

## Centenary of St. Joseph Nuns In St. Louis Recalls Coming Of First Nuns To Canandaigua

By WALDMER J. ISAAC

This year Canandaigua Catholics will note with special interest and with a profound sense of gratitude the national celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the United States of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Nazareth.

The original band of six Sisters came to Canandaigua in 1836, and were joined by others from the United States, Europe, and France.

Upon their arrival the first Sisters began teaching the parochial school and had their first home in the basement of old St. Mary's Church which was situated on Main Street and Sultonsdale Streets. The convent was located on Sultonsdale Street, a short distance from the church. At the very beginning the Sisters were beset with many hardships and difficulties due to the smallness of the Catholic congregation and the poverty of its members.

In spite of all obstacles the Sisters were determined in their work as is apparent from the fact that in 1876 they opened St. Mary's Academy for Young Ladies, a private school and a daring venture in those days. The completeness and scope of the Academy is clearly shown in the following directions appearing in the Catholic Almanac and Directory for 1886:

"Canandaigua, Ontario County, N.Y., St. Mary's Academy for Young Ladies."

This institution under the charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph, located in one of the most healthy and beautiful parts of the state is easy of access. The New-York Central passes through here, the Canandaigua and Elmira connecting with the New York and Erie terminates here, as does also the Canandaigua and Niagara Falls connecting with Canada and the Great Western Railroad. The system of education embraces every useful and ornamental branch suitable for Young Ladies. Board and tuition for school year \$80.

Washing, mending, bed and bedding \$10. For school year \$15. Each pupil should pay extra \$10. Music, drawing and language will form extra charges. Boarding postage charged to parents. The school year begins the first Monday in September ending the 17th of July.

All communications addressed to St. Mary's Convent, Canandaigua, N.Y.

As the extensive duties of the Sisters multiplied, still more of the order came to Canandaigua. About 1866 the Sisters of St. Joseph were conducting the parochial school in the Academy, an orphan asylum established by the order shortly after the opening of the academy for the Church, and doing their general work of education and in enlightening the developing community. No record is available that gives the names of the Sisters here during those years or the dates of their arrivals and departures.

The extensive activities of the order were of encouraging interest as the Catholic population grew. In 1901 it was necessary to make a large addition to the original church edifice to provide for the congregation. Under the direction and encouragement of Rev. Fr. English, then pastor of St. Mary's, and recorded as a man of great foresight and courage the Catholic congregation successfully completed the purchase in 1874 of the A. M. Granger property at the corner of Main and Chestnut Streets, upon which the present church, convent and school now stand.

The outstanding feature of the newly acquired property was that

Hageman and Petronille Rossie the four Sisters completed the long and tedious journey from Cheverdoe, Mo. to Canandaigua, October 8th of that year.

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From this band developed the great success of our present Sisters. Since that time the Sisters of St. Joseph have increased continually in Canandaigua, furthering God's work in the development of St. Mary's parish and contributing to the material welfare of the entire vicinity.

**Sisters Who Came**

In 1894 Rev. Edward O'Connor then pastor of St. Mary's realized that the day was ripe to begin a new chapter in the life of his parish and that he could trust it to the work of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart.

John Tiron of the Buffalo diocese of which Canandaigua was then a part prepared for the coming of Mother Agnes Spenser and Sisters Francis Joseph, Ida, Theodosia,

### MISSION STAMP COLLECTORS



The Catholic ladies are washing and sorting used postage stamps collected by the millions throughout India. The photo was taken in the Diocese of Patna, where the American Jesuit Fathers are laboring. (INC-Cable photo)

Miss Rosemary White  
To Give Travel Talk  
Before College Guild

Margaret O'Connell  
Heads Class For  
Mission Day Fete

The Nazareth College Guild will sponsor a travel talk and tea at the College Sunday March 22 at 3 p.m. for the benefit of the Building Fund.

The English Department will be the speaker, her subject being England. Miss White has spent the past seven years in traveling about a great part of the time being spent at Oxford University.

She has proven herself to be an ardent and interesting speaker and her talk always looks forward to with pleasure.

Mr. Louis C. How is general chairman of the affair, assisted by the other committee by the following: Mrs. James P. Jones, President of the Guild; Mrs. John J. O'Connell, 415 Winton Blvd., Rochester, has been elected chairman for the first annual Masson Mission Day to be held on May 9.

Masson Day at the college includes amateur theatricals written and acted by the students, fashion show, fortune telling, wheels of fortune, May-pole dancing and the crowning of the May Queen. The proceeds are donated to the Missions.

In July Miss O'Connell won the St. Angels Scholarship at the college. This gave her an award of free complete board and tuition for the summer.

She is an outstanding member of her class being a member of Biology Club, Glee Club, German Club, and Props and Paint, the dramatic society at the college. In addition she sings with the College Choir.

**First Catholic Congress  
Of Youth Held in Colombia**

Bogota, Colombia (INC) Colombia's first National Catholic Youth Congress has just closed here after a three-day session.

Approximately 1,400 delegates from all parts of the country attended the Congress which opened with day of spiritual exercises presided over by various members of the Hierarchy.

**BRITISH ENVOY TO VATICAN**

(INC) Francis Osborne, London (INC) Francis Osborne has been appointed Great Britain's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Holy See.

He has been received in audience by Pope Pius XI.

**MARRIAGE BILL DISPROVED**

(INC) Declaring that the proposed bill to prohibit the marriage of persons of different religious creeds has been disproved by the Senate.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Frank E. Carlson, would have prohibited the performance of the marriage ceremony between persons of different religious creeds.

The Senate of St. Joseph's, however, rejected the bill, and the bill died in the Senate.

The bill, however, was introduced again in the House of Representatives, but was defeated.

The bill was introduced into the House of Representatives by Rep. John J. O'Connell, of Boston, and was made public.

It was introduced into the Senate by Sen. Frank E. Carlson, of St. Paul, Minn.

Carlson said the bill was introduced to prevent inter-religious marriages.

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