

1893—St. Bernard's Seminary—1933

Looking Forward to September When St. Bernard's Will Be Forty Years Old, The CATHOLIC COURIER Presents a Series of Articles on Diocesan Seminary of Interest to All.

FORTY YEARS AFTER

By THE RT. REV. MGR. WILLIAM M. HART, V.C.

On the fourth day of September of 1893 Bishop McQuaid welcomed the first students to St. Bernard's Seminary. He found the day a happy one for him in the pride of a great achievement. Twenty-five years of planning twenty-five years of saving; twenty-five years of sacrifice, were built into that great structure now receiving its first quota of students for the Holy Priesthood. The Bishop with his advisors did the planning: Bishop, Priests and people did the saving: Bishop, Priests and people made the required sacrifices.

And now as the leader of Catholic Rochester and its sister cities of the diocese, Bishop McQuaid takes his stand at the portals of an edifice that was to be the diocese as well as to dioceses throughout the country and beyond the source of countless blessings. For sixteen years in person he was to welcome each new group of young Levites as they presented themselves to be trained for the ministry of Jesus Christ: for all the years to come, his spirit was to hover over the vaulted entrance to St. Bernard's Seminary to inspire and encourage those who were answering the call of vocation, who were ready to make their own the manifold advantages offered by this training school for priests.

Review—Accomplishments

In words prophetic did the great Bishop speak when blessing the cornerstone in 1892 of the future of the seminary. Perhaps he felt a little over-enthusiastic as he painted the picture of the growth it was to have: perchance his hearers were not ready to see all the glories he painted for his beloved school of learning. But history has given us a far more glorious picture than the Bishop dared to depict, a more splendid history of extensive service than the people dared to depict, a more splendid history of extensive service than the people dared to hope for. To us who live forty years after, it is given to review the accomplishments of St. Bernard's Seminary, the high standard of ecclesiastical scholarship it has set, the far-famed faculty of gifted professors each one a master in his subject, the record of the many hundreds of priests who have gone forth from its halls fully prepared for the work of the ministry.

In every part of the United States, in many of the dioceses of Canada, in far away China and Korea, in the Philippine Islands, in the West Indies, the graduates of St. Bernard's Seminary have labored for souls, have given themselves and their talents for the good of Holy Mother Church, have made effective unto the salva-

tion of countless thousands of souls the solidly spiritual philosophical and theological training given to them by their Alma Mater.

Bishop McQuaid was a man of vision. He came to a diocese that was poor, that had no rich members; he came to a diocese as yet undeveloped, to a people who needed more priests to care for their spiritual wants. He would not be satisfied with a partially trained priest, he felt that for the service of God only the most thoroughly prepared would do. What a wealth of courage he must have had even to contemplate the building of two seminaries, in face of the poor financial status of his flock!

Salvation of Souls

What faith in God and trust in His help dwelt within the heart of this holy man! "Salus Animarum lex Suprema" was the motto inscribed on his Coat-of-Arms: the salvation of souls is the supreme law. It was for Bishop McQuaid always the highest law. He knew the salvation of souls was to be brought about through the ministry of priests. Therefore did he set out even in the beginning of a difficult episcopate to found two seminaries in which he could train priests for the service of God and the salvation of souls.

What a glorious retrospect would be his if he were still living! To see his students in such great numbers and in such a variety of places, ministering to the children of the Church, to see the growth that has come to the Church in numbers and in influence through the work they have done and the work they are doing, to behold the beneficent power of his great Seminary manifested in the strength of new parishes, in the beauty of great churches, in the enrichment of the souls of the faithful, all brought about by the labors of alumni under the grace of God.

In everlasting bronze his features are kept constantly before the view of present day students, in the stately monument erected by the Rev. John B. Petter, S.T.B., of the Seminary Faculty with the aid of members of the alumni, on the grounds just south of Philosophy Hall. The superb landscaping of this plot, the artistic arrangement of shrubbery and trees, represent a labor of love on the part of Father Petter for the great Founder of St. Bernard's and for the Seminary itself. As you pass along Lake Avenue—Boulevard—you are bound to let your eyes seek out the splendid memorial to Bishop McQuaid and the restful beauty of the park in which it is placed.

