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Third Section

First Catholic Church in Rochester Diocese was Erected in 1832

Many Sacrifices Made By the Early Pioneers

Trappers, Hunters and Indians Comprised the First Congregation—Jesuit Missionary Built The First Chapel

The early days of the Rochester Diocese were days of sacrifice and of hard work, and it is inspiring to look back upon the accomplishments of the pioneers of the Diocese. The first preacher in what is now Rochester Diocese was Rev. Father Fremin, a Jesuit, who built a chapel near East Bloomfield. His parish consisted of trappers, hunters and Indians. Holy Mass was first said on November 3, 1868. Three years later Rev. James Pierren became a resident missionary near the present village of Victor. The Jesuits were pioneers in religious work here, and they remained ten years.

It was not until 1818-1819 that a priest was assigned to Rochester. Bishop John Connolly of the New York diocese, of which Rochester and Buffalo were parts, sent Rev. Patrick J. Cornick to Rochester. Rev. Patrick Kelly assisted Father McQuaid, but the growth of the Catholic church in Buffalo necessitated the retention of Father Kelly there most of the time. The first Catholic church of the Diocese, St. Patrick's, was erected in 1823—106 years ago.

The Catholic population of Rochester at that time was 1500 to 1800. Construction of an improved highway Ridge Road, from Albany to Buffalo, via Rochester, attracted many settlers, and soon the Catholic population of Rochester increased to 3,000. During Bishop John Hughes' episcopate, Buffalo was made an Episcopal See, the Diocese of Buffalo being established April 23, 1847. Very Rev. John Timon, a Visitor General of the Congregation of the Missions, was consecrated by Bishop Hughes as first Bishop of Buffalo. The latter immediately appointed Rev. Bernard Kelly pastor of St. Patrick's, which at Rochester. Later Rev. F. O'Reilly, who was also vicar general of the Diocese of Buffalo was consecrated Bishop of Hartford, Conn. The consecration took place in the Cathedral at Rochester, and was a notable event. A sad aftermath of Father O'Reilly's elevation came in 1856, when he was lost at sea.

Bishop Timon was a stalwart figure, gifted with a commanding personality, and beloved by all, regardless of religious affiliations. It was largely through Bishop Timon's personal efforts that the Diocese of scarcity of priests, and also of churches. Bishop Timon realized that churches. Bishop Timon realized that the Catholic population, at that time composed largely of immigrants, was

deprived of proper religious care. The small number of priests could not visit every hamlet, and some Catholics did not see a priest or church for many months.

The death of Bishop Timon on April 16, 1867, was universally mourned, and it temporarily delayed the creation of the Diocese of Rochester.

But the good work started by Bishop Timon did not cease with his death. Prominent Catholics, ably assisted by priests, rejoiced when news arrived of the creation of the diocese of Rochester on January 24, 1868. There was speculation for a brief period as to Rochester's first Bishop, and there was general satisfaction and rejoicing when Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid was selected. Bishop McQuaid had many warm friends in Rochester, and the reception he received on his arrival here in July, 1868, was a cordial one. At that time Bishop McQuaid found only sixty churches administered by thirty-eight priests, seven of whom were Redemptorists. The diocese consisted of the counties of Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Yates, Tompkins.

Having been a close friend and co-worker of Archbishop Hughes of New York, and having seen how His Grace had organized parochial schools, and had started hundreds of admirable young men to study for the priesthood, Bishop McQuaid used that knowledge to good effect. Tireless, and determined, Bishop McQuaid soon was building parochial schools here and there, encouraging young men to enter the priesthood, and in other ways making Rochester diocese shine in a religious brilliance. In recognition of Bishop McQuaid's success as an organizer the diocese of Rochester was enlarged by the act of Pope Leo XIII. The brief which separated the counties of Steuben, Chemung, Tioga, Schuyler from the diocese of Buffalo and their annexation to Rochester diocese was dated December 10, 1896.

