

Lay Leadership Stressed In Luncheon Club Address

By MARY E. FITZGERALD

CORNING—Catholic leaders emulating the great Frederic Ozanam are needed today, Miss Mary FitzGerald, executive secretary, Catholic Charities of Elmira declared in addressing the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, last Friday at the Baron Stueben Hotel.

Joseph Stocking Lewis, M. D.—In Memoriam

Twelve years ago, on January twenty-first, Catholic Charities opened an office in a small room in the Federation Building in Elmira. All beginnings are difficult. Growing pains are just as severe for an agency as for an individual and to us who have been through the process as a part of Catholic Charities the memory of those first days of 1930 are still a vivid reality, in which are mingled the heartaches and the warm pleasant thoughts of friends "who stood by" when others turned and left us.

Such a friend was Dr. Lewis, one who never failed to answer our call for help in the name of one of God's unfortunates. Calls upon him were many. His practice was exceedingly heavy but he was never too busy to take one more home call or another office appointment. With his unfailing kindly understanding he listened to the worker's story of the need. Not once did he glance at his watch or hurry a story to an end. He saw in every pain racked body an immortal soul and always he was ready to give of his skill to "the least of these."

Once it was a poor old lady, mentally ill who had neither family nor friends. In an emergency when the Visitor from Catholic Charities found herself alone in a house with a patient who could not be admitted to the hospital without a physician's authorization it was to Dr. Lewis that she turned. It was a busy afternoon in his office and there were many other home calls to be made, but he did not disregard our plea for immediate action.

And so it has always been, whenever we turned to him in the name of a lonely old woman, a neglected child, a wayward girl or a delinquent boy. Dr. Lewis could always see the social problem that was so often closely associated with the physical ailments, real or imaginary, and over and above all he saw in those who came to him the image and likeness of God.

Elmira has lost a great man, a citizen of whom any city might well be proud, a family has given up a dear husband and father and Catholic Charities has lost an advisor and friend who cannot easily be replaced. To those who knew him, he was a man who had no enemies, a gentleman who never offends, a companion well beloved and a physician who was a friend to all, who combined the soundest medical advice with an ever active dependence upon the Divine Healer. "Given in His name." Countless Elmira men, women and children whisper that loving epitaph as they remember the kindly doctor to whom they turned when bodily torment was closely related to mental torment.

Dr. Lewis richly merited by his life and his work the loving words of Holy Mother Church. "He did it to the least of My brethren." He was a great doctor and in his time was found pleasing to Almighty God. "Charity never faileth away." This is the Charity to which Joseph Stocking Lewis, M. D., was committed. May he rest in peace!

Escaped German Youth Leader To Lecture

SYRACUSE, N. Y. — Dr. Wilhelm Solzbacher, former Catholic youth leader in Germany, will be one of the speakers at the second annual Mid-Winter Institute of International Relations meeting here February 13-15.

Dr. Solzbacher, who arrived in the United States late last year after eluding Gestapo agent in one of the occupied countries of Europe, will speak on "Problems of Social and Cultural Reconstruction" and "The Place of the Church and Religion in Reconstruction."

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Eugene D. Kelly, president of the Club, presided and presented the speaker.

In her address, Miss FitzGerald said in part:

"Lay Catholic Action is the cry of the moment, the call to service in a sorely troubled world. Turning for a moment to the past, we see a young man, answering the challenge of 1832: It is true that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded pointedly by many but this sad-eyed Frederic Ozanam had a decisive part in its foundation. He said of himself, 'God gave me the grace to be born in the true faith—later the muffled din of an unbelieving world reached me.' When these doubts assailed him, Ozanam turned to God and found consolation. In those hours of anguish, God moulded and prepared him to answer the challenge of 1833.

Moved To Action: "Ozanam's voice, betraying the deep emotion of his soul, sent into the hearts of young men, the fiery arrow which moved them to Catholic action. Thus the Society of St. Vincent de Paul became a reality and Ozanam was the principal instrument whom the Almighty had chosen to answer the challenge of 1833.

"And what has that to do with us in 1942? Can we settle snugly back and say, 'It can't happen here. We are Catholics but we do not need to prove it. Our contribution to Catholic Action does not mean that we must inconvenience ourselves!'"

American's Answer: "How true of America! For the past fifty years at least, our thinking has been predicated on the thought of progress without end. And then came our Defense program and finally Pearl Harbor. A serious challenge lies ahead of you. Answer it as Americans, yes, but also as Catholics. If we have learned anything from the First World War, we know that each one of us will be needed. We must do our part to preserve the morale of America.

