

Finds Few Catholic Inmates Of Prison Were Church-Goers

(By N. C. W. O. NEWS SERVICE)

Elmira, N. Y.—Figures show that in the past 12 years, less than one-fourth of the Catholics committed to Elmira Reformatory attended to their religious duties regularly prior to their arrest, declares the Rev. Francis J. Lane, Catholic chaplain at the reformatory in his new book, "Twelve Years in a Reformatory."

"Fifteen months," he writes, "was the average time since they had received the sacraments. Only 20 per cent of them received the moral and religious training that our Catholic schools include in their curriculum, and over half of this number left the Catholic school before completing the sixth grade. Twenty per cent claim to have been graduated from a parochial school."

Continuing, Father Lane says, that "if we are to hope for a decrease in the number of youthful criminals, we must turn to the parents who are directly responsible for the way their children are reared." "It is the duty of the parents to see that their children receive proper religious training," he adds, "that they make their homes and home life as attractive as possible, so that the young man will seek other places to satisfy his desire for comfort and peace. About half of the number of inmates covered by this survey came from broken homes, that is, homes in which either the father or mother or both are dead or where parents are separated. Many came from homes that are hardly worthy of the name."

"The greatest influence upon a youthful mind is the example of his father and mother," the chaplain writes. "This is brought out by the fact that only thirty-four per cent of the inmates say that their parents attend church regularly. The greatest check for this avalanche of youthful criminals will be an awakening on the part of the parents to their serious duty and obligation toward their offspring."

Father Lane writes that the three "great factors most prominently mentioned in the field of penology for the reclamation of the criminal are Psychology, Education and Trade Schools," but adds that while these are helpful in many ways, "Religion is the most effective and important." Religion, however, he says, is "but seldom mentioned."

The book is divided into three general sections. In the first, Father Lane describes the routine of his work and the methods he employs not only with regard to the religious ministrations of his office, but also the means he takes in making himself "a friend" to the inmates of the prison. He describes the success he has achieved in the course of his tenure at the prison in instilling and stimulating the Catholic inmates in



BOYS Their Interest

AMERICAN LEAGUE: It's all over. ST. STANISLAUS WINS THIS DIVISION. By beating a stubborn St. Andrew's team, the Polish boys are on top of the world. NATIONAL LEAGUE: St. Monica's with her 1,000 average has one more game to play. If she wins, all is over in this division. INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE: Sacred Heart keeps her 1,000 with Holy Apostles, St. Charles and St. Margaret's looking on enviously.

Comment: Sacred Heart must play two games over; one with Holy Rosary and one with St. Margaret's. This inspires great hope in the breasts of certain "braves" that a "break" may fall their way.—The Corpus Christi-Blessed Sacrament game was won only in the last few moments of play by Corpus Christi who were trailing most of the way. Both teams played hard, clean, veteran baseball.—Holy Rosary cracked up in the last two innings to give St. Charles the decision. The game went 0-0 up to the sixth inning.—Fighting hard the St. Andrew's boys were downed by St. Stanislaus, who true to their reputation fielded sensationally behind their pitcher.—An extra-league game St. John's bested St. Ambrose, 0-6. This would seem to indicate that both the National and the American Leagues are pretty evenly matched, as both these teams are just below the leaders.—Holy Apostles indicated their motto by defeating St. Margaret's by one run in the last inning. St. Margaret's lost to Sacred Heart by one run. So all are very evenly matched.

"Is it stealing if we take the baseball uniforms given to us by our parish and keep them?" Thus asked one young ball player. The answer is plain. Were the uniforms given to you personally, or were they presented to you to wear while representing the parish? The parish buys uniforms as a permanent investment. No parish can afford to present each team with a new set of uniforms. It is understood that the players wear them only to hand them over to the players of the next year.

It ought to be a matter of pride to hand them over in order to have the next year's team represent the parish properly. If you take them, it will only be a matter of a year before you will outgrow the uniform and then it rots away in the attic. However, if your pastor tells you you may have the uniforms, you may take it with a good grace. To deliberately walk away with them would be theft.

At least one parish gives away "letters" to her athletes who make the team. This is in the place of the uniform. Why not give "letters" for other forms of parish activity besides baseball and track?

