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THE SOLEMN BLESSING of the Rt. Rev. Abbot Michael Ott, O.S.B.

By 8.30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, all things stood in readiness for the Solemn Benediction of the Rt. Rev. Michael Ott, O.S.B., second Abbot of St. Peter's Abbey. At the Gospel side of the sanctuary Abbot of St. Peter's Abbey. At the Gospel side of the sanctuary stood a special altar for the new Abbot, on which were laid the missal and pontifical vestments of white color. At either side vestments for the assistant Abbots viz. cope, stole, surplice and simple mitre. On the high altar lay the pontifical vestments of red, the color of the day. On a credence table at the Epistle side of the high altar, besides the usual wine and water, etc., stood a chalice with a paten containing a large and a small host. On a table near the altar of the Abbot-elect stood a chalice, a cruet of wine, two wax candles, two loaves of bread, one of which was silvered, the other gilded, and two small casks of wine, the one silvered, the other gilded; there were also the sandals, gloves, ring, crozier, etc. other gilded; there were also the sandals, gloves, ring, crozier, etc. and a copy of the Holy Rule of St. Benedict.

At 9.00 o'clock the church bells gave the signal and shortly afterward the procession proceeded from the monastery to the main entrance of the church. The Knights of Columbus with their banner led and were followed by the altar boys, the Rev. Clergy, the sacred ministers, the Rt. Rev. Abbots and Bishops, and the pontificating Bishop; the Rt. Rev. Abbot-elect, with the two assistant Abbots bringing up the rear. Upon entering the church all proceeded to the altar of the Blessed Sacrament where a short adoration was made.

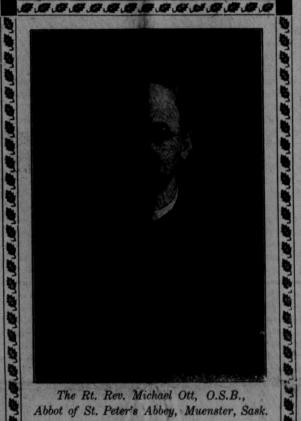
While the Bishop vested for Mass at the throne, the Abbot-elect While the Bishop vested for Mass at the throne, the Abbot-elect at his altar received the amice, alb, cincture, stole, cope and biretta; the assistant Abbots vested in like manner. The Bishop, in mitre, then seated himself upon the faldistorium before the altar, and the Abbot-elect and his assistants seated themselves upon their chairs in the sanctuary, the assisting Abbots sitting so as to face the Abbot-elect who sat between them. The Bishop called for the mandatum Apostolicum. This was read in a clear voice by the notary. The Abbot-elect then went to the Bishop, knelt before him and read the required oath; touching the open missal with both hands, he asked God's assistance. The Abbot-elect having returned to his seat, the Bishop put a number of questions to him, to each of which he answered in the affirmative. The Abbot-elect kissed the Bishop's hand and the Bishop, without mitre, began the preliminary prayers at the foot of the altar. The Abbot-elect went to his altar, put off the cope, took up the pectoral cross and stole and received the tunicella, dalmatic, chasuble and maniple.

The Bishop continued Mass and the Abbot-elect did the same at

The Bishop continued Mass and the Abbot-elect did the same at his altar. After the last verse of the Gradual, the Bishop sat upon the faldistorium at the centre of the altar. The Abbot-elect was led by the faldistorium at the centre of the altar. The Abbot-elect was led by the assisting Abbots to the Bishop, where he prostrated to the left of the Bishop, while the assistant Abbots returned to their chairs and knelt during the chanting of the 6th, 31st, 37th, 50th, 101st, 129th and 142nd psalms and the singing of the Litany of the Saints. The Abbot then knelt before the Bishop and during the prescribed prayers and responses that followed, the Bishop placed his hands upon the head of the new Abbot and during the further prayers made the sign of the cross over him. Having again seated himself er; each in turn the Bishop handed to the Abbot the Holy Rule; he then rose and blessed the crozier. Again seating himself, he handed over the croblessed the crozier. Again seating himself, he handed over the crozier to the Abbot. Then he rose and blessed the ring. The Bishop and the assistant Abbots gave the Pax to the Elect, after which the Bishop went to the throne and continued mass up to the Credo, while the Abbot did likewise at his altar.

