

Scallen found guilty . . .



DENIS EDWARD SCALLEN, Also known as Father Benedict and Brother Dan.

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 court which he had taken and looked very different. The officer explained how he took the pictures to the jury showing odd things can purposely be made to show up in photographs.

Scallen told the court his activities were known all along by the local Roman Catholic church and he was never told to stop or called up before an ecclesiastical court.

Pope has double?

He said he didn't inform the Vatican of his ordination for many reasons including the fact the Pope isn't functioning as a "free man" and when people see Pope Paul VI they are really seeing his double or stand-in. He hinted the Pope is a prisoner and said this has happened in the past.

He said Generals Montgomery and Eisenhower had doubles in World War II and so does the Pope. He said in some pictures the Pope is skinny and haggard while in others he is well looking. Scallen didn't know which Pope was the imposter.

Kosher Nostra

Another remarkable piece of evidence introduced last week was Scallen's writings about "Communists and Zionists trying to take over the Roman Catholic church. His book the "Naked Zionist and the Blue Lady" was discussed as well as his term for some Jewish people whom he called the "Kosher Nostra".

He maintained he made everyone aware of his questionable status in the eyes of the bishop and warned them there would be opposition such as his current court problems.

I'm a Roman Catholic Priest

Scallen was steadfast in declaring he was a Roman Catholic priest since he had been validly ordained and always had been a Roman Catholic who preached Roman Catholic faith and doctrine but also offered the old, now outlawed, Latin mass. He said the fact he was ordained by a bishop of the Old Catholic Church had nothing to do with his denomination. Scallen said he was a valid priest and his denomination is Roman

Catholic.
 Besides calling the nuns liars regarding stripping he also accused them of not telling the truth when they said he told others about confessions and sent his parishioners out to other churches to steal books and religious articles. He did admit his church acquired a number of books and items from other churches but they were given because they were to be destroyed, not stolen. Scallen also called Bishop Reding a liar because the prosecution witness said he wasn't aware of Scallen's activities, or his ordination.

Real nun

Scallen, the 13th witness, was followed on the stand by a "real nun", Sister Mary John, 67, who joined the Sisters of Christian Charity at age 16 and left them in 1976 to join Scallen's order.

She was a member of an active order, spending many years teaching and serving as principal at many Eastern United States parochial ele-

mentary and secondary schools.
 Wearing brown and white habit, she told the court she got to know Scallen through his writings and agreed with many of his ideas, including the importance of retaining old ideas like the Latin mass. She described the teen-age nuns as "cheerful, happy, innocent group" and stated she never heard any complaints about stripping and other severe penances although she didn't arrive until after these things allegedly happened.

Sister Mary said she slept with the other nuns at one end of the industrial building while Father Benedict was at the other end. She backed up Scallen's testimony that women weren't allowed in his end of the building.

She said she tutored a nine year old girl sent to the retreat by Bishop Rauber and taught her to read, write and tell time.

Sister Mary told the court the three teen-age nuns didn't want to leave the monastery

when they could have during the police raid.

The court also heard about a bulletin issued by the Roman Catholic Bishop for Helena, Montana, warning people that Bishop Rauber wasn't a valid Roman Catholic.

Off to Montana

Interestingly Scallen said in an interview during the trial that he planned now to move the Benedictine's of Mary Immaculate to a 400 acre site in Montana not far from where Rauber established himself.

He told this newspaper he would move to Montana after all his legal problems are straightened out and vowed to remain in Halton Hills and fight his opponents until the end.

On Thursday night he said he was sure he would be acquitted and described his trial as "either making or breaking" his religious order.

While he can't say mass while under a civil court charge, life goes on at the convent, he stated, adding he prays daily for his detractors "even Anna Drozd".

In his summation arguments, Bellegem

followed Scallen's theme that "you can call me a kook, a fool or an eccentric but I am a validly ordained Roman Catholic priest."

Bellegem, who was visibly stunned by the verdict, had told the jury "we are hearing an ecclesiastical matter tried in a criminal court and this is not the proper forum."

He said the Crown had failed to prove fraud.

Owen countered he purposely avoided finding out if he was a valid Roman Catholic priest stating, "it appeared he did not report to anyone but just ran the monastery by himself." He charged earlier that Scallen wanted to create a "super-priest image".

"An honest belief by the accused that he has a legal right to something constitutes a complete defence," Judge Sprague said during his charge reminding the jurors the court was trying fraud, not Scallen's religious convictions.

During his three hour charge Sprague reviewed the testimony but never mentioned the stripping or the nuns' charge they were lured to the convent.

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OMB to hear Nassagaweya

The Ontario Municipal Board will hear a Milton appeal concerning the apportionment of school taxes, as a result of a recent court decision. The divisional court ruled that even though Milton's objection came after the deadline for appeals, the appeal should be heard.

For several years Nassagaweya Township—and later the town of Milton—appealed what was felt to be a faulty factor. The factor is used by the province to calculate Nassagaweya's share of the school board taxes.

Each year up until this year the treasurers from the other area municipalities in the region met and agreed to help offset what was believed to be an unfair burden on township taxpayers.

But this year the area treasurers said the payment should be phased out starting this year, because market value assessment was to be

introduced next year and the problem would be eliminated.

Notice of that decision was sent to the Town of Milton by registered mail, but never reached town hall. As a result Milton did not file its objection to the decision and the OMB refused to hear objections because the deadline had passed before Milton officials found out that the notice had gone astray.

Since that time the province has backed away from market value assessment. Without that, the factor presumably will stay the same.

This year the adjustment or payment to Nassagaweya would have been in the order of \$70,000. If other areas do not continue to pay that to Nassagaweya, former township ratepayers will have to come up with the money themselves.

No date has been set for the hearing.



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Marsh given grant

Purchase of 10,258 additional acres for Luther Marsh Conservation Area, situated approximately four miles north of Highway 9 between Orangeville and Arthur, is being assisted by a \$109,450 provincial grant to the Grand River Conservation Authority.

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