Thanks Early Catholics

To the early Catholics of Rochester the present generation must turn in tribute and thankfulness for the solid support they gave to Bishop McQuaid; without them it would have been impossible to build up St. Bernard's Seminary. They were poor people, their incomes were far less than the average income of today. But they were rich in the treasures of the Faith. They knew the need, and they made the required sacrifices. They have passed on—and we may be sure that no one of them has ever had occasion in this world or in the world to which they have been called, to regret the gifts they made for St. Bernard's Seminary and its work. Day after day they are remembered with other benefactors of the Seminary through all the years in which it shall continue to serve the Church of God. Others may forget them, friends and relatives may be neglectful, but they shall know the succor and help of the prayers of the students in all the days to come.

Chief among the benefactors of the Seminary must be numbered the great body of priest-professors, who at the call of the Bishop fitted themselves for a lifetime of labor in the classroom, for a lifetime given to study and research, for a lifetime absolutely dedicated to the welfare of the young men who were to go forth as priests of God. All the diocesan mourners the passing of our late-revered brethren and Fathers in God:—Monseigneur Andrew B. Meehan, Rev. Edmund J. Wirth, Rev. Andrew V. Byrne, Rev. Prosper Libert, Rev. Father McFetrich, Rev. Father Latham, and the others who have been called from this world. In subsequent articles, a word shall be said also of those still laboring at St. Bernard's and still striving to maintain the high standards of discipline and learning set by Bishop McQuaid.

Forty Years After the beginning of all these things, we look back to the day of the dedication of St. Bernard's Seminary. We pray for those who have done so much for us. We pray that we may be worthy children of the early benefactors of the Seminary, of the men and women who gave each year of their need to its support.

Listen to Seminary Letter

Listen well Sunday, September 3, to the reading of the first part of the 1933 Seminary Letter in your parish church. Make September a month given over entirely to Seminary interests: think of the Seminary, pray for its sake for it, and determine to make your gift this year a REAL JUBILEE GIFT: not \$1.00 or \$2.00, but as much as your resources will permit you to give. St. Bernard's needs you NOW as it needed your parents FORTY YEARS AGO. The \$1.00 or \$2.00 gift of your parents would be the equivalent of \$10.00 or \$20.00 today. Ask the Lord to prompt you to help your Pastor to raise a sufficient amount to enable his parish to bear its full share of Seminary support. Be one of those who will give \$50.00, \$25.00, \$10.00 to the annual COLLECTION FOR THE DIOCESAN SEMINARIES. Do something for the Church of God and also for your own soul by remembering St. Bernard's Seminary in your will.

Holds High Post



Frank C. Walker, of Butte, Mont., and New York City, who has been appointed by President Roosevelt as executive secretary of the newly formed executive council of the national recovery where he will act as the liaison man between the federal recovery unit and the President. Mr. Walker will be the "supercordinator", perhaps the most important administrative post in the government. He is a graduate of Notre-Dame University and a member of the board of trustees.

Knights of St. John Lose Close Game At Auburn Prison

Auburn—Commandery No. 40, of Rochester, leaders in the Knights of St. John Baseball League lost a "heartbreaker" to the Auburn Prison Team last Sunday, in a game here that went eleven innings with the final score 5 to 4.

Joseph Gutberlet pitched a fine game for the Rochester team, going the entire eleven innings. He walked only four men.

Joe Fischer hit a terrific drive in the seventh inning for a home run scoring Johnny Memmel ahead of him. Fischer, Maler and Memmel featured at the bat for the losers with two hits apiece. Errors in the first and eleventh innings proved disastrous for Commandery 40.

The Rev. Frederick Walz, assistant pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church made the trip with the seventeen members of the Commandery.

Sailors of Fleet Impress at Mass In San Francisco

San Francisco.—Headed by Admiral J. M. Reeves, commander of the United States battle force, thousands of sailors and marines, with scores of officers from every ship in the fleet, attended the solemn High Mass for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the navy at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sunday of last week.

Praising the work of the navy as guardian and protector of the rights of men, the Most Rev. Edward J. Hanna, Archbishop of San Francisco, preached an eloquent sermon of welcome.

Arising at dawn, many blue-jackets fasted until almost noon in order to receive Holy Communion at the solemn Mass. From the line of march into the Cathedral, sailors from ships not having a Catholic chaplain, sent a request that provision be made for a chaplain to hear their confessions, in order that they might receive Holy Communion.

