

THE LITTLE CATHOLIC COURIER—STUDENTS OWN PAGE

THE LITTLE
Catholic Courier

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THE STAFF

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THE POLICY

This publication stands for the best in journalistic and literary endeavors as portrayed by students from the high schools of our diocese. We have broken rules to include our ideas on various types of writing, but perhaps the admission of our fault will offset the harm done.

Why Catholic High Education?

By MARY ANN O'GRADY
(Sacred Heart Academy)

Our city is fortunate in having several Catholic High Schools. When a child attends one of them, the parents may be sure that the child will be trained not only for his welfare here on earth, but for his welfare after death. By this we mean that the children in Catholic High Schools study the secular subjects necessary for their vocations in life and also become familiar with their religion, the way to eternal life.

Every Catholic child has principles or standards which he learns to follow in High School and which he continues to follow after he leaves school. Religious training has a definite end, and that end is the attainment of truth. Especially now, when false doctrines are so prevalent, this essential factor of education is emphasized in Catholic schools. If it is not learned in High School, our youth will be the prey of Communists and Bolsheviks and other like groups.

A Catholic High School teaches its pupils to love the arts, especially those which are part of our great Catholic heritage. In addition to the great masters studied in secular schools, special emphasis is given to the Catholic writers, some of whom are excluded entirely from non-Catholic curricula. All else that is best in secular studies is taught, but in the light of Catholic truth.

Parents should be eager to send their children to a Catholic High School. They can be sure that through the religious and secular training received there, their children will be made ready to take their place in the world, both as good citizens and as good Catholics.

"Oomph" — Our Goal

By VIRGINIA SULLIVAN
(Our Lady of Mercy High School)

Arrived at last, that long-awaited plug for us moderns.—Late, rumors have been floating through the ether to the effect that older people do not think we make much sense. They are wrong. We make all kinds of sense. And we can prove it, too!

For instance, take that most touchy of all family peevcs, the use of 1940 language in general, and the word, "oomph," in particular. Now, "oomph," according to people (just any kind), means charm, allure. It has been applied, with varying degrees of success, to anything from hats and hosiery to doughnuts and dog food. But in our opinion, "oomph" means individuality—attraction which, in any language, add up to one quality—personality. "Oomph," or personality if you prefer, is not only natural but spiritual.

Have you ever thought that "oomph" is a truly Catholic virtue? Well, it is. In that one word is combined all the warm friendliness, all the kindness and charity we should feel for others. And we do. We never ooze "oomph" more successfully than when we have not an enemy or a care in the world.

Do not say it! We know what you are thinking: "Very nice and all that but..." You are wrong. "Oomph" is a very easy virtue to attain because the course is all marked out for us. Along our way, three sign posts mark traveling a pleasure, and, these three are frequent Mass and Holy Communion, the imitation of Our Lord and His Blessed Mother, and active Catholicism. If "busy people are happy people," then active Catholics make the merriest saints.

However, to walk with surly down the way of life requires courage; and, that is the catch. For courage is stamina, perseverance, and, thus, difficult for us to master completely. But with God's help, it is not impossible to turn "thumbs down" on some of our "best sellers," to refrain from seeing questionable movies, to patronize only those places known for their decent floor-show. In spite of the severity of these demands, modern young Catholics recognize and act upon them.

Now that we have disposed of the personal benefits of Catholic "oomph," what is its value to the world? We moderns have that question completely settled. United with Christ in the mystical life, of course, we shall be successful—in promoting Catholic ideals; of course, we shall set the world on fire—with love for Our Lord and Our Lady; of course, we shall be rich—in peace and friendships. And to think it all came about through practicing virtue and remembering our motto: Every modern Catholic is an "oomph" boy or girl.

Meet The Princess

—A SHORT STORY—

By DONALD DONNELLY—Holy Family High School

"Wow! I never thought I would get an invitation to this affair," James S. said to a friend as he showed him a piece of paper. "You are cordially invited to attend a masquerade, on October 15th, at the lower right-hand corner."

"I think that means 'Real Quick' if you please," said Jim. "But I better get my mother and make sure."

October 15th came around and Jim figured himself to be a hit in his new costume symbolizing Fu Min Chu. At eight o'clock sharp, Jim was ringing the bell on B's front porch.

"Hello, Jim, I'm glad to see you," he heard.

"Hello, how are you?" Jim replied. He entered and took of his coat saying, "You look swell in that Colonial Masquerade costume."

"Thank you. You look nice too, Oh! Boy, what Chinaman you represent."

"The great Fu Min Chu, a Chinese man."

