

Rochester Diocesan Council of National Council of Catholic Men

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By FREDERICK J. MIX President of Rochester Diocesan Council N. C. C. M.

One of the actions taken by the Executive Committee of the N. C. C. M. at Washington was the adoption of a resolution heartily endorsing the campaign being carried on by the Most Rev. William A. Hekey, D.D., Bishop of Providence, with the assistance of the public authorities, to enforce the Laws of Rhode Island, and the City Ordinances of Providence, in the sale of immoral and indecent books.

While campaigns are being carried on and have been carried on throughout the country to rid newsstands and libraries of these publications, it is most heartening to note that real constructive action has been commenced in the Archdiocese of New York by the appointment of a body known as the Cardinal Hayes Literature Committee. This committee which consists of eight priests selected in the Archdiocese from among diocesan clergy and religious congregations, has formulated a constructive program. This committee evidently realizes that the important feature of a sustained success should be not merely the banishment of immoral and sensuous books and periodicals, but the building up of a public taste for a better kind of reading matter, and its program as formulated is laid out at length in the February Number of "Catholic Action" by the Chairman of the committee, the Very Rev. Arthur Scanlan, S.T.D., President of St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie.

Program in Four Parts The program is rather ambitious, but holds out much hope for immediate success. Dr. Scanlan divides the program, as to objects, into four parts: First: Readers: the cultivation among Catholics of a sound critical sense which would foster the reading of good books, and discourage the reading of bad books; Second: Publishers: to impress upon publishers the value and importance of the Catholic point of view, showing the publishers that to publish good books, and encouraging the Catholic press throughout the country to announce in its news columns the publication of good books, lending to the publishers the support of the Catholic Press for worthy publications; Third: Authors: the encouragement of Catholics to take their rightful place in the world of letters. Catholic colleges and seminaries are producing graduates every year in increasing numbers, whose scholarly training and literary ability fit them for authorship. The committee's program encourages those endowed with these talents by helping to develop a reading public and receptive publishers; Fourth: Cooperation: to cooperate and take the initiative in every movement which would tend to stem the tide of pernicious literature.

The strength of a well organized group has been found to be an effective method of getting results from publishers, libraries and business houses employed in the selling of books and magazines.

The importance of this work may be judged from the text of the resolution adopted at the annual meeting of the Bishops of the United States held at the Catholic University in Washington in November 1932. This resolution was evidently adopted for the guidance and encouragement of the program of the committee and for the instruction of the faithful.

Such a program enlists at once the support and cooperation of all Catholic papers and publications. They have been working to this end through their editorial columns for many years, and so find themselves in full accord with the Committee's purpose.

How can a "sound critical sense" which would foster the reading of good books and discourage the reading of bad books, be built up among the Catholic readers, except through the Catholic Press? How can the results of the work of this committee be communicated to the Catholic people, except through its columns? If the Catholics are to cooperate, they must do so by reading the only effective medium through which such a committee can speak—their Catholic weekly paper.

Historical Sketch

of the 1st N. Y. Regiment of the Knights of St. John Commanderies and Auxiliaries

1933 EDITION Compiled by LA. CHAS. H. MIRA

(Continued from Last Week)

The Rev. Dietrich Laurentz, the first spiritual adviser died in 1925. During the term of his pastorate at Holy Family he was a loyal and active member of St. Theodore Commandery. He was always ready with beneficial help and advice for all the members and guided the destinies of Commandery 137 with an unflinching hand. It was through his untiring devotion and assistance that the commandery increased in membership and made for itself a name well known and respected in the annals of the Knights of St. John both in Rochester and other cities in which knighthood exists. His passing was a great sorrow to the commandery. He was a true knight, a loyal member, a respected priest and a friend in need.

The Rev. Joseph E. Gofell succeeded Father Laurentz and is the present spiritual adviser of the commandery. He, too, like his predecessor, has taken up the work of promoting knightly light in the Order of St. John. He is assistant chaplain of the Rochester Regiment and has shown quite an active interest in the workings of the Order.

Jacob Wahl was the first delegate sent by 137 to the Supreme Commandery and served in this capacity for many years. Charles Claus, another charter member, also served in this capacity for many years. The latter took quite an interest in all the workings of the organization and promoted many affairs that were noteworthy in their achievement.

137 was at all times, well represented at the Knights of St. John Conventions. At the convention in Reading, Pa., twenty-one men attended in full dress uniform; as also at Cedar Point, Ohio, where twenty men in uniform represented St. Theodore Commandery.

The members, besides being active in knighthood, were interested in dramatics, sports and other forms of amusement, producing many well-attended plays, the proceeds of which helped materially to swell the treasury that is second to none in the city at the present time. In sports, especially bowling, the team composed of all members of 137 won a Catholic Bowling League championship and a beautiful silver loving cup. This team was composed of Fred Kuns, John Braun, Joseph Hols and A. Gehrs.