The enlarged Diocese became a flowerland of Catholic devotion under the guiding hand of Bishop McQuaid. On May 24, 1905, Rev. Thomas F. Hickey was appointed coadjutor to Bishop McQuaid, and was a devoted co-worker, friend and companion to him until the death of the Bishop in 1909. Bishop Hickey then became the second Bishop of Rochester, and the pioneer days of the Diocese were transferred to memory and to history for they were at an end.

Emancipation Celebration Stressed By Irish Bishops In Their Lenten Pastorals

Dublin, March 11.—The Lenten Pastorals of many members of the Irish hierarchy lay particular stress upon the centenary of Catholic Emancipation, which is to be observed in Ireland this June. It is not only a right, but a duty, to observe the centenary, some of the Ordinaries declare.

The Most Rev. Joseph MacRory, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, in his letter, speaks as follows:

"People may differ as to the value of what was won in 1829; some may regard the right then secured of sitting in a foreign Parliament as but another step towards our country's denationalization many may hold that the things that mattered most had already been won nearly 40 years before; while others again may maintain that, especially here in the Six Counties, we are not emancipated yet, but most will admit, I think, that O'Connell's victory in Clare opened a new era; that 1829 marked a turning-point in Irish history; that it saw the practical close of a long, dark, horrid night of disabilities, suffering and persecution, and the dawn of a new day which, though far from cloudless, was yet brightening with the promise of better things."

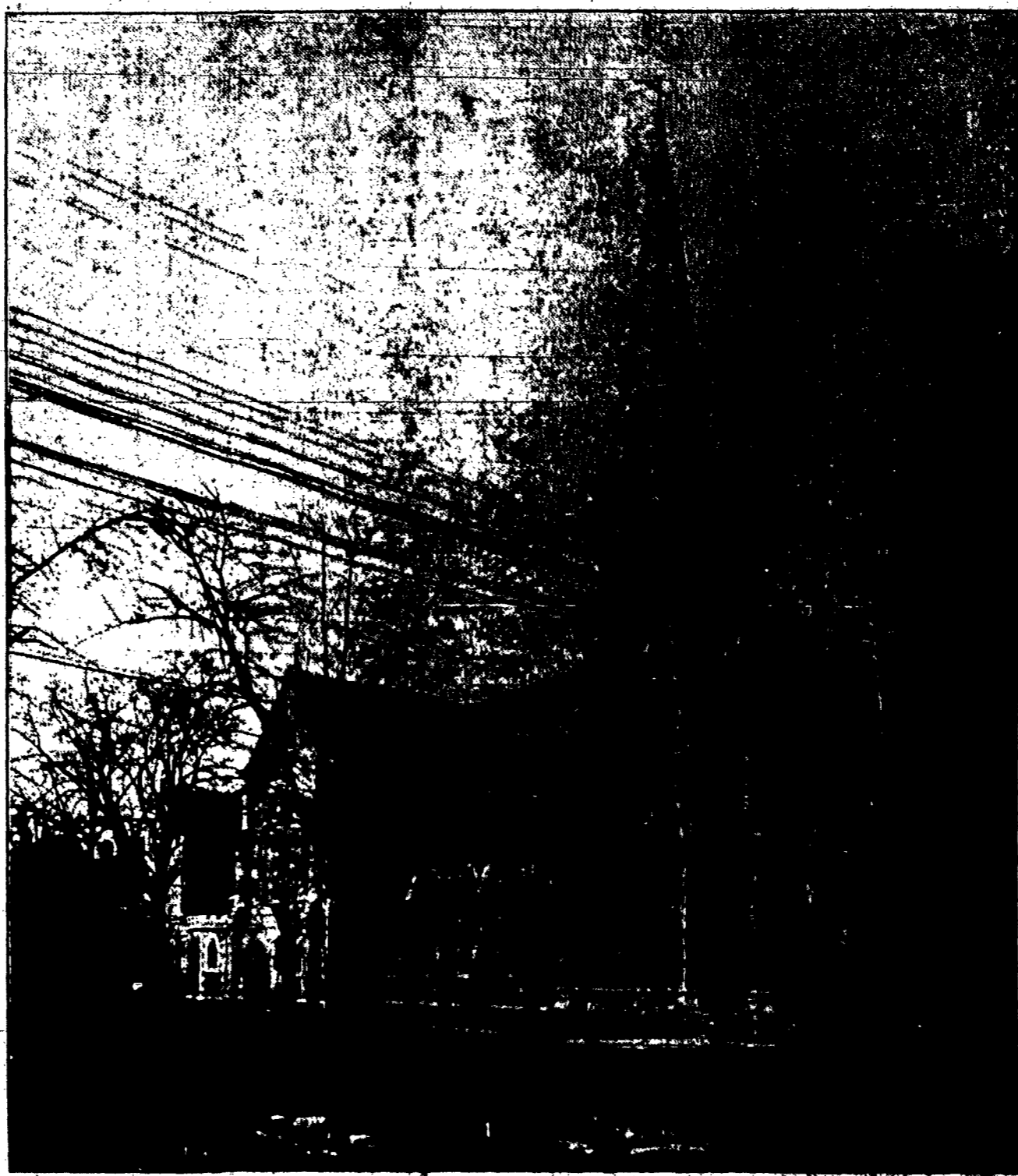
"The time has passed when we were the children of a foreign land; we are now the children of our own land."

