Wide Honors For K. of C. At Ithaca

Council 277 Has Record of Outstanding Work in Peace and War.

Ithaca Council No 277, Knights of Columbus, today looks toward a continuance with increased variety and results of activities which, in times of peace, as well as during years of war, have made it one of the outstanding organizations of the state.

During the early part of 1897 a young man by the name of Bernard J Kelly received a letter from Daniel Sheehan in Elmira, N Y. inviting him to become a member of the Knights of Columbus which was just beginning to make itself known in New York State. The invitation was accepted by Mr. Kelly and on May 5th, 1897 he received his three degrees in the Knights of Columbus and he was thus the first member from Ithaca who received this honor, during the time before Ithaca was granted a charter Bernard J Kelly held his membership in Elmira Council No. 229

After the ceremonial was concluded Bernard J. Kelly was asked to institute a council in Ithaca by those sterling Knights of old who traveled the length of this state to help institute councils in various cities, the gentlemen who gave Bernard J Kelly the inspiration of organizing a council in Ithaca were the Hon John J. Delaney of New York, Robert Powers of Binghamton and Daniel Sheehan of Elmira and to these men goes the honor of instituting Council No 277 on November 30th 1897.

Had 27 Charter Members

Ithaca Council No 277 was instituted on November 30th 1897 with 27 Charter members. The beginning of the Knights of Columbus was the untiring work of the first Grand Knight who has now become known as the Father of Ithaca Council No 277, Bernard J Kelly. All the ceremonials of this great class of candidates took place in the Odd Fellows Hall on State St. The First and second degrees were conferred by members from Binghamton Council No. 208, Elmira No 229 and Cortland No 233 while the third or major degree was exemplified by Hon John J Delaney of New York City with Charles R Barnes of Rochester N Y and his wonderful staff.

The Charter members of Council No. 277 on November 30th 1897 and who are still living are the following the Father of Ithaca council and First Grand Knight Bernard J Kelly Christopher M. Kelly, Joseph F Hickey, William J. LaFrance, John M. Carty, John J. Larkin Joseph B Ryan and Bernard T Kelly all of whom are living in Ithaca John J Frawley, Lake Ridge, N Y., Peter F. McAllister, New York City, William Artingstall, Chicago Ill and John S Gibbons of New Haven, Conn.

The remaining fifteen charter members have passed to their eternal reward Rev. Alfred J. Evans, Rev John W E. Kelly, Dr. James P Fahey, Bernard W. Cummings Michael W Gibbons, William McGraime, Thomas A. Kelly, Joseph J Ryan Sr. James Rice, George Bovier William H DeVoy, William A Fahey, John P. Kelly, John F McAllister, Michael P. Kelly.

The First officers of Ithaca Council No 277 were Grand Knight Bernard J. Kelly, Deputy Grand Knight Dr James P. Fahey, Chancellor Peter F McAllister, Financial Secretary Joseph F. Hickey, Recording Secretary Joseph B. Ryan Jr. Warden William McGraime Inside Guard George Bovier Outside Guard Michael Kelly with these officers and the officers who have followed them the success of Council No 277 has been accomplished.

Buys Its Home

The Knights of Columbus have met in different halls in the city until it bought its own home in 1923. Quarters have been occupied in the Odd Fellows Hall on State St., the McWhorter Block at corner of State and Cayuga Streets, the Masonic Hall on Tioga Street and the Colonial Building on State Street and in 1923 it bought its own home the present building on the corner of Albany and Green Streets.