In addition to sports, St. Theodore's Commandery had a crack fire and drum corps for a number of years, the members of which attended several conventions and were given an ovation at these affairs. St. Theodore's Commandery Band, an outgrowth of the Drum Corps, also turned out on different occasions for the regiment. The present First Regiment band under the leadership of William C. Schwab is formed of members of this commandery band and it is well known and active in the turn-outs of the Rochester Regiment.

Nazareth Academy Echoes

On Saturday evening, March 11, Miss Angela Kelly, a student of the freshman class at Nazareth Academy, died at her home, 59 Rugby Avenue. She was buried from St. Augustine's Church, Tuesday, March 14. The following girls in Nazareth uniform acted as guards of honor: Dorothy Craig, Mary Ermatinger, Anne Jesserer, Mary Mance, Marjory Meng, Mary Russor, Jeannette Smalt and Grace Weisner. The funeral was attended by all her Nazareth classmates. While Angela is greatly missed at Nazareth, Sister Hilida's homeroom are consoled to know they have a special intercessor in heaven.

TO ANGELA

(Angela Kelly, freshman, Nazareth, died March 11, 1933) I think the angels beckoned to you, Angela, You who were like them in your loveliness; And raised their voices in the "Gloria" To greet your virgin soul in joyfulness. So why should we all stand about and sorrow, Knowing that we must also one day fare forth from earth upon another morning— When Angela will sweetly greet us there? —Grace Weisner '36

A Belgium Lourdes?

(Continued from Page One)

and come on the feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8). On ten successive evenings, just at dusk, the Blessed Virgin reappeared, remaining with them until they finished the recitation of the rosary when, opening her arms as if to embrace them, she disappeared quickly as the final Amen was uttered.

The children who witnessed this extraordinary occurrence were Gilberte and Andrea Degelmbré, sisters, fifteen and twelve years old, respectively, and three members of the Volsin family—Fernande, fifteen, Gilberte, twelve, and Albert, their younger brother. All are normal children of average intelligence, not nervous or imaginative, nor given to illusions. When questioned separately by Dr. Malstriaux, in presence of three other doctors, they gave the same account of the occurrence and answered the questions put to them in the same way. There is not the slightest reason to suspect collusion on their part, much less deception of any kind.

Recite Rosary Their attention was first attracted to the apparition as they knelt at the foot of the grotto; and each recollection of the phenomenon followed a few moments of prayer. As soon as the apparition appeared they began the recitation of the rosary and at its conclusion the "beautiful woman" vanished in thin air.

On one occasion they made bold to ask that she perform a miracle in broad daylight, but she only smiled and vanished. On another occasion they asked her to let them know what she wanted them to do and the only answer was a smile of ineffable sweetness. It is reported that during the apparition of December 17, the Blessed Mother asked that a chapel be erected in that place.

During the thirty-second apparition, which took place on January 3, the Blessed Virgin said to the children, "Tomorrow I shall have something to say to each of you." You may easily imagine the anxiety with which they awaited the moment when she would make known to them her wishes. An immense crowd from all parts of Belgium and beyond gathered in the vicinity of the convent in anticipation of the event. More than one hundred doctors were in attendance to watch the children and question them.

At the usual hour, about 6:30 in the evening, the children arrived at the grotto, fell on their knees and began the recitation of the Rosary in the high-pitched voice characteristic of their state of exaltation. At the end of the first decade they suddenly became silent and remained so until the apparition passed away, when they were questioned separately about what the "mysterious lady" had said to them. Gilberte Volsin replied "She simply said, Adieu." To Gilberte Degelmbré she said, "I will convert sinners, Adieu." Albert Volsin declared, "She told me one thing which she asked me not to repeat, and another thing which I do not know whether to repeat or not." Andrea Degelmbré asserted that the words she heard were, "I am the Mother of God and the Queen of Heaven. Pray without ceasing, Adieu." With Fernande Volsin the Blessed Mother held a longer conversation. "Do you love my Son?" she asked. "I do," replied Fernande. "Do you love me also?" "Yes," "Make sacrifices for me." Outcome Mystery

What the outcome of these remarkable manifestations will be no one can say. The children and practically every one familiar with what has taken place at Beauring are convinced that they are supernatural. All await developments. While saying the rosary during the apparition the children appeared to be in ecstasy, utterly insensible to their surroundings and to contact with the world. To test them the doctor held lighted matches against

THE AWAKENING

I dreamt I was in Heaven, Where everything is bright, Away up there, in Heaven— With God in all His might.

