

"Cradle Song" Sponsored by C. D. A. Given Delightful Interpretation

By CAROLYN RUTH DORAN

Elmira—Comedy within conventional life is the greater portion of the people who have formed misconceptions of nuns from their apparent austerity on formal occasions. Therefore, a drama like "The Cradle Song," although absurd in some of its details and exaggerated, of course, for the purpose of the theatrical design, is a refreshing revelation of the truth that religious women living in community life under strict rule, are after all, quite human, delightful and most of them altogether charming.

The choice of this excellent production, wherein the Davenport, as they are familiarly known, play the principal roles with expected skill and noteworthy professional appeal, was an excellent one; and Elmirans who attended the presentation offered last night in the Southside High School under the auspices of Court St. Rita, Catholic Daughters of America, were rewarded with memorable histrionic grace and exquisite delicacy in dramatic fare.

"The Cradle Song" is a comedy in two acts by Gregorio and Maria Martinez Sierra. The story is simple enough. It presents repeatedly the religious group of nuns, members of the Order of St. Dominic, in community life in most of its phases, omitting necessarily, except by suggestion, the very essence of that life. However, namely, that of hours of prayer in Chapel. Omitted also is what might prove an enlightening dissertation somewhere to the uninformed on what the vows of religious life mean, how they are applied, and their ultimate as well as their immediate purpose. The reverent treatment of the theme and of the character groups, both by playwright and interpreters, adds to the unique appeal of this dramatization.

That the Davenport, well known professionals with dignified traditions of their own, should bring this lovely drama to this part of the State is a reason for rejoicing; and I can give no greater tribute to Fanny Davenport than to state that her interpretation of the important role of Sister Joanna of the Cross rivals that of Miss LeGallienne in many of its details. Her voice, appearance and sympathy with the part are admirable; and many an eye was dim with tears as she elicited all the poignant tenderness from the role as the dramatic tale progressed.

Story Outlined The tale, set against the conventional background, pictures a typical Mother Superior, gentle, gracious, ruling her flock of professed and young religious the latter known as novices. A kindly doctor calls to care for the sick of the convent and is received with fitting ceremony. Speech through the grate of grilled partition as well as the custom in cloisters, precedes his entrance, as well as that of others who seek entrance. One mysterious caller, who refuses to make herself known, leaves a waif at the door, begging the nuns to take

Ambassadors to U. S.



Augusto Rosso (above), now Italian Ambassador to the United States, and Stanislaus Patek (below) now Polish Ambassador to the United States. The newly appointed ambassadors, both Catholics, recently entered upon their duties at Washington. Ambassador Rosso, though youthful, has had an enviable diplomatic career, having led his country's delegation to the League of Nations' deliberations at Geneva. Ambassador Patek, at one time Foreign Minister of Poland, has served as Polish envoy to Japan and at Moscow.

Activities in Auburn

By PAUL PINCKNEY A successful parish card party was held last Friday evening at the Grand in Water Street under the auspices of the three societies of St. Aloysius parish namely the Rosary and Scapular Society, the Young Ladies Sodality and the Holy Name Society. A large committee co-operated with the officers of the organizations in this social function, the last until after the Lenten season.

A social evening was enjoyed last Monday at the home of Court Auburn, Catholic Daughters of America, 44 South Street. A paper on the Eucharistic Congress was read by Mrs. M. M. Lucid, grand regent of Court Grimes, Syracuse. Mrs. Madel Woods, retiring district deputy, was the guest of honor. The entertainment and refreshments were in charge of Mrs. J. Joseph Byrne.

The Altar Society of St. Patrick's Church, Moravia, of which Mrs. Felix Quaranta is leader, has been very active during the past few weeks. At a recent card party held at the residence of Mrs. Quaranta on Grove Street, bridge and 500 were played at seven tables. Mrs. Howard Close won first prize at bridge and Miss Elizabeth Dugan second honors. At 500 Mrs. P. J. Murray was first and Mrs. Nellie Ford, second.

The Nocturnal Adoration Society held its monthly meeting Saturday evening, Feb. 25, at the Holy Family Church. At 9:30 o'clock there was a reception of new members followed by the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the hours of the night.