It is fitting, then, that on such an occasion we should manifest, through some religious celebration, our thanks to the Almighty for the deliverance of our fathers from penal bondage, and also for their heroic fortitude and endurance which only His abounding grace made possible, and for the blessings, spiritual and temporal, bestowed upon our country during the century."

The Most Rev. Edward J. Byrne, Archbishop of Dublin, in his pastoral, says:

"One hundred years ago what is known as the Act of Catholic Emancipation passed into law, and it is only fitting that such a centenary should be celebrated by Irish Catholics with due solemnity. It was a measure not only of great importance in itself, in so far as it gave Irish Catholics an opportunity of voicing the many ills of their country on the only platform available at the time—the English Parliament—it was of greater importance still because it marked the end of a chapter, a long chapter of Protestant ascendancy and Catholic subjection, and because it put the Catholic on a level with his Protestant neighbor as far as the exercise of elemental civil rights was concerned."

"From the days of Henry the Eighth the Catholics of Ireland had been under the heaviest of laws. During long years they were treated as a separate and inferior race."



ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Where Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hara, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, will be consecrated on March 18, 1929.

Catholic Schools Of Vendee Lead In No. Of Pupils

By M. Maslini, (Paris Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service).

Paris, March 14.—The inspector of public instruction in the department of Vendee has just presented to the Council General of the department the results of his survey of the comparative numbers of pupils in the public schools and the Catholic schools of the district.

The primary schools conducted by the state in Vendee number 705, with 1,072 teachers and 22,330 pupils.

There are 402 Catholic primary schools, with 800 teachers, but these are required to look after the interests of 22,943 pupils. The Catholic schools thus have slightly more pupils than the public schools.

At the same time, it is to be noted that a number of villages in the district have only public schools, so that if Catholic institutions could be opened here the number of pupils in Catholic schools would be increased still further.

In the course of the last year, the report shows, the public schools lost 258 pupils, while the Catholic schools gained 1,351 pupils.

In the department of Maine-et-Loire the public primary schools have 23,864 pupils and the Catholic schools have 26,369 pupils. These, in 1928, were increased by 2,550.

Nun And Pupil Attend Inaugural

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cleveland, March 14.—Sister Florence, an Ursuline nun, and William Miller, her 14-year-old pupil in the eighth grade of Our Lady of Peace parish school here witnessed the inauguration of Herbert Hoover in Washington. They were in Washington as guests of the Cleveland which held an essay contest several months ago on "How to become an aviator."

The essay of about 500 words turned in by young Miller brought him the top to Washington. The terms were that the teacher of the year should accompany him.

\$150,000 Presented To Rosary College

Milwaukee, March 11.—Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lewis of Chicago have made a gift of \$150,000 to erect a memorial to Rosary College, River Forest, Ill., in honor of their mothers. The money, which was sent to the Dominican Sisters of the College, will be used to start a liberal arts building to be known as Lewis Hall.

