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BISHOP ASKS HOLY NAME TO COMBAT MOVIES

(Continued from Page One)

Cohalan brought messages of great import to those present. Father Purcell in detail described the present degrading influence of the movies especially upon children and proposed the Legion of Decency as an effective means of combatting the menace to Christian ideals. Judge Cohalan outlined national problems faced by the United States as a result of the World War and other factors which have brought about business stagnation. He criticized Catholics for their failure as a body to take an interest in these matters and urged them to become more active in community, state and national affairs.

Bishop Walsh Attends
Seated on the altar platform with Archbishop Mooney, Father Purcell and Judge Cohalan were: the Most Rev. Emmet M. Walsh, Bishop of Charleston; the Rt. Rev. John J. Lee, V.F., Elmira; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Walter J. Lee, V.F., Geneva; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. James Griffin, V.F., Corning; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph S. Camenz, Rochester; the Rev. William J. Brien, the Rev. J. Moriarty, the Rev. Arthur Smith, the Rev. Ladislav Szepeanski, the Rev. Francis Lane, the Rev. Leo G. Schwab, all of Elmira, the Rev. Michael Groder of Horseheads, the Rev. Thomas Carroll of Watkins Glen, the Rev. Edward Dwyer of Waverly, the Rev. J. Maley of Hornell, the Rev. F. William Stauder, the Rev. Arthur Florack and the Rev. Lawrence Casey of Rochester; Clarence H. Kennedy, president of Elmira Holy Name Union; Michael Del Papa and J. John Hassett, Elmira, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, all had honor places on the platform.

Fourth Degree Escort
Elmira Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus in full regalia led by Major James Riffe of the 108th Infantry, New York National Guard and J. Earl Bateman, Faithful Navigator of Elmira Assembly, Fourth Degree led the procession to the altar platform.

President Kennedy introduced Monsignor Lee who gave the address of welcome. Monsignor Lee said: "This is the greatest demonstration of Christian faith ever seen in Chemung County. This vast audience has gathered for one purpose alone and that purpose may be found in the second article of the Apostles' Creed: 'I believe in Jesus Christ.'"

When Judge Cohalan had concluded his address the entire assemblage joined in singing the Holy Name hymn, "Sweet Name Which Makes the Dying Live," accompanied by the Elmira Italian Band.

Father Purcell's address on "The Paganization of Our American Children," was followed by the blessing of the candles by the Rev. William J. Brien, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, here.

The Most Blessed Sacrament was then escorted to the outdoor altar by a procession headed by the Rev. Anthony J. Richard as cross bearer and the Rev. Herbert Sturmer and the Rev. Francis Harding as acolytes. Next came the Fourth Degree Knights and four altar boys of St. Cecilia's Church with torches.

The Eucharistic Host was reverently carried by the Rev. Daniel A. McCarthy, assistant pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church and spiritual director of the Elmira Holy Name Union. The canopy was born by four members of the Elmira Nocturnal Adoration Society, Albert Grace, F. F. Shortleace, Edwin Maloney and Thomas McGill.

Leads Pledge Renewal
A deeply impressive part of the ceremony came when the Rev. Michael B. Groden of Horseheads in a fervent voice led in a renewal of the Holy Name Pledge.

Assisting the Archbishop in the solemn Pontifical Benediction were: deacon, the Rev. J. Moriarty; subdeacon, the Rev. Edward Dwyer; acolytes, Father Sturmer and Father Harding; first master of ceremonies, Father Lane; second master of ceremonies, Father Szepeanski and thurifer, Father Reilly.

"O Salutaris Hostia" and "Tantum Ergo" were sung during Benediction and the ceremony closed after the Archbishop's address with the hymn "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name."

Amplifying apparatus was used during the program to bring the voices to those on the fields and a special broadcast over Station WEGS was conducted with Leo Booley, station program manager and Father Schwab describing the exercises. A special train from Rochester brought a large delegation headed by the Rev. William Stauder, spiritual director of the Rochester Diocesan Holy Name Union and B. Edward Shiesinger, president of the Union. Another special train brought a delegation from Auburn.

The crowd was handled by more than a score of policemen and state troopers. No serious mishaps were reported. Six nurses and four physicians were stationed at a first aid tent maintained by St. Joseph's Hospital.

The large stands were packed with members of the Holy Name Societies, and men, women and children stood on the field to witness a spectacle that will long be remembered by those who were present.

Blessed by God.

FR. PURCELL SCORES MOVIES FOR PAGAN INFLUENCE OVER CHILDREN

(Continued from Page One)

in vigorous and concerted action. "In speaking to you on this subject it is assumed that you want your child to develop a healthy body, normal emotions always under control, unselfish attitudes, habits of clean conduct that will lead him into useful citizenship and will safeguard his soul. It is assumed, too, that you realize something of the importance of keeping your child's imagination wholesome because of its dominant influence over his emotions, attitudes, and conduct."

