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Fr. Duffy Makes Yearly Report On Schools

Warns Parents School Cannot Fulfill Functions Of The Home

(Continued from Page 1)

some of its onerous obligations, has surrendered also some of its rights and privileges. And so often we hear the expression: "Greater co-operation of the parent with the teacher." In truth, it is the teacher who should co-operate with the parent, since the teacher acts only "in place of the parent." Every pastor throughout the country recognizes and laments the surrender of parental rights and duties. It is a tendency which should be resisted and checked. The school can no more fulfill the functions of the home than the eye can perform the work of the ear. If home training is neglected, it is simply left undone.

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL For the information of those who seldom come in contact with Catholic schools, we might state briefly the purpose and achievements of our Catholic elementary schools. This school is the foundation and by far the most important unit in the Catholic system of education. It is the nursery where virtue is fostered, where lasting impressions are made, where the child comes in contact with persons and influences outside the home. In this school, as in every Catholic school, religion is the first and basic subject. Here doctrine is taught, and early habits are formed or strengthened. Religion is not merely a subject of the curriculum; it is also a way of life to be lived and followed.

Health and physical education are also given proper emphasis, since health is a gift and an asset which should be safeguarded and preserved. We do not go to school to learn to make health the basis of education, every child in our schools is given an opportunity to become physically and mentally healthy. After religion, the foundation, and physical education, a necessary condition, comes a study of the Mother tongue (reading, spelling, penmanship, English), the Latin language, and drawing. The Social Studies (geography, history and civics) and Arithmetic. In the elementary school considerable time is spent by pupils in learning a reasonable mastery and appreciation of the English tongue which constitutes their chief medium of expression in the Catholic school music and art are considered important since not to read alone doth man live. These enhance the life of the soul. Music and art played a more prominent role in the curriculum in the Ages of Faith than they do today. The revival of the finer things might do much to distract youth from the goal of mere material prosperity and physical well-being. With so many pressures and pressures laboring often for selfish reasons to have greater emphasis placed on this or that subject, it is not easy to keep the curriculum perfectly balanced. Nevertheless, while endeavoring to meet the requirements of the Board of Regents, we strive sometimes against great odds to keep our schools Catholic.

Teacher Training The late Pontiff, Pope Pius XI enunciated a profound educational principle when he wrote: "The best schools are the result not so much of good methods as of good teachers, teachers who are thoroughly prepared and well-grounded in the matter they have to teach, who possess the intellectual and moral qualifications required by their important office." It is interesting to note that at the Education Convocation held at Albany, October 13, 1938, the United States Commissioner of Education, Dr. John W. Studebaker, made a strikingly similar observation. He said: "Teachers must not be just older adolescents working at school—keeping on for a year or two while waiting to marry or to take up some other work." Dr. Studebaker explained that the nature of the work requires the teacher not only to be a person of virtue, but learned in all the fields of modern problems." In accordance with the principle of providing thoroughly prepared teachers, a number of our teachers attended last summer, several colleges and universities of the East, while a still larger number attended our Diocesan normal schools. "In-service training" is nothing new to the teachers of this diocese. Pastors and parents have reason to be proud and grateful to know that our schools are staffed by a body of teachers so well equipped professionally and so thoroughly devoted to their high vocation.

Survey On Elementary School Faculty No. Religious 616 No. Lay 22 Total 638 No. Pupils per Teacher 36

It is a matter of genuine happiness to us to hear on so many occasions from public and private agencies of the generous co-operation of the Sisters' Health Program Three decades ago the physical well-being of children attending

Registration Report of Catholic Schools

DIocese OF ROCHESTER 1939-1940

Table with columns: SCHOOLS, Boys, Girls, Total, Religious, Lay, Total. Includes Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament, Corpus Christi, Good Counsel, Holy Apostles, Holy Cross, Holy Family, Holy Redeemer, Holy Rosary, Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, O. L. of Perp. Help, Our Lady of Victory, St. Ambrose, St. Andrew's, St. Anthony, St. Augustine, St. Boniface, St. Bridget's, St. Francis Xavier, St. George's, St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph's, St. Lucy's, St. Mary's, St. Michael's, St. Monica's, SS. Peter & Paul, St. Stanislaus, St. Theresa's, SUBURBAN, PRIVATE SCHOOLS, and HIGH SCHOOLS.