Next followed the German sermon by Abbot Peter. His words came from the heart as he wished the new Abbot God's blessing and rich graces in his responsible position. He mentioned that the community and the Colony had every reason to rejoice at the blessing of the new Abbot; that Abbot Michael was possessed of the community and the Colony had every reason to rejoice at the blessing of the new Abbot; that Abbot Michael was possessed of the
qualities, learning and ability St. Benedict requires of the Abbot,
and that on him they could rely. He encouraged them to stand by
their Abbot as in the past, to assist him in all his undertakings. He
reminded them that it was their bounden duty to support the new
and most important undertaking of founding a college for their own
benefit as well as for the benefit of the monstery. Where there is
such a numerous Catholic settlement there must be vocations, and
these vocations must be called to life and action here at home.
A mull founded Catholic settlement like St. Peter's Colony should no
longer be obliged to look elsewhere for its priests and missionaries
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longer be obliged to look elsewhere for its priests and missionaries
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longer be obliged to look elsewhere for its priests and missionaries
to speak, the remember of the flowing the flowing of the flowing the flowing of the colonists upon having
these experienced teachers and missionaries as their teachers and
missionaries, pastors and guides. He exhorted them to turn in all
aday to offer to you, Right Reverend Abbot,
whereas the Church raises her
but must be able and willing to educate its own representative layon Christ; he urged
them, therefore, to loyal obedience to their Abbot. Though they had
been east into grief and gloom at the loss of Abbot Bruno, they
should now rejoice, for God has deigned to give them another kind
and plous Father.

At the Offertory the Bishop proceeded to the faldistorium bewhether the found in a division of the month of the month of the found that the world to-day is in
a reat turmoil, that it preaches hate, whereas the Church raises her
but



and the Abbot said all of the mass at a kneeling bench in the sanc uary, except the words of consecration. After the Agnus Dei he received the Pax from the Bishop and gave it to each of the assistant Abbots. Having consumed the Precious Blood, the Bishop gave Holy Communion to the Abbot. After the Bishop's blessing before the last Gospel, he blessed the mitre and placed it on the Abbot's head. He next blessed the gloves and gave them to the Abbot, put the ring on his finger and led the mitred Abbot to the throne where he handed the crozier to the enthroned Abbot, while the bells of the church and monastery merrily pealed forth the joyful tidings of the enthronization of the second Abbot of St. Peter. The Bishop, in a strenge and full value, intended the Te Deum and the new Abbot.

Abbot of St. Martin's Abbey, Lacey, Wash; the Rt. Rev. Oswald Baran, O.S. B., Abbot of St. Martin's Abbey, Lacey, Wash; the Rt. Rev. Magr.

M. Pilon, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alta., and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alta., and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M. strong and full voice, intoned the Te Deum, and the new Abbot, accompanied by the assistant Abbots with their mitres, passed through the church with mitre and crozier, blessing the people. Oh, the grandeur and beauty of such a ceremony! Then followed the touching scene of homage and love of the monks toward their Father; each in turn knelt before the Abbot to receive the kiss of peace

After the sermon the pontificating Bishop and the Abbot unvested and left the sanctuary. Services ended at 12:15 p. m.

At the Offertory the Bishop proceeded to the faldistorium before the altar and received the offerings from the Elect, who took from the members of the community the offerings of the burning candles, the gilded loaf of bread, the silvered loaf of bread, the silvered loaf of bread, the gilded and silvered casks, and kneeling before the Bishop, made to him each offerings separately, kissing his ring each time. Having received these offerings, the Bishop continued mass at the altar and received the offerings apparately, and increase of responsibility.

After the sermon the pontificating Bishop and the Abbot unvested at 12:15 p. m.

The grand and elevating ceremonies, though difficult and complicated by the Rev. Fr. Frido-line and smoothly conducted by the Rev. Fr. Frido-line and the Ven. Fr. Marcellus as Masters of Ceremonies, and made a deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies, and made a deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. These ceremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. The secremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. The secremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. The secremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. The secremonies are deep and lasting impression on all present. The secremonies are deep and lasting impression on all pr

blessed Abbot Michael. The Rt. Rev. Bernard Menges, O. S. B., and the Rt. Rev. Oswald Baran, O.S.B., were the assistant Abbots; The Rt. Rev. Mgr. M. Pilon acted as Presbyter assistant; the Rev. P. Hilland, O. M. I. as deacon; Rev. L. Nandzik, O. M. I. as subdeacon; the Very Rev. A. Jan, O. M. I. and Rev. Th. Schmid as deacons of honor; the Rev. Fathers P. Nicolet and D. Gamache in dalmatics and the Rev. Frs. Chrysostom and Matthias in pluviale. The Rev. Fathers Boening, O.M.I., Pet. Habets, O.M.I., Th. Nandzik, O.M.I., Lawrence, O.S.B., Clement, O.S.B., Benedict, O.S.B.,

zik, O.M.I., Lawrence, O.S.B., Clement, O.S.B., Benedict, O.S.B., Casimir, O.S.B., and Joseph, O.S.B. acted as chaplains to the attending Rt. Rev. Bishops and Abbots in the sanctuary.