The Grand Knights who have carried on this wonderful work for the past forty years have been Bernard J Kelly 1897-1900, Joseph F Hickey 1900-1902, Peter F. McAllister 1902-1905, John P Leonard 1905-1907, John J. Larkin 1907-1909, George W Cavanaugh 1909-1911 Frank P Burns 1911-1913, Dr Frank M Mone 1913-1915, John F. McCarthy 1915-1916, Thomas J. McInerney 1916-1917, Thomas J. Conway 1917-1918, Thomas D. Sullivan 1918 war period, James Conley 1918-1920, Prof. Hugh C. Troy 1920-1921 Myrtus J Sullivan 1921-1924 Edward J. Nevins 1924-1925, William M Egan 1925-1926, George K. Loveless 1926-1927, Myrtus J. Sullivan 1927-1928, John J. Loughnan 1928-1931 Lawrence A. Och 1931-1932, James F Leary 1932-1933, Thomas E Solan 1933-1935, Michael J Leary 1935 to present date. Out of the 24 Grand Knights who have served this council four have passed to their eternal reward, John P Leonard, Frank P. Burns, Thomas J Conway and Thomas D. Sullivan.

On May 30th 1900 seven members of Ithaca Council went to New York City and received the Fourth Degree of the order, this degree was the first time when the Fourth Degree was exemplified in New York State and the following were the Charter members of Ithaca Assembly Fourth Degree, Rev. Alfred J. Evans, Bernard J. Kelly, Joseph J. Ryan Sr. Joseph F. Hickey, John J. Larkin, Peter F. McAllister and Joseph B. Ryan, Jr. It was the custom in the early days to only extend the honor to join the Fourth Degree to the officers and not more than ten members from each council could have the honor of being in the first class.

Boys Are Organized

To show that Ithaca Council have been pioneers in the works of the Knights of Columbus on December 17th 1933 was formed Circle No. 144 of the Columbia Squires which was organized with 20 boys some of whom were sons of our members this program is to take care of the youths of our country. The following were the Charter members of the Ithaca Circle Columbian Squires No. 144, John F. Bangs, James Clark, Francis J Connors Jr. Roger J Corgel, Richard J. Culligan, James W. Driscoll, Joseph J Gainey, Hugh S Gibbs, Walter W. Tolden, Kenneth Loveless, Robert J McCormick, Harry Mettler, Edward F Miller, William Morris Jr William Murphy, Everett A. Robinson, Walter Robinson, John Sitch, Walter J Sullivan, John J Whalen.

After the institution of the first class of candidates on November 30th 1897 it was only a short time before another class was brought into the council and the membership increased each year until 1922 when this council just as every other council in the country reached its highest peak. In 1922 during the celebration of its 25th anniversary plans were completed to own its home and with the committee appointed and under the guidance of the beloved Pastor Rev. Walter J. Lee the residence of Jacob Rothschild was purchased. The Catholic Daughters of America meets in its home.

Members Win Honors

In the past forty years of this council existence many honors have been given to members of Ithaca Council No 277 by its leaders. During the term of Daniel A. Tobin as State Deputy 1923-1925 Myrtus J. Sullivan served as District Deputy, and during the last year of State Deputy William J. Armstrong and the three years of State Deputy Michael F. Walsh Ithaca was again honored by having Thomas E. Solan serve as District Deputy. Thomas J. McInerney has served Central New York Chapter as its Chairman for one year, Claude D. Baldwin as secretary for one year, Thomas E Solan as Warden for two years and Michael J. Leary as its present Treasurer.

Ithaca Council have sponsored Troop No. 12 Boy Scouts since 1920 and it has now for its Scoutmaster George K. Loveless who is assisted by his sons Kenneth and Harold Loveless and they can be proud of the record of this troop of Boy Scouts, during the past year Ithaca council has helped in promoting more youth work and with the co-operation of Rev. William Byrne, the Catholic Daughters of America, National Council of Catholic Women and the Parent-Teachers Association of the Immaculate Conception the Aquinas Guild was organized which brings together the Catholic boys and girls of school age.

The present officers are:

Michael J. Leary; grand knight; Claude D. Baldwin, deputy grand knight; Joseph F. Farley, chancellor; Thomas E. Solan, financial secretary; Lester P. Keefe, recording secretary; Eugene Morris, treasurer; Clarence Wilcox, warden; Harold C. Driscoll, inside guard; William McCann, outside guard; George K. Loveless, trustee for three years.