"Some similarity anyway," Betty said under her breath, and aloud, "Come in the front room and meet the band."

Jim entered and nearly fell over in the first flight to meet his eye was the most fascinating person he ever saw. She had large blue eyes and long blond hair. And her hair was dressed like him, in an oriental pin-up.

He suddenly came out of it when Betty kicked him and said, "My attention, you know all the boys, and the girls are Rita Jean, Mary, Barbara, Enid, Shirley and Joan."

During a game of Pot-Office, which Jim enjoyed very much, he successfully tried to seduce Joan's number. He was too richly disappointed.

"Shall we eat now?" Betty asked. Jim escorted Joan to the dining room.

"Thank you," she offered in a kindly voice after Jim had served her. The dinner conversation was largely based on the dinner that were to take place during the fall.

After dinner, they retired to the front room where Betty announced that there would be prizes for the funniest and most impressive costume of both the boys and girls. Jim felt sure that he would win the most prizes for the most impressive, but that he was judged the funniest. "The class they know something anyway," muttered Jim as Joan's costume was placed at the most impressive.

"Jim, you've got to dance so after making Betty's permission, he turned on the radio and invited Joan to dance. She accepted and Jim sat in heaven. "May I see you home?" asked Jim.

"I'm afraid not, thank you. I asked my father to call for me," replied Joan. Jim was downcast but suddenly he received an inspiration.

"Could you call up your father and tell him that he needs to come, that you've got to go home with me?"

"I'll try," Joan said, leaving the room a few minutes later, the couple with a "It's all right," Jim must be to earth."

"Thank you," replied Jim with his eyes on Joan. While dancing everyone seemed to be smiling at him as if he were the object of some joke. "The only thing that matters with them," muttered Jim. "It's all right."

At midnight when the rest of the guests started to leave the party, Jim and Joan were left. Jim felt great. His father had let him take their new car.

Jim stopped in front of a house. "This is where I get out," sighed Joan. "But you live here," said Jim. "I know the boy who lives here. Are you his sister?"

"No, I'm just visiting with his sister," Dorothy replied.

"As Jim walked up to the porch and put his arm around her he said in a decidedly menacing voice, "Wait a minute."

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Own 'Academy Awards' Made By Mercy Class

By MARTHA RIGNEY

Our Lady of Mercy High School Spencer Tracy and Bette Davis were recently judged the best actor and actress on the screen today by "Academy Award Meeting" held by the English Classes of Our Lady of Mercy High School.

These stars were selected because of their excellent ability to adopt themselves to any possible part successfully and for their acting in such well-known pictures as "Boy's Town" and "Captains Courageous" for Mr. Tracy, and "Dark Victory" and "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" for Miss Davis.

As second choice the poll selected Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh, while Raymond Massey, for his characterization in "Abraham Lincoln" was voted for third place with Deanna Durbin.

In regard to radio programs the prize was awarded to the "Lux Radio Theater" for its outstanding presentations of current movies, plays and books. Running a very close second was "The Information Please," whereas the Aldrich Family Kay Kyser and Eilroy Queen tied for third place honors.

Glance at Seniors Of Elmira C.H.S.

By JAMES BARRETT

Elmira Catholic High School As graduation draws near for the class of '40, many pleasant memories come to the minds of the outgoing class of Elmira Catholic High School.

The year 1938 introduced not only a class of shy, green freshmen to the sacred corridors of Catholic High, but it also brought with it a new Principal, Father Burns. Besides, of course, going to school several years, he had gained considerable knowledge of the ethics of teaching at Aquinas Institute.

The class looked for presidential leadership to Virginia Gantner, an outstanding freshman. After a year of studying under our very capable teachers, the class was deemed worthy of Sophomore status.

This year was a very busy one for John Daly, since his duties as president entailed the supervision of the Sophomore Carnival.

By the time the class became Juniors it had advanced so in age and wisdom that it was prepared to cope with the usual but distressing problems of every Junior class. During James Ruddle's administration the notable successes of the year were the Junior-Senior banquet and the Junior Carnival.

In 1940 Donald Frawley was elected president. Up to the present date, his administration has been most promising. It is expected to reach its climax with the Senior Prom.

All luck and success is extended to the class of '40 by the classes who will in future years receive the diplomas from our Alma Mater.

Youth Does Read, Librarian Declares

By MARIETTE WICKES

Nazareth Academy Miss Agnes Kilder, librarian of the sunny Young People's Room in the main Rochester Public Library, said last week that young people "really enjoy reading."

