

Southern Tier Priests Join Parishioners To Honor Father Balcerak



At the speakers table Sunday at the testimonial dinner held by parishioners of St. Casimir's Church, Elmira, for their former pastor, the Rev. Joseph A. Balcerak, now pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, Rochester, were the above as follows: Seated, left to right, the Rev. Ladislav Szecepanski, Father Balcerak's successor at St. Casimir's Church; the Rev. Augustine P. Tomaszewski of Corning; Mayor Harry W. Honan, Standing, the Rev. Leo G. Schwab, the Rev. Francis J. Lane, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Lee, V. F.; the Rev. William J.'Brien; the Rev. M. B. Gordon; the Rev. Anthony J. Richard; the Rev. Thomas J. Toole.

St. Casimir Parish, Elmira, Honors Fr. Joseph A. Balcerak at Dinner

New St. Stanislaus Pastor Lauded by Priest Associates and Laity For 15 Years Achievements As St. Casimir Pastor

Elmira—Clergy and laity joined Sunday evening at a dinner in St. Casimir's parochial school hall to pay honor to the Rev. Joseph A. Balcerak, for fifteen years pastor of St. Casimir's here and now pastor of St. Stanislaus Church in Rochester. A substantial purse was presented Father Balcerak as a token of appreciation for his zealous sacerdotal endeavors here and for his achievements in educational work in the parish.

Regret over his departure from Elmira and best wishes for success as head of the larger parish in Rochester were expressed by speakers, both clerical and lay.

Responding to the tribute paid to his work in the past and to the expressions of hope for his future endeavors, Father Balcerak took occasion to speak his appreciation for the cooperation given him during his period of service in Elmira.

Successor Offers Prayer—The Rev. Augustus E. Tomaszewski, pastor of St. Vincent's Church, Corning, acted as toastmaster and introduced the new pastor of St. Casimir's, the Rev. Ladislav Szecepanski as the first speaker. Speaking both in Polish and English, the latter offered prayers for Father Balcerak's success in his new pastorate in Rochester.

Mayor Harry W. Honan extended greetings and welcome on the part of the city and traced the achievements of St. Casimir's under Father Balcerak, "which are not confined to members of parish but open to all."

In observing the accomplishments of the honored guest, City Manager CARUSO'S Restaurant 21 ELM ST. ROCHESTER, N. Y. Italian and American Cooking Dining—Orchestra—Dancing (Saturday Nights Only) A LA CARTE SERVICE Luncheon—11 a. m. to 2 p. m. Dinner—5 p. m. to 9 p. m. TELEPHONE: MAIN 1287

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ANNIVERSARY OF PACT NOTED BY PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page 1)

representative of the city's mayor, and many other notables. Members of the Newman Club of the University of Pennsylvania were ushers. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. F. X. Wastl and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fenton J. Fitzpatrick served as attendants on the Cardinal, while the masters of ceremony were the Rev. F. J. Furey and the Rev. Joseph Carr.

"That the sequi-centennial of the ratification of this treaty should be the subject of special celebration by American Catholics," Dr. Tallou said, "follows from the peace, prosperity, and freedom which the Church in America has enjoyed as the result of the founding of the American Commonwealth. The treaty itself, though it begins with the solemn words, 'In the name of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity,' makes no reference to religious liberty, but the first important State document of the new nation, the ordinance of 1787, creating the North-west Territory, provided that no one should be molested on account of his mode of worship and the well known first amendment to our Constitution, adopted two years later, laid down that Congress should make no law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

On our present experience of religious liberty where freedom of worship is so much taken for granted, it is hard to realize the extent of State interference with the personal laws of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In the English Colonies in America, even in those founded as a refuge for persons persecuted on account of religion in their native land, there was no toleration of 'Papists,' except in Maryland, where it was later revoked, and in our own Pennsylvania, so that for a time the colony of William Penn was the only territory under the British flag where Catholics were free and untrammelled in the open practice of their faith. Freedom of conscience, without which man cannot be in perfect enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, in the familiar phrase of the Declaration of Independence, came only with the founding of the nation by the ratification of the treaty whose sequi-centennial is observed today.