We congratulate the Parochial Boys' Band who played so valiantly at the Eastman Theatre. Frank McVelle kept remarkable control and the boys responded with the well-known vim and vigor. Arrangements are being made to bring them to Camp this summer to give a concert and enjoy themselves.

"B. Emmet Finucane, chairman of the Diocesan Scout Committee reports very good progress in sponsoring Catholic Troops. At least fifteen Troops in different parts of the Diocese are to begin next fall. Most of these are in the Steubent and Elmira districts.

STELLA MARIS: Registrations are pouring in from all parts of the Diocese. One boy is even coming from New York City.—Only eighty will be accepted at one encampment. Those who plan on staying more than one encampment had better reserve themselves a berth on time or they may be disappointed.—Mrs. Schaffer will again be cook. Hot biscuits? "Nuff said.—"Nan" announces many breakfast and nature hikes and a real effort to explore some of the wilder sections of Homeoye and Honlock Lake in search for some "good ole snakes".—The Camp Poster will be printed in a National Magazine of Advertising as a model of its kind.—Gramp Hezlie just returned from trailing a one-legged Indian. Made only five yards in two months. (Couldn't find the other foot.) He is full of stories. Says he will spill them at Camp. Says they are true. Oh, yeah!

ROCHESTER MUSIC TEACHER TO GO TO ST. BONAVENTURE Chester E. Klee, 28 Alexander Street, a member of the Aquinas Institute faculty has just been made head of the piano department of St. Bonaventure's College in Allegheny and will assume his post next September.

Mr. Klee is an organist and music teacher. He is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, receiving his bachelor of music degree in 1932 and a master's degree in 1933.

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Swim Precautions Issued by Physical Director Quinn

Wilbur E. Quinn, Physical Director of the following precautions for the summer:

"Now that summer is on the way and the warm days drive fathers and mothers to the waterfronts with their children, it is well to keep in mind precautions for swimmers. Avoid stomach cramps, never swim until at least two hours after meals. Swimming immediately after meals is responsible for cramps, which are the cause of many bathers becoming helpless in the water. From victims of such attacks who have been rescued, it is known that they are unable to use their arms or legs; and, fully conscious of the predicament they are in, are unable to do a thing to help themselves.

"Muscle cramps sometimes attack swimmers, but aside from fright do not commonly effect them. If caught in this condition, submerge and pinch muscle with both hands quickly as though trying to force thumb and finger of one hand through to meet those of the other. This usually relieves cramps at once and they rarely return. Go ashore as quickly as possible, massage muscle, and rest.

"Long distance swimming is common with the swimmer. No swimmer should swim a long distance until they have practiced for a long time; and if started should be accompanied by a boat, with two people in it; one to observe and the other to row the boat.

"Diving is a sport which is popular with the swimmer. Before water first and determine the depth, also condition at the place where you intend diving. Be on your guard for sunken trees, wreckage, etc. Where there is a group diving wait until the one ahead of you comes up before attempting to dive.

"Beware of over-heated bodies. If in this condition, wait until body is cool and heart condition normal."

Catholic Baseball League Teams

STANDINGS

Table with columns: EAST DIVISION, WEST DIVISION, Team Name, W, L, Pct.

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Sports Writer Of Courier Recovers After Operation

William A. Lang, sports editor of the CATHOLIC COURIER who writes each week under the heading "Along the Sports Hirozin" is recovering from an operation which he underwent on Monday of this week. Within a few days he expects to regain his strength and hopes to be able to write his column for next week's issue. His many friends are "squeezing" that he will be fully recovered within a few days.

Chicago (NOWC) His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein, Archbishop of Chicago, on Tuesday conferred the degree, Bachelor of Arts, upon his niece, Rita Marie Eppig, at the commencement exercises of Mundelein College.

A Promise In The Fulfillment

WHAT THE SON OF MAN PROMISED—and behold, I am with you all days even unto the consummation of the world.—Matt. XXVIII, 20. What Lord Macaulay Wrote "There is no, and there never was, a work of human policy so well deserving of examination as the Roman Catholic Church. The proudest royal houses are but of yesterday when compared with the line of the Supreme Pontiffs. The republic of Venice was modern when compared with the Papacy, and the republic of Venice is gone and the Papacy remains full of life and youthful vigor. The Catholic Church saw the commencements of all the governments and all the ecclesiastical establishments that now exist in the world, and we feel no assurance that she is not destined to see the end of them all."

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