Heads 4th Degree

Photo by Talbot

James M. Ryan

Faithful Navigator, Rochester Assembly, Fourth Degree, K of C

District Master

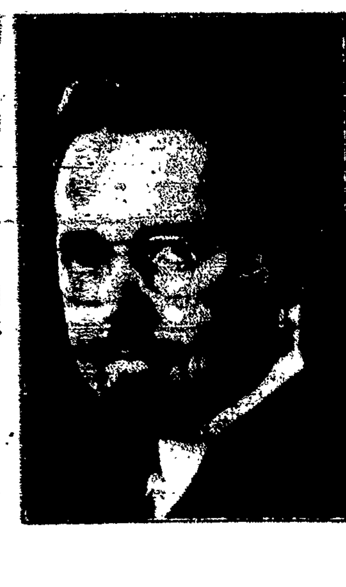

Photo by Moch

Frederick J. Mix

Master, Fifth District, 4th Degree, K of C

Central Verein Keeps Eyes On Legislators

(Continued from Page 17)

plication of the principles of social justice have been the chief concern of the Central Verein.

Establish Central Bureau

It was soon clearly seen that if an intelligent and well organized propaganda, in favor of the Catholic solution of the social question were to be realized, a center of information and instruction must be established. Accordingly a Central Bureau was established at St Louis in 1908, and since that time has been a clearing house not only for the Central Verein, but for all those interested in the true solution of the social question.

Mr. F. P. Kenkel, K.S.G. K.S.H. was chosen as the first director, and for more than twenty-five years he has been in charge of the Bureau and of its official organ Central Blatt and Social Justice. During this time the history of the Central Verein is the history of the Central Bureau, because it is through the Central Bureau that the Central Verein is kept in touch with the various state and local branches as well as with the women's division, the National Catholic Women's Union.

While in the beginning there was sharp division as to the wisdom of taking into the Central Verein the state unions or leagues, as they were called, after the Central Bureau was formed and had operated sufficiently long to prove its true value, it was manifest that all societies, local, state and national, must work together and along the same lines.

Function Throughout Year

The various societies in the German parishes send delegates to the local branch, and also to the state branch convention. The local branches function throughout the year and devote themselves to the work taken up by the national organization and referred to in the foregoing paragraphs. Each local branch has peculiar matters which engage its attention.

In the solution of these purely local matters, however, much assistance is obtained from the state branch at its annual convention and from the national organization at its annual convention. The resolutions of both the state branches and the national organization form the chief topic for consideration at the monthly meetings of the local branch. The delegates to the local branch bring to their respective societies the information received at the local branch meeting, and they bring back from their societies matters of importance for consideration by the local branch.

Rochester Branch was organized about thirty-five years ago at a meeting held in St. Joseph's Hall. The Rev. Jacob F. Staub was a prime mover in the organization of the Branch and its constant co-worker and adviser until the day of his death.

The first president of the Branch was Joseph Ribstein who died in 1926 George J Leicht, the second president, is still alive and is an active member of the Branch.

An Active Branch

Rochester Branch is looked upon by the National body as one of the most active and outstanding of the local societies.

Charles T Trott, former president of the local branch, is now serving his third term as president of the New York State Branch. Philip H Donnelly, chairman of the executive committee of the local branch, is also a member of the Committee on Catholic Action of the National organization. William J Fuehrer, secretary of the local branch is also Historian of the New York State Branch.

The present officers of the Rochester Branch are Rev Frederick Nastvogel, C.SS.R. spiritual advisor Edward P Heberle, president, Leo Schlueter, 1st vice-president William Wittman, 2nd vice-president. George Kassman, financial secretary and treasurer; William J Fuehrer, recording secretary; Raymond Hermle, guard; Philip H Donnelly, Joseph T Otto, Frank C. Hehnlein, Frank N Haag and August M. Maier, members of the executive committee.