I dreamt I was in Heaven, By an angel, I was led, But when the clock struck seven, I found myself in bed. —Edith Habersger, Nazareth Academy.

Correspondence

Editor, Catholic Courier: I have read with interest many eulogies of St. Patrick which appeared during the past few days in the Catholic and secular press, including the excellent one in your last issue of the "CATHOLIC COURIER" but none of them seem to give the real significance of St. Patrick's legacy to the Christian world.

St. Patrick planted Christianity in Ireland and made it part of the Christian organization, of which the Roman Empire was the framework. The Christian faith had been established in the provinces of Gaul, Spain and Britain, but the Church in Ireland had to stand alone without any practical support from the Roman world, for the framework of the Roman Empire was already disintegrating.

The Roman armies had been withdrawn from Britain 20 years before the coming of St. Patrick; the Saxon pirates Hengist and Horsa, with their pagan hordes were making successful raids on Britain; the Franks and Burgundians had crossed the Rhine and invaded Gaul; the pagan Visigoths were ravaging Spain; the Vandals in Africa had looted the episcopal see of the great St. Augustine; the Lombards took possession of Northern Italy and Alaric marched his barbarians up to the very gates of Imperial Rome. When the turbulent wave of advancing anarchy had partially subsided, the ecclesiastical schools founded by the disciples of St. Patrick had to bring back to Britain and to continental Europe the religion and learning brought to them by the Roman Patriarch.

The school of Armagh flourished under the young Bishop Benignus, its first head; St. Bridget, the first of Irish women saints, founded a convent at Kildare which was a center of religious culture of more importance were the schools of St. Eada in Aran, of St. Feinan at Clonard on the Boyne; St. Keiran at Clonmacnoise and the group of schools founded by St. Columba. Archbishop Healy of Tuam, in his "Irish Saints" tells us that there were only three thousand theological students at Clonard at the beginning of the Sixth Century, and the school is flourishing today. One of its graduates being our beloved National Chaplain of the A. O. H., Archbishop Glennon of St. Louis.

This is St. Patrick's gift to the Christian world. He made Ireland a Catholic nation. He also made her a missionary nation. Ireland is the only Catholic nation in the English speaking world today and due to her missionary zeal the Catholic Church is flourishing in Australia, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, and the United States, and a list of the names of the Bishops in these countries might readily be mistaken for a roster of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

—Martin K. Feeolon, Chairman Irish History, A. O. H. their hands, pricked their faces with the blade of a knife and pinched their limbs, but there was no reaction. When the vision passed away and they came out of the ecstasy, the burns on their hands had disappeared entirely.

As in the case of Bernadette at Lourdes, they alone saw the apparition. The people who surrounded them, watching intently, were not so favored. Every effort was made to prevent the exploitation of the children and the commercializing of the occurrence. The Mother Superior forbade them to discuss the matter among themselves or with the pupils of the school.

She admitted that she was very sceptical about the whole affair until the doctors attested the state of ecstasy of the witnesses, their physical insensibility to pain, and the categorical agreement in regard to the facts of a glimpse of the Blessed Mother. The simple faith of these people prompted them to regard the occurrence as supernatural, as did the children themselves. Of course, there were among the crowds not a few who scoffed at the idea of anything of the sort and tried to explain what had occurred in a natural manner.

No Disorder The civil authorities contented themselves with guarding the place to prevent the people from destroying property or carrying away souvenirs, but made no attempt to disperse the gathering. There was no disorder. The majority were saved by the solemnity of the occasion and gave themselves to prayer in the hope of seeing what the children saw. When consulted about the phenomenon, the ecclesiastical authorities manifested a prudent reserve and refused to discuss the affair. In the absence in Rome of Bishop Heylen of Namur, in whose diocese Beauring is located, the coadjutor Bishop, Monsignor Cawet, when apprised of the apparition, advised the pastor of the parish and the clergy in general to remain away from the scene. The possibility of such an occurrence was not denied; but in such people of Belgium.

Mercy High School Notes

By ANN MORAN Dr. James Norman Eastham, a member of the faculty of Nazareth College, gave an inspiring talk to the students of Our Lady of Mercy High School in the Assembly Hall, Tuesday, March 21. As this week is known as National Vocation Week, Dr. Eastham addressed the girls on careers in general.

The first debate to be given by the students of Our Lady of Mercy High School was held Thursday, March 23. The question was "Resolved, that the railroads should be owned and operated by the United States government." The affirmative side was upheld by Florence Armstrong, Rita Knaut, and Dorothy Pallott. The opponents were Bernice Cahill, Alice Echter, and Jeannette Thompson.

Our Lady of Mercy High School will hold its fifth annual retreat for the students Sunday, March 26, to Wednesday, March 29. Rev. Peter J. Cusick, S.J., director of the Shrine of the Jesuit martyrs at Auriesville, New York, will be the retreat master. He has been stationed at Auriesville for three years and is noted as a great retreat master.