According to Miss Kilder, the Young People's Room one of the few such library divisions in the country devoted solely to literature for young people, is teaching the youth of high-school and college age to enjoy reading. A proof of this is that many young people even spend part of their vacations in the library and especially in the Young People's Room.

"What kind of books do young people prefer? Well, just as their elders, they are always eager to read new books. The newest stories to be published, especially popular novels by Sinclair Lewis is also very popular now," commented Miss Kilder. "Books about vocations are in demand, and the subject of aviation holds special interest for boys."

The librarian also said that books of fiction are in much greater demand than those of non-fiction. Other books sought after are those which have recently been made into motion pictures, such as "Wuthering Heights." A special section of the Young People's Room is devoted to this type of literature.

To have an interview with anyone who knows books, is pleasant, but to have one in the atmosphere of books suited to young people and with a person interested in those books is a wonderful experience.

OPTIMISTS

By JULIA SINGER

Our Lady of Mercy High School Of whispering winds, the poets sing— Of silver lakes and glorious spring.

They tell the beauties of the sea, They verses sprout with stately trees. Their eyes see only lovely maidens, Whose hair cascades in golden braids.

The lads they find are fine and strong, Facing their troubles with a song. The only rain they'll ever know, Drops from the eaves at sunset's glow.

The woods to them will ever be a place for fairy revelry. It's strange to me that they should find a world that leaves their brows unlined— These folks that live from day to day With only sunbeams in their way.

Gala Mission Day Planned May 29 At Aquinas Institute

By EDWARD WEBER and JOHN DAVIS

The merry, merry month of May will have as its joyful climax a new and better Mission Day, May 29, assures Father Hafley, Director of Mission Activities at Aquinas Institute. All features of former holidays will be present, but in a more expanded form. The staff will again make use of the same three-fold outline which has proved practical, popular, and profitable.

The Variety Show is to be under the guidance of Father John Murphy, who declares that the three performances will have vigorous tones, humor and versatility will be predominant. Jam sessions, which weekly the boys have enjoyed, will be given the students experience in the field of entertainment, and indeed might be regarded as auditions for this Mission Day Show.

The Maroon and White Swingers, singing hits, the movie girls, the members of the Glee Club, skits and dancing will riot through the day.

INDOOR AND OUT Father Alexander Grant will direct the exhibit in the school gymnasium; displays by the numerous clubs, which will feature drawings, posters, essays, technical drawings, the Rod and Gun Club of course, ancient manuscripts, ingenious scientific devices, and other phases of the liberal arts, the Hobby Show, a cavalcade of the progress made by individual in the realm of science, and the Hobby Show, the members of the Glee Club, skits and dancing will riot through the day.

Open House Set By St. Mary's Commercial

By MARY CONLEY

Our Lady of Mercy High School Thunders of progress follow their close, as the St. Mary's Commercial School has planned Visitors Day for Wednesday afternoon, May 23.

Diction and speed typing tests, both from records and with musical accompaniment will be demonstrated. The routine of a typical business office will be handled by different members of the class.

Various office machines and commercial equipment will be manipulated by the 44 members of the two-year classes.

A one-act play, "Boss vs. Secretary" will bring the demonstration to a close. Cast in the play will be Ann Grant, Catherine Bohne, Phyllis Sprague, Louise Luciano and Elizabeth Beckwith.

Nazareth Juniors Organize Press Club

By MARGARET VAN LOO

Nazareth Academy recently organized a press club in order to learn how to prepare articles for press publication. The club will publish a paper on leads, headlines, feature stories, interviews, human interest stories, and the elements of a good news story were offered.

The officers elected are as follows: Rosemary Welch, president; Patricia O'Grady, vice-president; Margaret Van Loos, secretary; and Audrey Hoffman, treasurer.

How To Read A Book

By LOUISE BEAON

Nazareth Academy A well known author and lecturer came to the conclusion one day that even the so-called educated people of America can't read. So Mortimer J. Adler wrote a book of 398 pages with the sole purpose of teaching people the way to really read a book.

So you think you can read a book? The initial pages of this book will gently convince you that you can't! The whole fault in America's reading habits lies in the failure to comprehend the written word. The author bluntly expresses his opinion that the modern system of education is a failure when even college graduates aren't able to read properly. Mr. Adler believes that if students could read, the many courses which clutter the curriculum might be disposed of simply by reading the books on these courses.

Once the rather "alarmed" reader sufficiently realizes his inability to read a book he avails a magic solution for his problems. Mortimer J. Adler wisely offers no simple and easy method, but presents practical rules for reading, and discusses them at length.