"Citing facts from the book 'Our Movie Made Children' in which are incorporated motion picture researchers financed and supervised by the Payne Fund, Father Purcell said: "One of the first important facts revealed by the Payne Fund studies is that the average weekly attendance at all motion picture theaters in this country came to 7,000,000 in 1929. Of these 7,000,000 about 28,000,000 were persons under twenty-one; 11,000,000 were children thirteen years old or younger, and 6,000,000 were children seven years old or less. These figures disclosed by the studies of Dr. W. W. Charters and Dr. Edgar Dale of Ohio State University are conservative, as anyone who studies their methods will agree. Put in terms of percentages it means that thirty-six percent of the attendance at American motion picture theaters is made up of young people under twenty-one years of age, sixteen percent under fourteen years, and 7.4 percent under seven years. All these figures are averages; in some communities, especially in the congested areas of large cities, the percentage of children's attendance is much higher.

What Children See at Movies
"What do these millions of children see when they go to the movies? To Holy Name Union; Michael Del Papa and J. John Hassett, Elmira, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, all had honor places on the platform.

Four hundred feature pictures—five hundred each for the years—1929, 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933. This included practically the entire feature picture output of the leading companies in those years. His categories ran something like this: crime, sex, romance, mystery, murder, detective, thrillers, horror, detective stuff, ghosts, and so forth; war, children, history, travel, exploration, animals, comedy and social problems. He found that the shift in recent years has been away from the love stories and toward sex and crime pictures, so that of the five hundred feature pictures produced in 1930, one hundred and thirty-seven had crime as their major theme, forty-four were primarily devoted to war, horror and mystery, and seventy centered around sex. The proportions in each of the other categories were small. Only one picture for the entire year was made especially for children. Thus more than fifty percent of the average child's movie diet that year consisted of pictures chiefly concerned with sex or crime or violence of some sort.

"What will your child see when he goes to the movies? He may see one of the good and great pictures, but the chances are that the principal picture will be saturated with crime and sex out of all proportion to normal living. It will contain at least one or two murders and various other forms of exciting violence. It will be set against a background of luxury. It will contain drinking, represented as either funny or as the ac-

JUDGE COHALAN URGES GREATER LAY ACTIVITY

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to go forward in the exercise of the talent and the ability with which they may be endowed, with certainty of fair reward and return therefor.

"It is a time for stocktaking, for self-examination, and for the making of resolutions. We of the Catholic laity, to whom have come through the years, and over the waters, the clarion call of the Pope calling the laymen of the Church to show by their conduct and example the sincerity of their belief in the eternal truths, must realize that we have a duty to our country to which we must respond.

"We must give, of the best of ourselves, to the service of God and of our country and of our neighbor. We must stand with the foremost for the preservation of law and order, for the highest standards of decency in public life and in our private lives; for upholding the hands of those who are in authority; and for living with self-control, lives that will show to our fellow citizens that the truths which the Catholic Church teaches to us are not mere passing words, but are as the very breath of life to us.

"If we act thus, if we stand forward for our country in peace as well as in war; stand up for her interests against the interests of all other lands; stand for peace but for peace founded upon justice, we may be sure not alone that we shall have the respect and esteem of our fellow citizens of other faiths, but that we shall deserve well of our country and shall develop and preserve that great and most consoling of human gifts, the gift of self-respect and of that calm self-confidence which comes from the knowledge of work well done."

Put yourselves out to amuse others when you are tempted to sadness.—Madame Cecilia.

cepted thing in American society. It will be peopled by a cheap and vulgar population often vulgarly over-dressed, often shady in character, sensual, unrestrained, lascivious, much given to crime and sex, with little desire or need apparently of supporting themselves in this difficult world; but poor, beglamored, unprepared adolescents may be moved to imitate them and that to their heavy cost. What effect will such a picture have upon your child's imagination, his health, his emotions, his attitudes, his conduct?

After pointing out that one picture out of seven is built around sex as its dominant feature and quoting Dr. Dale who says that "perhaps the most dangerous aspects of the situation is that colorful and attractive stars are commonly given roles depicting women who lose their virtue," Father Purcell cited facts to show that delinquent girls and boys in penal institutions have in large percentages declared the movies as a sexual excitement.