FATHER RICARD GETS NEW SEISMOGRAPHS

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) San Clara, Cal., March 11.—Two new seismographs, built to record cataclysmic convulsions of the earth's surface have just been received here by Father Richard. They are so delicate that no company would insure them on their journey from Europe. The seismographs were made by Hugo Masning of Esthonia. They have been placed on a thick concrete floor in the observatory here in a vault insulated against temperature changes fourteen feet below the surface of the ground.

Cardinal Hayes Orders Near East Welfare Roll Call

New York, March 14.—The third annual roll call in New York City of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, whose headquarters are in Rome, began last Sunday.

The roll call was sanctioned by Cardinal Hayes, who is cardinal protector of the association. Nearly 100,000 persons already are members of the association in this Archdiocese. The roll call was for the purpose of renewing these memberships and increasing the number of subscribers.

The Catholic Near East Welfare Association was founded by decree of the Holy See on March 11, 1926. At that time various bodies were solicited aid in the United States on behalf of destitute Russian emigrants and the suffering peoples in the Near East. Pope Pius XI, in the interest of efficiency and economy, decided to unite all in one official body, which alone would be authorized to appeal to Catholics in America for these causes.

Under a board of directors consisting of three Cardinals, two Archbishops and two Bishops the association

Sister Is Appointed By Texas Governor

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Dallas, Texas, March 12.—Sister Mary Charles Wolf, of the Congregation of Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, who at present is directing the School of Nursing at St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, has been named by Governor Moody a member of the State Board of Nurse-Examiners for Texas.

Priest Again Fails To Climb Shasta

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) San Francisco, March 12.—Defeated for the fourth time in an attempt to climb the heights of Mount Shasta, the Rev. Bernard R. Hubbard, S. J., professor of geology at the University of Santa Clara, and five other men, began their attempt on the mountain today. The party reached a point within 3,000 feet of the summit.

Spain Raises Envoy's Rank At Jerusalem

(By Dr. Alexander Mombelli, Jerusalem Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service). Jerusalem, March 12.—The Government of Madrid has just raised its official representative in the Holy City to the rank of a Consul General. Heretofore the Spanish Consul, in spite of his seniority, has had to rank after the representatives of France, Italy, Austria and Poland, who have the title of Consul General. His new rank entitles him to precede at religious ceremonies as well as at civil receptions because of seniority in service.

Spiritual Council Achievements At Creighton

Student Life At College Raised To High Plane, Report For Semester Reveals

Omaha, Neb., March 14.—The semester report of the Student Spiritual Council of the Creighton University here reveals a number of notable achievements. The Council is composed of four members from each of the colleges of arts, commerce, journalism, medicine, pharmacy, law, and is divided into six spiritual committees, namely, the Eucharistic, Our Lady, Catholic thought, mission, publicity and social action.

The students have published in the "Public Pulse" column of an Omaha daily newspaper some 70 letters on such topics as tolerance, apostasy, prejudice, atheism, immortality of the soul, skepticism, atheism, etc. Several of these were in answer to letters containing false philosophy. It is not uncommon now to see letters saying, "Creighton student says," etc.

A "service flag" has been sponsored by the students in the university library. It contains 144 names of the graduates who have entered the priesthood or religious life. Four bulletins have been published in various places, and have been received, showing the interest of the students in the university library. Many of these, having graduated in the last three years, are already self-supporting.

Factory Wages

Washington, D.C., March 14.—Thirty thousand workers at work in 1927 than in 1926. The work week in 1927 was about 35 hours, but in 1926 it was about 40 hours. The value added in 1927 was about 1.5 billion dollars more than in 1926. The value added in 1927 was about 1.5 billion dollars more than in 1926. The value added in 1927 was about 1.5 billion dollars more than in 1926.

These figures are Federal census figures. Average weekly wages varied in 1927 from 1.50 to 2.50. The average weekly wage in 1926 was about 1.50. The average weekly wage in 1927 was about 2.00. The average weekly wage in 1927 was about 2.00.

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