The retreat will open at three o'clock, Sunday afternoon, with an instruction and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The alumnae association of Our Lady of Mercy High will return to the school on Sunday, March 26, for Communion, Mass and breakfast. Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Peter J. Cusick, S.J., the retreat master.

A general meeting of the alumnae will be held in the Assembly Hall after breakfast. The president, Etta Marie Hoberle, will preside.

Catholic Women Form New Guild

A new unit of the Catholic Women's Federation was formed Tuesday evening at St. Joseph's Hall and will be known as "St. Joseph's Guild." Officers elected were: Spiritual Adviser, the Rev. Joseph J. Gofell; President, Mrs. Madge Spiegel; First Vice President, Mrs. Benedict Shumann; Second Vice President, Miss Louisa Link; Recording Secretary, Mrs. M. Meisenbach; Financial Secretary, Miss K. Kleinhaus; and Treasurer, Miss Mary Finucane. St. Joseph's Guild will become affiliated with the Catholic Women's Union of New York State which organization held its state convention here last Labor Day.

At the meeting of the Catholic Women's Federation Tuesday, officers of that society were all re-elected for another year as follows: Spiritual Adviser, Father Gofell; President, Miss Louise Meyers; First Vice President, Mrs. Spiegel; Second Vice President, Miss Susie Stritt; Recording Secretary, Miss Mary Finucane; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Anna Kastner; Treasurer, Miss Stella Drexler.

Brother Ambrose Dies Suddenly, 52

New York — Brother Ambrose, whose name was Edward F. Dwyer before he entered the Order of Christian Brothers, died suddenly on Saturday, according to an announcement made Sunday at Manhattan College, where he was Professor of Philosophy. A Mass of requiem was offered in the college chapel at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. Burial took place in the Brothers' plot in Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Brother Ambrose was born in December, 1880, at Troy, N. Y. There he received his elementary education in the parochial schools, later attending St. Joseph's Normal Institute in Amawalk, N. Y. As teacher or principal he subsequently served at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Holy Name School and the La Salle Academy, Manhattan; La Salle Academy, Providence, R. I., and St. John's Academy, Syracuse. Fordham University made him a doctor of philosophy.

OLDEST PRIEST DIES St. Leo, Fla.—The Rev. Augustine Feller, O.S.B., 83, oldest priest in the community, has just died at St. Leo Abbey.

NUNS FEED 1,000 DAILY Montreal.—The Sisters of Providence here are providing food every day for a thousand unemployed men.

matters the Church always acts with the greatest reserve and caution and awaits developments without prejudice to the case. The affair has caused a profound sensation throughout Belgium. The public await further developments, confident that if the Blessed Virgin really appeared to these little ones, she will make known the reason for the manifestation—and also her wishes. This remarkable event is considered a forerunner of special graces for the country and an augury of heaven's blessing on the people of Belgium.

N. C. C. W. Study Club Program To Be Noted at Deanery Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Rochester Deanery Council of the National Council of Catholic Women will be held on Friday evening, March 24, at eight o'clock, in the library of the Columbus Civic Center.

A special program has been arranged for the meeting by Mrs. Emily M. O'Donnell, Diocesan Chairman of Study Clubs, as follows: Miss Catherine Meyering will read a paper on "The Significance of the Pan-American Celebration." Reports of the various study groups of organizations affiliated with the N. C. C. W. throughout the city will be made: Miss Mary Moran reporting for the Nazareth College group studying International Relations; Mrs. Perry J. Burke for the Poetry Group of the Catholic Women's Club; Miss Eleanor Roche for the Poetry Group of Nazareth College Alumnae and Student body; Miss Elizabeth Roby for Court Reporter 139, C. D. of A., studying Church History.

Nazareth College Travel group report will be made by Miss Elinor Craig; Catholic Evidence Guild by Miss Helen Quigley; Study of Family and Parent Education, Sacred Heart Academy, by Mrs. Margaret U. May; Study of the Mass

by Mrs. Susan Annand; St. Paul and Paul's Auxiliaries; St. John's will be reported by Mrs. Elizabeth E. Kane and Mrs. George Wiseman. Mrs. Joseph O'Connell will report for the Women Workers' Study Club. Mrs. Joseph O'Connell will report for the Women Workers' Study Club. Mrs. Joseph O'Connell will report for the Women Workers' Study Club.

Book reviews and current topics under the leadership of Mrs. Mary MacCarthy will be reported by Mrs. Anna O'Connell for the Women's Club; Mrs. Loretta O'Connell for the Women's Club; Mrs. Loretta O'Connell for the Women's Club.

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