Perhaps the theme of the book sounds heavy or dry, but it isn't. The author merely has done an excellent work of proving that the art of reading, really reading, is the means of getting a liberal education. It is a real intellectual experience, and more than that, an actual challenge.

Interviews Fr. Lord On Modern Youth

By MARCELLA SOMNOR

Nazareth Academy It was at the Convention of Catholic Youth at the Columbus Civic Centre that I first obtained Father Lord's permission to interview him! It was at the Union Meeting of the Sodality that I presented him with my questions! But it was on the New York Central, as it sped toward St. Louis that he answered these questions!

My questioning began with a modern issue, "Father Lord, do you think the voting age should be changed to 18 years?" His answer was one that young people would expect from him. "Since the young people don't, and their answer is always 'NO' and I do disagree. I think if they are old enough to fight, to marry under law at 18, etc., they should be old enough to vote. But if they disagree maybe they're right."

CITIES FAULTS TOO "Thinking Father Lord would be fully qualified to characterize today's youth, I asked him just how we measured up. "Youth today has self-confidence, initiative, a fine Catholic education, and strength developed from contact with Christ in the Blessed Sacrament." But we have faults, he said, "a lack of interest in actual things, accepting paper standards without realizing they are paper, carelessness about respect that should be paid to members of the other sex, and failure to use one's religious education."

Because he is National Director of Sodality, I asked what qualities a good school leader should have. Applying it to all leaders he answered: "Reliability... reliability... reliability, unselfishness, and the willingness to work for others and give them a break, strong faith, and a knowledge of what he believes, personal purity, ability to make friends and keep them, and knowledge of organization."

Keeping on this interesting subject, I asked what he thought about boys belonging to Sodality. "Since the Sodality was originated for BOYS, he concluded, 'where could they more properly belong?'"

With that I ended my interview. "The harder the question, the better I like them," said Father Lord at the end of the interview. "The questions were a cinch but all Sodality, North, East, West and South consider Father Lord's opinions as NEWS."

Seniors Survey Daily News

By MARY CONLEY

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High School Students Take Over Editing Their Own 'Write-ups'

STAFF MEMBERS LAY OUT 'DUMMY'



Some of the staff of the "LITTLE CATHOLIC COURIER" shown hard at work preparing their own pages. They are (from left): Rosemary Welch, Nazareth Academy; Julia Singer, Our Lady of Mercy High; Ruth O'Grady, the Academy of the Sacred Heart; John Davis, Aquinas Institute.

Nazareth Wins Candid Photos Mission Contest

By FLORENCE DIETRICH
Our Lady of Mercy High School Under the direction of Rev. High J. Hafley, C.S.B., of Aquinas Institute, a series of contests concerning Catholic Missions have been conducted in the form of "Information Pleas" programs.

Participating as "experts" were students who attend Nazareth Academy, Aquinas Institute, Academy of the Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Mercy High School, St. Mary's Commercial and St. Joseph's Commercial.

The questions used in these programs were drawn up from material appearing in "The Shield," national magazine published by the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade.

Each contest of the season was conducted by Martin Brophy, manager of ceremonies, with Warren Fige as timekeeper, and Edward Weber, judge and scorekeeper. All three are students of Aquinas Institute.

After compiling the total score for each school, Nazareth Academy has been declared winner of this series, and "top" in the circle of well-informed students. A specially designed pennant will be awarded the winner. Tied for second place were Our Lady of Mercy High and Academy of the Sacred Heart.

Aquinas Musical Units Acclaimed

By WALTER FRENCH
Aquinas Institute Now that the spring season has finally arrived, the Music Department of Aquinas Institute has become the scene of intense activity.

As practice makes perfect, rehearsals are in progress under the direction of Mr. Raymond Hazen.

This year's band, one of the largest in the schools history has sixty-six members, representing every class in the school. Having distinguished itself at the State Contest in Canandaigua, and at the Convention of Catholic Youth, the band is looking forward to a successful season.

An excellent source of musical ability is the Junior Band, where students are trained in the fundamentals of band music. At present there are over forty instrumentalists in this organization, many of whom will be added to the Variety Band upon graduation of the senior members.

Another popular branch of the Music Department is the Maroon and White Swingers who are having their most promising season since their organization, several years ago. Under the direction of Harold Bayer, the band has played at the Junior Prom, the Music Department Dance and the Senior Play. It can also be heard at the newly-organized Entertainment Program, an event sponsored by the Mission Unit.

Adding greatly to the prestige of Aquinas is the Glee Club. Having turned in a fine performance in the State Contest, the Club is now rehearsing for the Spring Musical.

