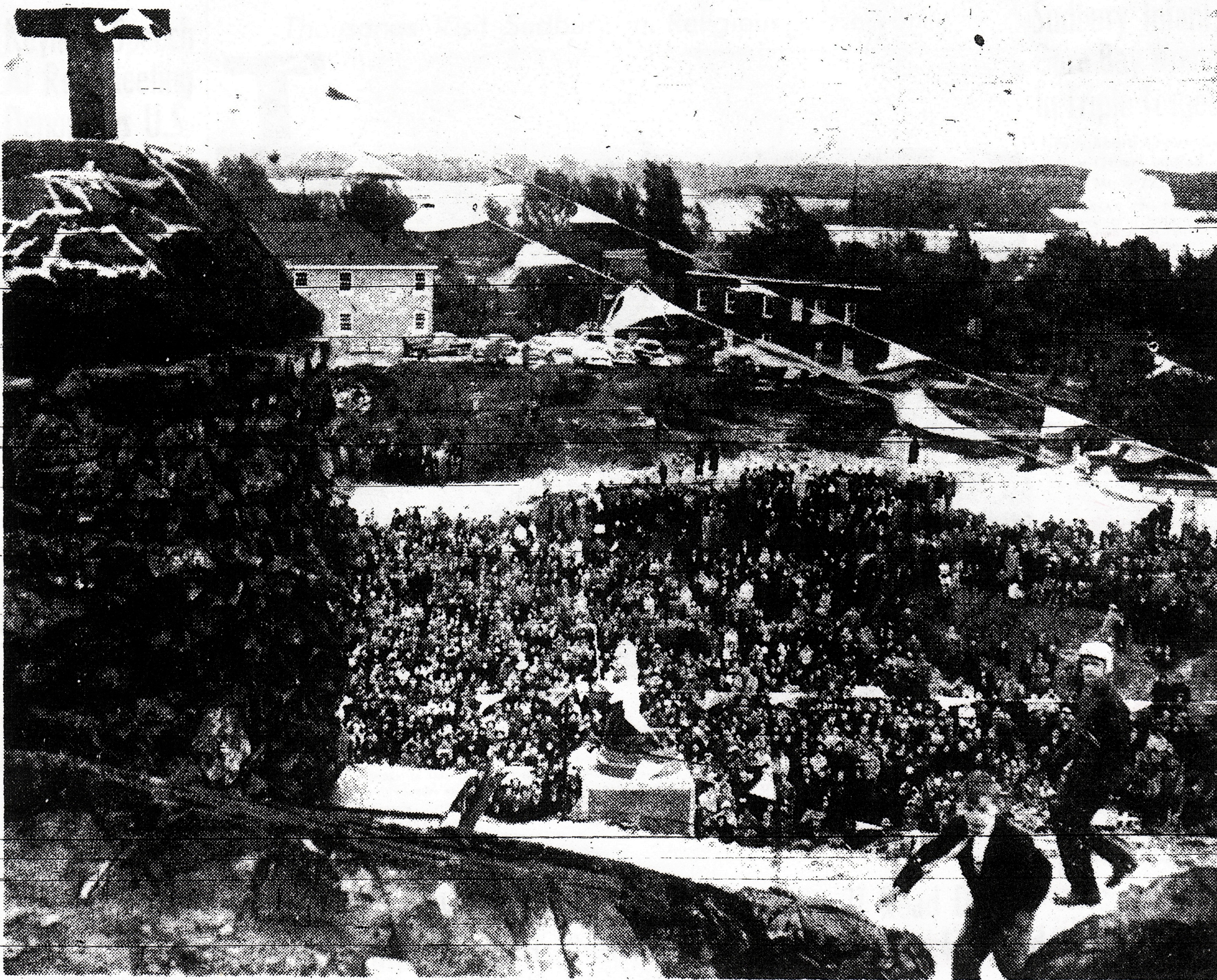


Thousands Visit Sudbury in Religious Observance



—STAR PHOTO

French-Canadian visitors from Roman Catholic parishes throughout the diocese of Sault Ste. Marie—some 15,000 in number—journeyed to Sudbury on Sunday to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, and pay tribute and homage to Our Lady of Cap de Madeleine, brought here by Rev. J. Plaisance, an Oblate priest of the Mary Immaculate Order, of Ottawa. Father Plaisance has taken the statue on tour throughout the Dominion for the past five years and plans a tour of Europe next year. A cavalcade of some 600 cars from North Bay wended its way to the Nickel City Sunday morning to take part in the religious observance. Rev. J. A. Chapleau, of North

Bay, a vicar general of the diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, headed this group. Pictured above is a small portion of the huge crowd at the grotto, with the new statue, Bernadette of Lourdes, in the foreground. This statue of the young woman to whom visions appeared in Lourdes some 95 years ago, came from France several weeks ago. It weighs 450 pounds, fashioned from metal, and was handsomely painted by artist Paul Nault, of Sudbury. It was presented to Ste. Anne's Roman Catholic Church by Les Dames de Federation, to stand beside the grotto where the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes is enshrined.