

SCHOOL PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AS OPENING NEARS

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Outside Factors Curb Religious Education

By SISTER ADRIENNE MARIE, S.U.C. Sacred Heart School of Education, Fall River, Mass. (Writings for N.C.W.C. School Supplement)

Today our schools are, for the most part, adequately equipped with all the means necessary to vitalize the courses of religious instruction. The market is flooded with Catholic textbooks; there is no dearth of literature suggesting methods and devices whereby our Catholic youth may be guided and prepared for their ultimate destiny. Last but not least, our Catholic teachers are becoming more and more competent to fulfill their lofty mission.

They are being thoroughly grounded in religious psychology and scholastic philosophy. They are keeping in touch with the latest techniques of teaching. They themselves are trying to prepare for what they must be and for what they must do here below in order to attain the end for which they were created.

They are, above all, profoundly spiritual and intelligently Catholic. Their education is doing its share to provide the ways and the means of equipping our children to steer themselves toward their sublime destiny.

But the school is only one of a number of agencies which are either contributing to, or interfering with, the fulfillment of this aim. For the final result of the child's education will depend not only on the underlying philosophy of his teachers, but also on the kind and influence of his extra-curricular contacts; social environment.

New social environment beside that of the school, that in which Christian civilization really consists of the Church, the home and the community. The Church, however, cooperates with the work of the school as a contributing factor. It does not, therefore, come under our consideration. Hence we shall concentrate on the home and the community, inasmuch as they are factors which interfere with the work of religious education.

ADVANTAGES OF HOME
This home has the inestimable advantage of setting the child first. It is God's own institution for the care of childhood and the only school of early infancy. The parents are the natural teachers of this school, and are endowed with special sacramental grace to enable them to bring up their children in the love and fear of God.

Religious instruction, therefore, should come first from the home. There it becomes a habit, and in the sacred sentiments of the child's love for his mother. Such teaching makes a deep impression and has an appealing quality which instruction in the school's more formal atmosphere, cannot always lack.

No school then, nor church, nor any other institution can be a substitute for the home. No amount of formal teaching, teaching of the Catechism or attendance at Mass with its correct faith and devotion, will become a full-time professor. He will teach the course given for the first two years by Doctor Joseph C. Fenlon, who has been appointed to the faculty of the Catholic University of America.

POWERFUL AN EDUCATOR
The responsibility for this misfortune, however, lies rather with the mother than with the father. It is her influence that rules the home. Her domestic duties bring her into closer contact with the children, and keep her constantly before their eyes. They are unconsciously, but none the less surely, modeling themselves after her manner, her speech and her method of life. Her powerful influence as educator, has been recognized for centuries.

On the other hand, no worldly potentate can wield more powerful weapons against the cause of God, of religion and the good of her own children than the evil influence of a selfish, irreligious and worldly mother.

SAD MORAL CONDITIONS
The moral condition of America today is far from ideal; it is certainly hurting our family life. Even the most shielded and best of homes have not escaped its contagion. We need to pray: "That women may be more deeply devoted to home life," so that family life may not die out. Athletic radicals are seeking to destroy it. They are incalculating the evil of selfish luxury and urging the violation of marriage laws.

Capitalism run riot in this country is responsible for many instances for the spread of maligant social conditions. The mother is sometimes forced to leave the home to provide for her children over the bare necessities of life. Under such conditions, the efficiency of the home, as an educative agency, is lowered, and the scope of the spiritual training of the child is greatly curtailed.

But there are many homes, even Catholic, in which there is substantial comfort, yet little heed is given to the religious training of the child. The artificiality of modern civilization is doing away with the simple but beautiful Catholic customs.

The family night prayers or the rosary in common is being outmoded for a program over the radio. The haunting rhythm of the dances and the bright lights of the theater, the seduction of "going where the gang goes," all unite their attractions to entice young and old out of the home for recreation.

Altogether there is a gradual (Continued on Page 5)

Catholic Schools Diocese of Rochester

50 Chestnut Street Rochester, N. Y.

THIRTY-FOURTH TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

September 9, 1938

AQUINAS INSTITUTE FORENOON

10:00-11:00 General Assembly (Auditorium)
Opening prayer and hymn
The Pillar and Ground of Education
Rev. George Johnson, Ph.D.