The organization of the Music Department has been thorough and constructive, and the results can be seen in the high standard set by the various musical organizations in the school. For this credit must be given to Mr. Hasenauer, the director of all musical activity at Aquinas Institute.

College Scholarship Won By Nazareth Girl

Miss Teresa Leane, Nazareth Academy senior and daughter of Mr. John Leane, 54 Epworth Street, has won a \$400 scholarship at the College of New Rochelle as a result of a competitive examination taken in March.

Miss Leane is president of the Nazareth Academy Glee Club, and has been a leading role in the Senior Play, "Sleeping Beauty," and is active in Sodality work.

She is a graduate of St. Peter and Paul's School.

7 Catholic High Schools 'Make' Page

To edit and plan this feature page of the CATHOLIC COURIER, representatives from Nazareth Academy, Aquinas Institute, Academy of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Mercy High School met in the Education office of Father Duffy, Tuesday, May 7.

Numerous articles written by students of high schools of the diocese had been submitted. The work of the journalists thus consisted in arranging the news and feature stories so as to produce a page of interesting and informative reading material. Due to the limited allotment of space, most of the submitted material could not be printed.

DRANKENY SCHOOLS IN In addition to the copy furnished by the Rochester Catholic high schools, material was written also by students of Elmira Catholic High School, De Sales High in Canandaigua and Holy Family High in Auburn. This material included interviews, reviews, short stories, poetry and feature stories.

Included in the junior editorial staff which met to plan the page were Rosemary Welch, Nazareth Academy; Julia Singer, Our Lady of Mercy High School; Ruth O'Grady and Marietta Wickes, Nazareth Academy; while Mary Elizabeth Knight came in the name of Sacred Heart Academy. Representing Aquinas Institute were Edward Weber and John Davis, Delaware Center. The Editorial Class of Our Lady of Mercy High School were Julia Singer and Florence Dietrich.

The thrill of being "behind the news" was a novel experience for these journalists. Working in a magazine office, they were not only to be a part of the news but to be a part of the news itself. The thrill of being "behind the news" was a novel experience for these journalists. Working in a magazine office, they were not only to be a part of the news but to be a part of the news itself.

Arrangement of the "dummy" and the final proof-reading were completed the work of the journalists. All that remained was to wait for the first glimpse of the printed page.

Business School Given Praise

By MAZEL ERRLAND
St. Joseph's Commercial School It has always been my ambition to major in Commercial Studies, therefore, after completing the grades, I decided to enroll at St. Joseph's Business School.

The studies there, which include stenography, typewriting and bookkeeping, are not only useful, but also interesting. The school is equipped with the latest office machines, typewriters, mimeograph, dictating and various adding machines. I found it to be an ideal Commercial School.

The speed tests in shorthand and typing, as well as the practice drills in bookkeeping are examples of actual office practice. Religion, and the problems connected with it, are studied and discussed so that the student will be better fitted to uphold the truths of their faith. The Rev. Stephen Aulbach, C.S.B., is the spiritual advisor.

Aids from these studies, work with stenosis and the mimeograph machine. It is a pleasure to see newspapers and year books.

We have an active Sodality and are affiliated with the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade. St. Joseph's is a model of a true Business School. It is under the direction of the Reverend Fathers, and is taught by the Sisters of Notre Dame.

Believes He Did

A country school council was visiting school, and the chairman was putting the pupils through a practical test.

"Who signed the Magna Carta?" he asked, turning to one boy. "Please, sir, 'twasn't me," whispered the youngster.

The chairman in disgust told him to take his seat. But an old citizen, a layman also on the council, was not satisfied, so he said: "Call that boy back, I don't like his manner. I believe he did do it!"

Reviews 'White Noon'—A Novel

By ISABEL KELLY
De Sales High School Those who love and admire courage—real courage which has and proves a man or woman will find "White Noon," a novel of real inspiration and pleasure.

In the near future Mother Church may in her wisdom see fit to give us a real American saint—Mother Elizabeth Seton, founder of the widespread community of the Daughters of Charity. The story of her life is, therefore, most interesting and appealing to us at the present time.

In the novel, "White Noon" which is a continuation of her earlier work "As the Morning Breaks," Sister Mary Swetinton tells us most beautifully the strange events which led eventually to Elizabeth Seton's conversion from the Episcopalian to the Catholic faith in which her "troubled soul was to find deep peace and rest." Throughout the book we see Elizabeth Seton, a young wife and mother, journeying to Italy in the hope of recovered health for her dying husband. We read with increasing wonder the story of her long and painful journey to the "Sleeping Beauty," and is active in Sodality work.

She is a graduate of St. Peter and Paul's School.