HIGH SCHOOLS Academy of the Sacred Heart, Aquinas Institute, Nazareth Academy, Our Lady of Mercy, St. Andrew's Seminary, Holy Family, Elmira Catholic High, De Sales, Geneva, St. Ann's, Hornell, St. Rose, Lima, St. Agnes Institute.

RECAPITULATION Registration 1939-1940 Total number of elementary pupils in Rochester 18,925 Total number of secondary pupils in Rochester 2,086 Total number of pupils in Rochester-Commercial 117 GRAND TOTAL IN ROCHESTER SCHOOLS 16,228

any schools, Public or Catholic, was not a matter of such great concern as it is today. The change that has come is a happy one. Regular attendance at school taxes the strength of even strong children, and pupils who are not well and strong, cannot do their best work in school. Children are somehow heir to

1938-1939 Health Service Data No. Parochial Schools-City 36 No. Schools with full or part time nurse 29 Number of Physical Examinations 9,224 Number to Dental Dispensary 21,818

scribed annual medical inspection for all pupils. While we have no school for physically handicapped children, nevertheless the physical defects discovered through medical examination are reported and the cases are followed to see that the children receive proper treatment. For instance, besides those chil-

Two Kindergartens Opened This Year, Win Approval Of School Head

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Two kindergartens were opened this year, one at St. Ann's and one at St. Francis. They were opened in the month of September. The school heads of both churches expressed their approval of the new kindergartens.

School Music On May 24, 1939, the Catholic Schools of Rochester and Monroe County observed Music Day in order to stimulate the study of music and music appreciation. Probably about 600 pupils from the five Catholic parish schools of Auburn sang a Mass congregationally at Holy Family Church on May 18th, and a similar service at St. Francis school of Elmira sang a High Mass congregationally at St. Peter and Paul's Church on Ascension Day, May 18th. The following week, May 21st, pupils from grades five, six, seven and eight, representative of all the Catholic schools of Rochester, gathered in four churches: Sacred Heart, Pro-Cathedral, St. Peter and Paul's, Holy Redeemer and Corpus Christi, where four Solemn Masses were sung congregationally at the same hour.

Music is not for the few; it is for all children, notes some musical ability; all have a capacity for music appreciation; all are subject to its refining influence. Therefore, we cannot deplore any of their first steps in choral singing in the upper grades. The morning Masses and the afternoon demonstration gave proof to teachers of what may reasonably be expected in music from elementary school pupils and were evidence to the public of the achievements of our Catholic schools.

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CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS Two decades ago there were comparatively few pupils in Catholic high schools in this diocese. Today there are 3,295 pupils a gain over last year—and some of our high schools are so crowded that they are either building or planning to build.

(See Comparison of 1938-1939 Figures in Box on Page 5.) This suggests well because it is convincing evidence of the quality of Catholic secondary education and of the satisfaction and conviction of parents.

It might seem boastful were we merely to enumerate the honors and awards that have come during the last school year to Catholic high schools of the diocese and to their students in recognition of outstanding achievement. However, we might mention that two State scholarships were awarded to graduates of the class of 1939 of Holy Family High School, Auburn, N. Y. De Sales High School, Geneva, sustained a great loss last summer in the resignation of the Rev. Edward K. Ball due to illness. While we rejoice to know that Father Ball has recovered, we regret exceedingly that it was necessary for him to relinquish the principalship of De Sales High School where he has served since September, 1928. Father Ball taught since his ordination in 1921, first at the Old Cathedral High School, then at Aquinas Institute and finally in De Sales High School, Geneva. He was an able teacher, an excellent administrator and his amiable personality endeared him to students and faculty.

De Sales High School is now under the capable leadership of the Rev. Raymond Nolan. We feel sure that the same co-operation of teachers and loyalty of students enjoyed by Father Ball will be accorded to Father Nolan. We wish him every success in his new position and trust it will be a happy and fruitful one.

To relieve overcrowded conditions at Nazareth Academy, a first year high school class has entered St. Agnes Institute for the first time. This school has

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