11:00-12:00 Grades 1-6 (Auditorium)
Experiences in Teaching Religion to Children
Rev. William R. Kelly (Gymnasium)
Grades 7-8
New Arrangement of the Religion Course
Rev. John M. Duffy
High School Sectional Meetings (See below)

12:00-1:00 Grades 1-6, Luncheon (Gymnasium)
Grades 7-8
Social Implication of Health Education
Rev. William R. Kelly (Room 214)
What Catholic High Schools Should Contribute
Rev. George Johnson, Ph.D.

AFTERNOON

1:00-2:00 Grades 1-3
The Right Way to Read (Auditorium)
Grades 4-6
Modern Trends in Teaching Social Studies
Rev. Charles J. Mahoney
Grades 9-12, Luncheon (Gymnasium)

2:00-3:00 Grades 1-3
New Syllabus in Drawing and Art (Auditorium)
Grades 4-6
Value of Word Study (Auditorium)
High School Sectional Meetings (See below)

3:00-3:30 General Assembly (Auditorium)
Address
Most Rev. James E. Kearney, D.D.
Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Sectional Conferences (11:00-12:00)

Algebra	Rev. John C. O'Donnell, Chairman	Room 205
English	Sister Frances Teresa, Chairman	205
French	Sister Grace Regina, Chairman	207
Business I	Sister M. Imlina, Chairman	208
Science	Rev. Walter Kohl, Chairman	305
History	Rev. Leo Hastings, Chairman	306
Latin	Rev. John Keefe, Chairman	307
Business II	Sister Teresa Clara, Chairman	308

Nazareth College Has Increased Enrollment

Nazareth College begins its thirtieth year of service on September 14, with a large enrollment of freshmen students and an increase in the other three classes.

The College announces that Cornelius D. Sullivan who has received his Master's degree from the Institute of Medieval Studies in Toronto, Canada, will be head of the Department of Philosophy. Reverend Leonard A. Kelly, M. A., a member of the Faculty of Nazareth College since last September, will become a full-time professor. He will teach the course given for the first two years by Doctor Joseph C. Fenlon, who has been appointed to the faculty of the Catholic University of America.

AQUINAS EXPECTS Enrollment of Boys To Be Over 100

Tracing its history from a very humble beginning in 1902, Aquinas high school will open Tuesday, September 26, under the direction of the Basilian Fathers.

Mercy High Has Large Registration

Our Lady of Mercy High School opens September 6 with the largest registration in freshmen classes.

Eastern Rites Held
LOS ANGELES—Ten thousand Catholics or descendants of Catholics took part in the annual celebration of their national holiday here, following Mass at St. Anthony's Church. Syrian Catholics who are served by the Church of Our Lady of Lebanon, which holds the Maronite Rite and St. Ann's Church, which observes the Byzantine Rite, also held a celebration attended by about 5,000.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL IS FERTILE FIELD

For True Tolerance Says Dr. Stanford

NEW YORK—Because it teaches the all-embracing charity of Christ, the Catholic school is a fertile field for the development of the spirit of true tolerance, declared the Rev. Dr. Edward V. Stanford last night in his address over the Catholic Hour.

Referring to the frequently made charge that the Catholic school, because of its emphasis on the necessity of religion, breeds intolerance in its pupils, Dr. Stanford said "the fact that a man has definite religious beliefs and convictions that differ from those of other men does not prevent him from being tolerant of others nor does it of itself encourage intolerance."

Must Love Believer
Citing the varying conceptions of tolerance, Dr. Stanford said that it is not what a man believes that makes him intolerant, nor is it altogether the attitude which he assumes towards that which he does not believe, it is rather the attitude which he assumes towards the person holding a belief. "Thus," he added, "tolerance requires the ability to distinguish between the person's beliefs. In the person of the believer, there is always a broader man who has a common Father in God and an immortal soul like to our own. Such a person must always be clothed with the mantle of Christian charity. A reasonable love of the believer must ever be manifested even though it is impossible to agree or to sympathize with his belief."

Such are people who see in Catholicism a threat to tolerance," he went on, "because, for sooth, Catholic education stands for very definite beliefs and principles, beliefs and principles which in many instances are at variance with the beliefs and principles of those not of the Catholic faith."

82nd Year Looms For Niagara U.
NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.—Niagara University will begin its 82nd year on Monday, September 26, it was announced today by the Very Rev. Joseph M. Noonan, C. M. S. T. D., LL. D., president of the university.