The St. Alphonsus "45" Club of Auburn won the second of a series of "45" games from the combined teams of St. Mary's Church of Skaneateles and St. Bernard's Church of Scipio this week at the St. Alphonsus Church Hall in Water Street. Daniel Brennan of Scipio won the first attendance prize and Carl Steigerwald of this city won the second prize. P. Fitzgerald, A. Connors and J. Witchell of Scipio were awarded other prizes. The third leg of the race will be played off at a later date.

The Young Ladies' Sodality of Holy Family Church enjoyed an informal pre-Lenten party Tuesday evening, Feb. 28, in the school auditorium. Officers and committee members in charge were the Misses Helen Conaty, Mary Kaiser, Irene Kenny, Connie McLean, Rita Graney, Mary Curry, Helen Hasset, Marie Fitzgerald, Marion Blumrick, Anne McGee, Irene Brunner, Mary Chifford, Veronica O'Hara, Mary Hayden, Betty Hart, Geraldine Lower, Florence McGee, Marjorie Dwyer, Margaret Brady, Helen and Mary Brown, Veronica Synnott, Margaret Keegan, Catherine Convery and Marie Walker.

WILL PUBLISH IN ITALIAN Genoa — A Catholic Seafarer's Prayer Book, based on the well-known seamen's Prayer Book which Father C. A. Martindale, S.J., compiled some years ago for English-speaking seamen, is about to be published in Italian by the Apostolate del Mare, Genoa Section. Fifty-two issues for \$2.50. Get a friend's subscription.

Pastor's Wednesday Sermons, Noonday Mass On Lenten Schedule at St. Parick's, Elmira

Elmira—Establishing a precedent in Elmira but following a custom already enthusiastically followed in New York City, Rochester and other large cities, the Lenten services announced Sunday at services in St. Patrick's Church included the notice that a noonday Mass will be offered in that parish daily at 12:15.

This innovation in the hour for one of the regular daily offerings of the Sacrifice of the Mass has been conceded at great inconvenience to the priests who serve the parish but with a view to giving accommodation to the hundreds whose business duties prevent them from following the recommendation to attend daily Mass during Lent contained in the Lenten pastoral letter sent to all parishes in the Rochester Diocese by the Most Rev. J. F. O'Hern, Bishop of Rochester.

No sermon is being preached at this service which is concluded daily at 12:40. This announcement of the noonday Mass will not change the regular two daily Masses of the early morning, these being continued each day at the regular hours of 7 and 8 o'clock.

Stations of the Cross will be said regularly on Friday nights during Lent at 7:30 p. m. for adults; and at 3:15 in the afternoon for children. The regular Wednesday night services in St. Patrick's Church consist of the recitation of the Rosary, a sermon and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, are having the added interest this year of a series of sermons preached by the pastor of St. Patrick's Church, the Rev. William J. Brien, M.A., S.T.L., Ph.D., whose pastorate includes this year his first Lenten period in his new appointment.

The series sermons follows a logical procedure of Catholic thought and doctrine as the titles indicate. These will be given on the Wednesday evenings of Lent under dates as follows: Mar. 8, "Religious Indifferentism"; Mar. 15, "What It Means to Be a Good Catholic"; Mar. 22, "The Church and the Home"; Mar. 29, "The Church and Courtship"; Apr. 5, "The Church and Modern Problems."

Auburn Branch of N. C. C. W. Organizes

Auburn—The Auburn Branch, National Council of Catholic Women, has been organized in this city. Mrs. William H. Moagher, today announced. It has been voted to hold regular meetings of the organization the second Tuesday evening of each month at the South Street home of the Court Auburn, Catholic Daughters of America.

Very Rev. Dean John A. Conway, pastor of Holy Family Church, is the spiritual director of the local unit and Miss Ida Ferry has been elected secretary.

A delicious lemon sauce for fish is made by pouring melted butter over three very thin slices of lemon.

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BISHOP BLESSING MONTAL... Los Angeles—Bishop of city State and Church was present at the blessing of the new \$100,000 unit of the Queen of Angels Hospital by the Most Rev. John J. Dowell, Bishop of Los Angeles and San Diego.

"BLUE NUNS" FOUNDER DIES London.—Mother Mary Michael, founder of the "Blue Nuns," world-famous Order of Nursing Sisters, has just died at the age of eighty-three years. She had been a religious fifty-five years.

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