In the minds of the visiting Abbots never was the hierarchy of the Catholic church so well represented at the benediction of an Abbot in North America as at the blessing of Abbot Michael. We had the great honor and extreme pleasure of harboring in our midst three Rt. Rev. Bishops and four Rt. Rev. Abbots, not including our Abbot. We sincerely regret that our beloved Bishop Albert Pascal, who is still abroad, could not be present. Those of the Rt. Rev. Abbots who had never before visited St. Peter, were delighted with the surrounding country and with the spirit of the community and inhabitants of the Colony. Of more than common interest was the visit of the reserved but genial Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charlebois, the great and noble-hearted missionary Bishop of the far North, of the largest diocese in the world. Many a captivating anecdote, many interesting things could be here mentioned of his long and dangerous journeys by boat, where navigation is possible in the short summer, by dog sleds in the winter; of the innumerable hardships summer, by dog sleds in the winter; of the innumerable hardships and sacrifices of this esteemed Bishop, but which might be out of place here. It may be of interest to mention, however, that he is at present administering the Sacrament of Confirmation in the diosese of Prince Albert in place of our late beloved Father, the Rt.

diosese of Prince Albert in place of our late beloved Father, the Rt. Rev. Abbot Bruno Doerfler, O.S.B.

The Rt. Rev. visitors at the solemn benediction of Abbot Michael were: His Lordship, the Rt. Rev. Vincent Wehrle, O.S.B., Bishop of Bismarck, N. Dak., formerly Abbot of St. Mary's Abbey, Richardton, N. Dak.; the Rt. Rev. J. T. McNally, Bishop of Calgary, Alta.; the Rt. Rev. O. Charlebois, O.M.I., Bishop of Berenice, Vicar Apostolic of Keewatin; the Rt. Rev. Ernest Helmstetter, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Mary's Abbey, Newark, N. J. and Praeses of the American Cassinese Congregation of Benedictines; the Rt. Rev. Peter Engel, O. S. B., Abbot of St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minn.; the Rt. Rev. Bernard Menges, Abbot of St. Bernard's Abbey, St. Bernard, Alabama; the Rt. Rev. Oswald Baran, O.S. B., Abbot of St. Martin's Abbey, Lacey, Wash.; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. M. Pilon, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Alta., and the Very Rev. A. Jan, O.M.I., of Saskatoon, Vicar General and the Martin's Abbes, of Prince Albert.

Among the lay visitors were Artist B. Imhoff of St. Walburg, Sask., Alfred Vonnegut of Winnipeg, B. Hoeschen of Saskatoon, a former student of St. John's University. Mr. Wm. Krumpelmann of Saskatoon was present as a special delegate of the class of '16 of St. John's University. In the name of the class he presented the Rt. Rev. Michael Ott with a spiritual bouquet of the class. A number of other alumni of St. John's University and former pupils of and his blessing.

The Abbot then proceeded to the centre of the altar with mitre and crozier and gave the solemn benediction. After the blessing he knelt at Epistle side, facing the Bishop who stood at the Gospel side and called out to him 'Ad multos Annos'. The Bishop and the assistant Abbots gave the Pax to the new Abbot and the Bishop read the last Gospel, while the Abbot, reciting the Gospel, went with his assistants to his altar.

Bishop Medical Additional and receive the kiss of peace and the microscopic factors and presented the class he presented the ber of other alumni of St. John's University and former pupils of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the present Abbot were in the church to witness the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the result of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the relation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the elevation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the relation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the relation of the present Abbot were in the church to witness the present Abbot were in the church to w Bishop McMally delivered the English sermon. He spoke eloquently on Benedictine activities through the fourteen centuries in artistic golden letters shaded in deep red: "To the Right Revfrom the founding of Monte Cassino where St. Benedict wrote the erend Michael Ott, Ph. D., Abbot of St. Peter's Colony, From the