NEW WING COMPLETED For Sacred Heart Academy Opening
The Academy of the Sacred Heart will open its 8th year Tuesday, September 13. Registration will take place on that day.

Nazareth Hall Opens September 6
Nazareth Hall, a private academy for dry pupils and boarders will open its fifty-fourth school year on Tuesday, September 6.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL Of St. Mary's To Open For Instruction Sept. 6
St. Mary's Commercial School, 31 South Street, training young men and women for the business world, will open Tuesday, Sept. 6. Offering a two year course, in all the essentials of business life, this school is conducted by the Sisters of Mercy under the direction of Sister M. Pauline, who has been with the school since its beginning.

MISSION HOUSE BEGINS THIRD YEAR AT CONESUS

St. Michael's Mission House, situated on the beautiful western slopes of Hemlock Lake, will open September 9, with an estimated enrollment of about 30. The school is conducted by the Divine Word Fathers, as a high school for vocations for missionary priests.

This school is one of three high schools conducted by the Society of the Divine Word; the other two schools are located at Epworth, Iowa, and Island Creek, Mass.

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL
ST. PAUL BLVD., SUMMERSVILLE
Established 1923
Conducted by Sisters of Mercy
Sister M. Charles, Principal
Pastor—Rev. John F. Muckle Assistant—Rev. James D. Coffey

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL
SPENCERPORT, N. Y.
Established 1927
Sister M. Julia, Principal
Pastor—Rev. George V. Predmore Assistant—Rev. L. E. Davis

ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL
SENECA FALLS, N. Y.
Enrollment 390
Conducted by The Sisters of St. Joseph
Sister M. Victoria, Principal
Pastor—Rev. Bartholomew L. Quirk Assistant—Rev. Charles L. Sullivan

ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL
GENEVA, N. Y.
Enrollment 334
Conducted by The Sisters of St. Joseph
Sister M. Albert, Principal
Pastor—Rev. Wm. H. McPhee Assistants—Revs. Raymond Nolan, Daniel Frazer

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL
GENEVA, N. Y.
Enrollment 588
Conducted by THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
Sister M. Gaston, Principal
Pastor—Rev. John A. Gower, V. L. D. Assistants—Revs. William J. O'Brien, Hugh McKeage

DE SALES HIGH SCHOOL
Catholic High School operated by St. Francis De Sales and St. Stephen's Parishes
GENEVA, N. Y. Rev. Edward K. Bell, Principal
Staff of Ten Sisters of St. Joseph

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL
ITHACA, N. Y.
Conducted by SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
Enrollment 461
Pastor—Rev. William Byrns
Assistants—Revs. Donald Cleary, Robert Cross

HOLY FAMILY HIGH SCHOOL
AUBURN, N. Y.
Enrollment 167
Principal, Rev. William Davis
HOLY FAMILY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Enrollment 398
Conducted by SISTERS OF MERCY
Pastor—Rev. John A. Gower, V. L. D. Assistants—Revs. John Healy, Francis Warding, William Davis

ST. ALOYSIUS' SCHOOL
AUBURN, N. Y.
Conducted by SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
Enrollment 212
Pastor—Rev. John B. Crowley Assistant—Rev. Austin B. Hann

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
ELMIRA, N. Y.
Conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph
Sister M. Adelaide Marie, Principal
Pastor—Rev. J. J. Moriarty
Assistants—Revs. James McKay, William Gaynor

ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL
ELMIRA, N. Y.
SISTERS OF MERCY
Sister M. Fidelis, Principal
Pastor—Rev. William Brien
Assistants—Revs. Frederick Wisne, Francis Pagan, William Loras

ST. CECELIA'S SCHOOL
ELMIRA, N. Y.
Conducted by The Sisters of Mercy
Present Superior—Sister M. Walburga
Registration 137
Pastor—Rev. Arthur C. Smith Assistant—Rev. John J. Tesny

SS. PETER AND PAUL'S SCHOOL
ELMIRA, N. Y.
Under Supervision of Sisters of St. Joseph
Sister M. Marie Thomas, Principal
Enrollment 180
Pastor—Rev. Edw. Mgr. John J. Le Assistants—Revs. Francis Tierney, Philip McGeehan