m.

FREE METHODIST 1347 Harvard St. George Henderson, Pastor SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 10:00 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. Young People, 7:00 p. m. Evening Evangelistic Services, 7:45 p. m. Mid-Week Services: Prayer and Study, Wednesday, 7:45 p. m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS Knights of Pythias Hall Geo. O. Updegraff, President Roseburg Branch; Res. Dillard, Ore. SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 10:00 a. m. Morning Meeting, 7:00 p. m. Fireside Meeting, 8:00 p. m. (No Sacramento or Fireside Meeting held on first Sunday of month.) Mid-Week Services: Tuesday—Relief Society, 1:30 p. m. Primary Association, 4:00 p. m.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 400 E. Douglas St. Forrest Hill, Pastor; Res. 423 Pitzer St. SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 10:00 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. Junior Service, 6:30 p. m. Young People's Society, 6:30 p. m. Evangelistic Service, 7:30 p. m. Mid-Week Service: Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.

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DIRECTORY of CHURCHES

Roseburg Churches

FIRST BAPTIST Rose & Lane Sts. H. P. Sconce, Pastor; Res. 468 S. Main SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 9:45 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. Youth Groups, 6:15 p. m. Evening Services, 7:30 p. m. Mid-Week Service: Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.

CHURCH OF GOD Garden Valley Road & Walnut St. Rev. Ervin G. Kroker, pastor SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 9:45 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. Young People, 6:30 p. m. Evening Worship, 7:30 p. m. Mid-Week Service: Monday, Youth Fellowship, 7:30 p. m. Wednesday, Prayer Service, 7:30 p. m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST 789 Military St. SUNDAY SERVICES: Bible Classes, 10:00 a. m. Worship, 10:50 a. m. Communion, 11:50 a. m. Evening Service, 7:30 p. m. Mid-Week Services: Bible Study, Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL Main & Cass Sts. Rev. Alfred S. Tyson, Rector Res. 228 E. Cass St. SUNDAY SERVICES: Holy Communion, 8:00 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. Mid-Week Service: As announced.

FULL GOSPEL TABERNACLE Green School Dist., Old Hwy. 99 So. Rev. Thomas Green, Pastor Rt. 4, Box 115 SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 10 a. m. Morning Worship, 11 a. m. Evangelistic Service, 7:30 p. m. Midweek Services: Wednesday and Thursday Nites, 7:30 p. m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN Douglas & Kane Sts. Kenneth W. Knox, Pastor; Res. 530 Overlook Ave. SUNDAY SERVICES: Bible School, 9:45 a. m. Morning Worship, 10:45 a. m. Christian Endeavor, 6:15 p. m. Evening Worship, 8:00 p. m. Mid-Week Service: Wednesday, 8:00 p. m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD 948 W. First St. Vernon L. Klein, Pastor. Residence 100' W. First St. Phone 863-J SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 9:45 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:00 a. m. Christian's Ambassadors (Young People) 6:30 p. m. Evangelistic, 7:45 p. m. Mid-Week Services: Tuesday, Prayer Meeting 7:45 p. m. Thursday, Bible Study, 7:45 p. m.

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