

Hawthorn tapestry cont; fom p. 5.

Holding a cross and a crosier, the saint will be seen standing above a sword, symbol of the fact that he was beheaded.

"St. Killian was an Irish missionary to Germany and was beheaded close to the city from where the first priest came" said Mrs. Carrington .

She will again incorporate the Australian wildflowers that are a theme in all her tapestries. This time she will use the Bendigo wax flower, with a panel of gum nuts and wattle down each side.

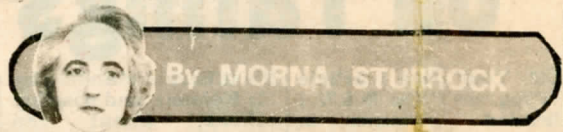
Mrs. Carrington who lives in Clifton Road, East Hawthorn, formerly taught at Syndal Technical School and the Emily

McPherson Collete. She now teaches art through the Education Department's Correspondence School.

gull

Hawthorn tapestry for Bendigo church

The first tapestry hanging for a church in Australia has just come off its loom in Hawthorn.



By MORNA STUIROCK

Commissioned by the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo, the tapestry represents a year's spare-time-work — about 2,000 hours — for its designer and weaver, Mrs Sonya Carrington.

It is the first of two large hangings commissioned for the cathedral by Bishop Stewart. They will hang on the sanctuary walls behind the Bishop's throne.

Mrs Carrington, one of Australia's best known weavers, is taking the hanging to Bendigo this week.

"I will feel lost without it," she told Progress Press.

"I couldn't keep my fingers off it. Now I am eager to begin the second one."

She invited her local Member of Parliament, Mr Walter Jona, to see the tapestry when it was finished.

Mrs Carrington met him during the election campaign, and when she learned that Mrs Jona had originally come from Bendigo, asked if they would be interested to see the tapestry on its completion.

They were deeply impressed.

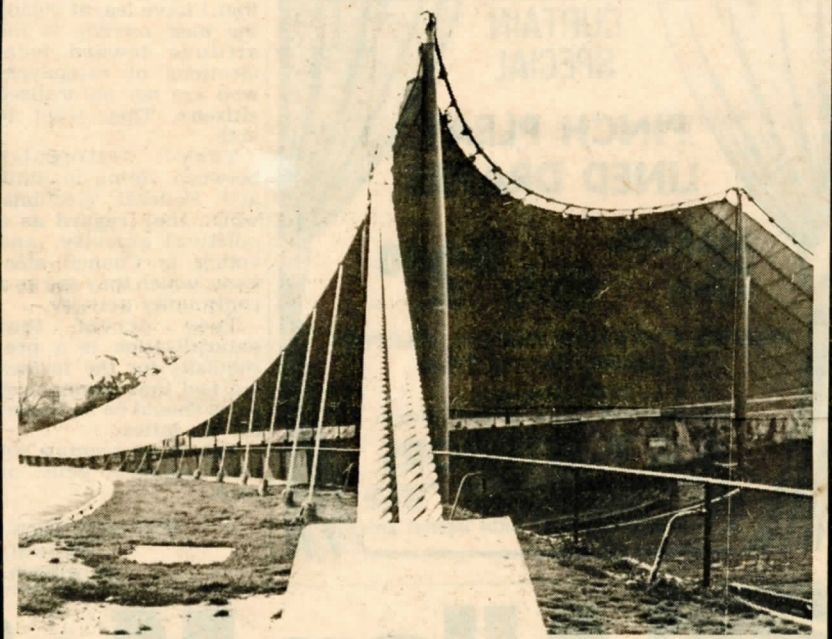
It is 8 ft. 6 in. deep and 6 ft. wide. It will be valued at several thousands of dollars.

"Everyone who sees it seems intrigued by the cathedral itself, seen in the lower background"



"Magnificent!" exclaims Mr Walter Jona MLA as Mrs Sonya Carrington shows him her tapestry for the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo. It is thought to be the first tapestry ever commissioned

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It is 8 ft. 6 in. deep and 6 ft. wide. It will be valued at several thousands of dollars.

"Everyone who sees it seems intrigued by the cathedral itself, seen in the lower background," said Mrs Carrington.

The central figure of Christ, symbolising light and truth radiates power in a circle of the colors of the rainbow. His mantle is shown protecting the world, particularly Bendigo.

The Sacred Heart cathedral is seen at His

• "Magnificent!" exclaims Mr Walter Jona MLA as Mrs Sonya Carrington shows him her tapestry for the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo. It is thought to be the first tapestry ever commissioned for an Australian church. The tapestry will go from Mrs Carrington's home in Clifton Rd, E. Hawthorn, to Bendigo this week.

feet on one side, and a part of the city, with the poppet head of a gold mine, on the other side.

Below the feet of Christ is a devil, in the form of a two-headed dragon.

The central panel is framed with two side panels, each bearing the PX - Greek initials for Jesus Christ. Above this motif are panels of the pink Bendigo wax

flower, alternating with the heads of angels.

The small Greek letters Alpha and Omega at the top of the tapestry symbolise the beginning and the end.

The Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo, said to be the last great Cathedral to be built in the world, has been under construction for the past 77 years.

It was started in 1896, partly to give work to men unemployed after the gold rush, and the present Bishop of Sandhurst began the second stage in 1954.

The architects, Bates, Smart, and McCutcheon, contacted Mrs Carrington more than a year ago about the tapestries.

The second tapestry will show St Killian, the patron saint of the first Roman Catholic Church in Bendigo. St Killian's Church still stands.

• Continued P.25

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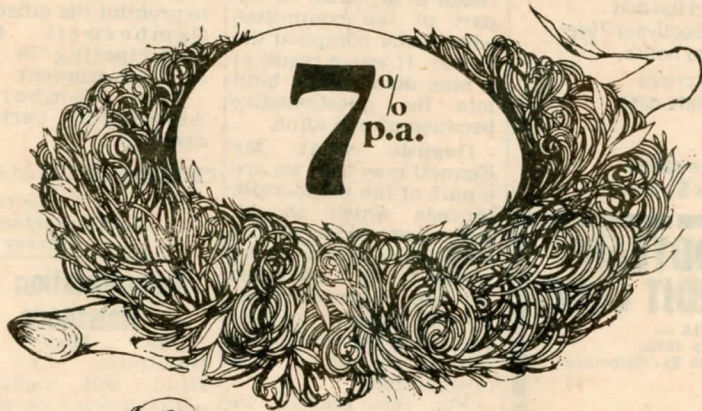
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