Land of Opportunity "America, unlocked for the world by the Catholic Columbus, explored and settled by so many Catholics whose names are the possession of every school child, when it gave to mankind a nation founded on practical ideals of civil and religious liberty, opened up to persecuted Catholics a land of opportunity, for whose blessings we gather this morning to render thanks to the Giver of every good and perfect gift. "Catholicity in America is no mere abstract philosophy of life but a definite program of living. So we find Sunday Mass and Friday abstinence observed without compromise; devotion to the Church is practically evidenced by self-sacrificing generosity in the building and maintenance of churches and schools, of hospitals and asylums; American efficiency has contributed to the organization of Catholic societies and the propagation of religious movements. Catholics in America have applied to the work of religion the same pioneer spirit which banished the frontier and reclaiming the wilderness and the same practical efficiency which has made American business a revolution.

Head of Diocese Makes Call On Elmira Parishes

Elmira—Archbishop Mooney visited all the parishes here last week, conferred with each of the pastors regarding affairs in their respective parishes and in some cases inspected parochial buildings. This tour of inspection included St. Joseph's Hospital.

While here, the Bishop of Rochester was the guest of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Lee, pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church and head of the Elmira deanery.

Life Saving Classes Being Organized At Civic Centre Pool

Enrollment for the 1934 classes in Senior and Junior Life Saving at Columbus Civic Centre is now taking place. It was announced this week by Wilbur E. Quinn, Physical Director.

For the past three years the club has conducted winter and summer courses, and during this time over two hundred men, women, girls, and boys have been instructed in the fundamentals of Life Saving. In order to carry out the objects of this service members who wish to take the course must enroll early so they may be divided into different classes.

Penn Yan C. D. of A. Forms Junior Court

Penn Yan.—Junior Court for girls between the ages of 12 and 18 is being organized by Court St. Michael, Catholic Daughters of America.

in commercial enterprise. So today we see the Church in the United States, vigorous and enlightened and alive; as conservative as Rome, and as progressive as America. "As the country itself has grown, so has the Church in America developed from the bare 25,000 Catholics of 150 years ago to the over 20,000,000 organized into the 104 dioceses of today. The cavalcade of Catholicity in America which marched by companies at the time of the treaty ratified a century and a half ago, soon made a column of regiments, and today moves in divisions.

Auburn Circle of Columbian Squires Officers Elected

By PAUL W. PINCKNEY

Auburn—Plans are now being formulated for social and athletic activities of the year for the newly formed St. Alphonsus Church Circle of the Columbian Squires, which received its charter last week from the Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus.

Charter members of the Squires include: John Beer, Charles Beer, Joseph Bishop, Anthony Boglione, John H. Clifford, Rocco Crizzo, Charles Fleck, Gordon Furlong, John Richard Gauthier, Joseph Gaynor, Robert Grismer, William Spencer Guyle, Edward Hanlon, Paul Hoster, Francis Hickey, Henry Hickey, Paul Hickey, Wilbur Hockeborn, Thompson Howland, William Klerst, Paul Ham Kinsella, Bertrand Kleintjes, Paul Kleintjes, John La Vannais, Robert McGrath, Rocco Malvaso, William Maywalt, Howard C Morgan, Paul McLane, John McLaughlin, James Mulally, Richard Nangle, Joseph O'Grady, James O'Neill, John Perkins, William Petty, Leo Pinckney, Robert Rumpf, Karl J. Schreck, Jr., Frederick Simmonds, Anthony Socci, Albert Steigerwald, Robert Sweeney, Bernard Tobin, Thomas Van Ripper and John Wallace.

Many Attend Funeral Of Anthony Cefaratti

Auburn—More than 150 automobiles were in the funeral cortege Saturday of Anthony Cefaratti, 27, who died Wednesday of last week when the motor truck he was driving struck a tree near Andover, N. Y. Rev. L. A. Jones celebrated a solemn high Mass at St. Francis d'Assisi Church; Rev. Father Eugene, deacon; and Rev. Pietro Mola, s.d.s., deacon. Interment was in St. Joseph's Cemetery. The funeral cortege from the church to the cemetery was one of the longest which Auburn has witnessed in recent years.

The Holy Eucharist is a fire that destroys our sins—St. John Damascene. In actual life every good enterprise begins with and takes its first forward step in faith—Schlegel.

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