Child's Struggle Between Values
"Put yourself in your child's place. Look at the things through his eyes. At home and in school and church he sees one set of values upheld as the secret of a desirable life. At the movies he sees another set presented with all the power and glamor of strong emotional stimulus. Two results are possible as he will either be confused and vacillate between one set of values and the other, or he will choose one and scrap the other. While the struggle goes on in his mind it takes place also in the minds of 28,000,000 other young people under the age of twenty-one who each week spend two hours or more in the movies.

"Something must be done about the movies. Very shortly, along with the other major industries of the nation, the moving picture companies will be regulated by code. They should be doubly regulated in order that they pay moral as well as monetary dividends. The famous code which was drawn up and signed with much ostentation and publicity in 1930 has proved to be merely a scrap of paper."

Sign Decency Pledge
"As a frantic means of protecting themselves the motion picture barons have thrown down a challenge. They claim (and hope) that Catholics will disobey their Bishops. They say 'we are quite familiar with all the tricks of professional reformers and the methods of meddling ecclesiastics. Condemn and censure us as much and as often as you like. We should worry. Your Catholic people will still pay at the box office.' There is only one answer to this insulting challenge to our faith and morality, and that is to fling it back into the faces of these moronic motion picture overlords by signing and abiding by the pledge of the Legion of Decency.

"If we will use it by united and consistent effort the day will not be distant when the immoral movies will no longer be a stench in the nostrils of all decent Americans nor a foreign reproach to the American Nation."

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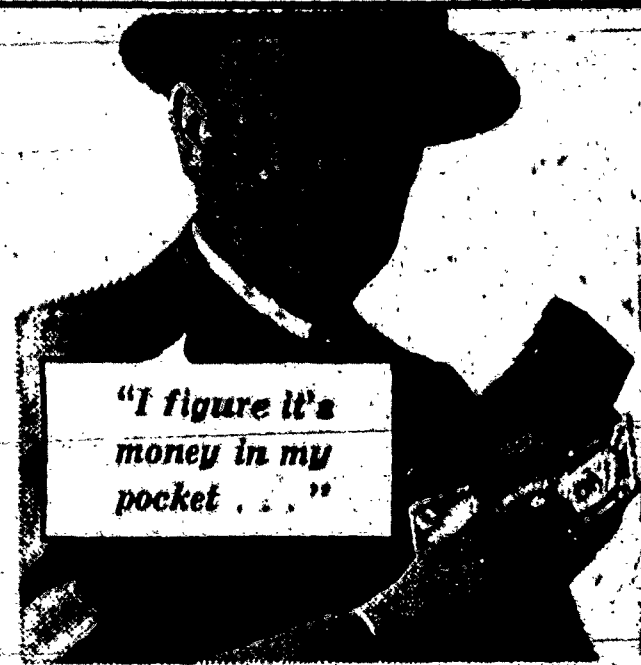
Three Faiths Map Campaign Against Bad Movies Here

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J. Bernan, Rev. F. William Stauder, and Nathaniel G. West.
"The purpose of the Committee is to secure united action against the serious menace of improper films. It will enable the various religious groups in the community to meet on a common ground against a common danger; it will not undertake the actual work of the individual groups in fighting indecent films, but will be a power for more effective action to these groups through its advice and its facilities for expressing the united front that all the religious forces in the city wish to take against this crying evil. Ways and means were discussed at the meeting for immediate formulation of plans of action, and after the discussion the following resolution was passed by unanimous vote:

Resolution Adopted
"Whereas—in accordance with a resolution passed by the Inter-Faith Good-Will Committee May 20, 1934, recommending to the three great religious groups in Rochester the appointment of a Committee of Nine on Wholesome Motion Pictures, the purpose of which shall be to promote the cause of wholesome movies and the elimination of those that are deplorable, this Committee of Nine has been duly appointed and is now prepared to initiate its activities to fulfill this purpose; therefore, be it

RESOLVED—That this Committee recommend to the Federation of Churches, to the Catholic Churches through the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, and to all Jewish Rabbis and their congregations, that they respectively and separately devise plans to further the cause of clean, wholesome



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Dr. Coven Celebrates Mass For Girl Scouts

Auburn—A large number of Catholic Girl Scouts and Brownies of this city received Holy Communion at the 8:30 o'clock Mass Sunday morning in St. Mary's Church. The girls assembled with their leaders in Lyceum Hall of the church and marched into the edifice in a body. Rev. Dr. William E. Coven, pastor, celebrated the Mass.

"I think we should have more clubs for women."
"Oh, I don't know. I think we should try kindness first."

motion picture; and he further
RESOLVED—That each group shall urge individual members belonging to it to pledge their earnest support of the better class of motion pictures and their active condemnation of bad and improper films; and that the various spiritual leaders in each group impress this most worthy cause by personal and public appeal. (Signed)

THE COMMITTEE OF NINE
Jacob N. Hollander, Chairman.

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