Particularly solemn and impressive was the spectacle of the uniformed sailors humbly kneeling at the altar to receive their Divine Master in the Holy Eucharist.

Read Sport-o-Graphs on page eight if you recall the old Catholic baseball league.



The Last Farewell

IT IS gratifying to feel that the final services are a fitting tribute to your loved ones.

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Camp Stella Maris

The obvious thing about Camp Stella Maris now is its silence. Everything is as silent as the grave. Even the birds and squirrels seemed puzzled. Says one squirrel to the other: "The nuts have gone."

Wednesday afternoon the crack Scout Troop 38 of St. Mary's Church in Danaville came over with a band and stayed for the afternoon and evening. An athletic meet was arranged including baseball, track, volley ball and swimming. After fierce competition Camp Stella Maris took the cake with their crack swimmers and divers. In the evening a mammoth campfire was put on, everyone contributing something to the general merriment. Troop 200 presented the skit, "The Gathering of the Nuts," to the great amusement of the "nuts" chosen. Troop 38 presented "The Cracked Regiment," Non-scouts offered a skit called "The Prize Catch." The St. Mary's Alumni Band played several numbers. The chaplain then told a story called "The Mummy's Last Grin." Before it finished the boys were rolling on to the grass to keep from holding on to the earth. (Body survived!)

This meeting of Troops 38 and 200 (St. Mary's in Danaville and St. Boniface of Rochester) probably brought together the two crack Scout Troops of the Diocese. It was admirable to see their spirit and loyalty as they fought for points. We hope that arrangements will soon be made to hold competitive meets between the different Troops of the Diocese.

Word was received Thursday morning that Grandpa Heaslip has been successful in a wrestling match that has been going on since June 1st. He had been wrestling with a wild bull. The Camp celebrated this great event by holding a circus. Horses, automobiles, trucks, oven-Fords, partook in the procession which wound around the half field. Horse-racing, polo matches and all sorts of stunts took place. (Poor horses!) In the fancy saddle class, Hanging Belly, took first prize.

The Friday evening Camp-fire showed the burial of the ex-head-counselor-Joe Cline, and the baptism of the new head-counselor, Walter Fischer. The slow creeping ambulance, the funeral march by Vin Collins, the silent grave on the beach and the awed campers, footed passing cars into the belief that a real burial was taking place. After a stirring sermon on the good qualities of the deceased, the body was covered with sand and taps were sounded. After the baptism of the new leader, (and what a baptism!) the dead arose and told a fine story of Father Brown and Flambeau. The work was kept with watermelon donated by Miss Schaefer, Scoutmaster of Troop 200. What a wake!

Scouts were busy all week enjoying themselves and earning merit badges of various kinds. The most notable was the attainment by six scouts, of

the merit badges of Swimming and Life Saving, making them Juniors in the Red Cross Life Corps. Their names are as follows: John Dray, Tom Molyer, Paul Halling, Paul Leskoski, Tom Hall and Pat Kreckel. All of them passed with flying colors under the training of John Merkliger, Life Guard Examiner in the Red Cross Life Corps. Congratulations, boys!

Four Seniors in the Red Cross Life Corps were also passed this week after strenuous tests: Charles Dodge, James Slattery, Dick Burns and Ray Wahl. The last three are councilors at the Camp. Every councilor is now a Senior Guard.

DO NOT FORGET—AUGUST 30th! That is the day of our Social and Bazaar at Camp on Coosauk Lake. Boating, swimming, baseball, races of all kinds, and out of all kinds. From two o'clock until you care to go home! The Card Party begins at two o'clock; supper is served from 5 until 8 o'clock. Life Guards will be provided for the afternoon. We especially invite the campers and their parents.

MASS CELEBRATED IN OLIVE PARK.—(NCWO)—The Rochester Congress of the Diocese of Rochester closed with a solemn High Mass celebrated in the open air at the clubhouse, by the Most Rev. Rene Pierre Mignen, Archbishop of Quebec. A magnificent altar with decorations of modern style was erected on a cliff dominating the port of St. George, at the farthest point of the diocese.

Oil of pennyroyal sprinkled in places infested by ants will soon frighten them away.

To make all stockings, socks, or shirt collars and cuffs, wash them in warm water with soap and soda.

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