From Many Societies

The Rochester Branch consists of delegates from the following societies: St. Fidelis Benevolent Society, St. Louis Commandery of Knights of St. John, Holy Redeemer Athletic Association, all of Holy Redeemer Parish; St. Anthony's Benevolent Society, St. Leo Benevolent Society, Commandery 43 of Knights of St George, and the Kolping Society, all of St. Michael's Church; Holy Family Commandery of the Knights of St. John, and Holy Name Society, both of Holy Family Parish; SS. Peter and Paul's Commandery of the Knights of St John of SS Peter and Paul's Church, St. Boniface Benevolent Society, St. Joseph's Society, St. Herman Benevolent Society and St. Boniface Commandery of the Knights of St. John, all of St. Boniface Parish; St. Mathias Society and St. Bernard's Commandery of the Knights of St. John, both of St. Francis Xavier Parish; Cathedral Commandery of the Knights of St. John, of St. Patrick's Parish; Holy Name Society of Holy Ghost Parish, Coldwater, New York; St. John Benevolent Society and Knights of St. Michael Commandery of the Knights of St. John, both of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church; Catholic Young Men's Association, the Knights of St. Eustace and the Knights of St. Mauritius, all of St. Joseph's Parish; the St. George Benevolent So-

(Continued on Page 22)

Colorful Ceremony At Geneva

Knights of Columbus Will Confer Patriotic Degree On Large Class

Under the direction of District Master Frederick J. Mix, the Knights of Columbus will confer the Fourth or Patriotic Degree on a class of candidates at Geneva on Sunday December 5. It will be a colorful ceremony — one in which this ritual will make another important addition to the exclusive ranks of those who have been given this high honor.

Many visitors will be attracted. The occasion will mark an important milestone in the life of Fourth Degree Assemblies in this diocese. The Supreme Council recreated the Fourth Assembly Districts of the state according to diocesan lines on September 1, 1934.

The Rochester Fourth Degree Assembly is the oldest one in the new district instituted in 1910 and many of its charter members are men who received the Fourth Degree in New York City.

James M. Ryan, Jr., is the present Faithful Navigator of the Rochester Assembly. He was elected in June, 1937. Other officers are Theodore R. Huber, F. C.; William M. Woerner, F A.; Charles H. Geyer, F Comp.; Norman A. O'Brien, F. P.; Herbert Trimby, I S. Charles Raymond, O. S.

Frederick J Mix, who is now master of the district, was also the first master of the newly created Fifth New York District. Past Navigator of the Rochester Assembly, he was appointed for a term of two years in 1934, reappointed in 1936.

Charitable enterprises — giving assistance to those who need it most—have engaged the activities of Rochester Assembly since its beginning.

It has long maintained a fully equipped dental room and furnished free dental service to children of Rochester orphan asylums. It has supported a Christmas fund for charity each Christmas. It has given substantial aid to the work of the Columbus Civic Center.

Besides, many of its members have been outstanding in leadership in civic, religious, professional and business affairs.

Faithful Navigators of the Rochester Assembly since the date it was instituted up to the present time were:

Dr J Henry Carey, John R Powers, James P Jones, Dr. Walter B. O'Neill, Thomas F Sharkey, John P. Smith, who died while in office, William E Maloney, Joseph P Doyle, William M Smith, George W Henner, Frederick J. Mix, Elmer W Loevenbruck, Cyril J while in office, R. Frank Quinn, C. Vincent Wiser, Louis C. Hook, Patrick A. Dwyer, Otto Shultz, William J. Woerner.

Faithful Navigators of other Assemblies located in the Fifth New York District have been as follows: P. Moyland; Auburn, William Hedeck; Waterloo, John B. Carlon; Seneca Falls, William J. Hammill; Newark, W. L. J. [illegible]; Canandaigua, Cornelius J. Ryan; Geneva, John J. [illegible]; George K. Loveless, Corning, [illegible]

P. A. Dwyer, President — Eugene J. Dwyer, Vice-President — [illegible] Sec'y & Treas.

Genesee 362-363

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