"You have made a splendid beginning, in banding yourselves together under the label of Catholic Men—but that is not enough. Let us prove now as never before, that Catholic men are leaders. We have a great heritage. We are not only Americans, but as Catholics we have been taught to respect the law of God and the law of our land. The fields are ripe with the harvest. The present holds unlimited opportunities for your personal services.

"Let us remember that we are living in America in 1942. Our world is at war and our Holy Father is calling for Catholic Action. Are we going to take up this challenge of 1942, with all the ardour and zeal of an Ozanam?"

Catholic Instruction Made Obligatory In Bolivia

LA PAZ — The Bolivian Government has issued a decree making Catholic religious instruction obligatory in official as well as private primary schools, exception being made for pupils of another religious belief, and non-Catholic private schools.

FOR VICTORY: BUY BONDS

Judges Announced

Judges in the \$100 prize contest are announced in this week's edition of the CATHOLIC COURIER. Full details of the contest are published on Page 2.

Acting as judges will be the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, V.G., Editor-in-Chief of the CATHOLIC COURIER; Rev. Lawrence E. Casey, Vice-Chancellor; Rev. John M. Duffy, Superintendent of Schools; Thomas H. O'Connor, News Editor of the CATHOLIC COURIER; and Howard W. Kluppert, Manager of the CATHOLIC COURIER.

An important change was announced this week. The closing of the contest has been extended for two weeks. Entries must therefore be postmarked not later than midnight, March 1, 1942.

FOR VICTORY: BUY BONDS



ANNUAL SODALITY BANQUET of St. John the Baptist Sodality at Mark Twain Hotel, Tuesday night presented the above at the Speakers' Table. They are: (from left) Mrs. Francis Rowke, treasurer; Miss Margaret Kennedy, president; the Rev. Raymond C. Heisel, spiritual director; Charles A. Tushar, guest speaker; Miss Grace Miller, toastmistress and Mrs. Thomas Reide, general chairman. In a stirring address, Mr. Tushar of the Catholic Speakers Bureau, Rochester, explained "The Catholic"—A True American.

Valentine Dinner Fete Set For Elmira K. C.

A family dinner party is scheduled for St. Valentine's Day by the Elmira Council, Knights of Columbus. It will be held at the Columbus Center.

A delicious roast beef dinner will be served at 6:30 for the Knights and their friends after which entertainment will be provided for both adults and children.

Franco A. Rauh heads the committee in charge, assisted by Ronald Bacon, Thomas J. Brett, Joseph Barrett, Francis E. Connelly, Earl V. Costello, Thomas P. Donahue, James A. Farrell, William J. Devcreaux, John J. Saunders, Edmund L. McGinn, Walter L. Supple, Stephen T. Dombroski, John F. Kosnicki, J. Bernard Kelly, Lewis A. Laufaweller, Edward F. Lagonegro, Richard S. Prechtl, Leo J. McPherson, Joseph T. Limoncelli, William J. McCarthy, Daniel F. Kennedy, Robert L. Pauts and Francis F. O'Brien.

Reservations may be made by calling Columbus Center, 2-2235; Mr. Rauh, 4175; or Grand Knight John T. Nugent, 2-3212.

French Cardinal Warns Against Pseudo-Prophecies Regarding End of War

LIMOGES (NC) — A warning issued by His Eminence Emanuel Cardinal Suhard, Archbishop of Paris, scores the propagation of pseudo-prophecies regarding the end of the war, which are published without any indorsement from ecclesiastical authorities. His Eminence also warns against the relation of alleged recent apparitions which are equally without ecclesiastical sanction, and against superstitious books.

"We should believe in the intervention of Providence in present events, provided we do penance for our sins," the Cardinal Archbishop says. "But to expect this intervention without any effect on our part to deserve it, is to tempt God."

Rio Governor Gives Land For Bishop's Home

RIO DE JANEIRO — The Most Rev. Jose Pereira Alves, Bishop of Niteroi, will build his episcopal residence on a piece of land which has been donated to the Diocese by the Governor of the State of Rio, Commandante Amaral Peixoto. The Diocese this year celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation.

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Honor Miss Isabel T. Goss On Retiring As Board Head

AUBURN—Election of officers by the Board of Trustees of Mercy Hospital on Feb. 2 was marked by high tribute being paid to Miss Isabel T. Goss retiring on her own insistence from the presidency of the Board after seven years of service.

Board Pays Tribute To Dr. O'Neill

AUBURN — The following tribute to the late Dr. Louis F. O'Neill was adopted at the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mercy Hospital on Feb. 2. "In the death of Dr. Louis F. O'Neill Mercy Hospital sustains a distinct and very great loss. This is also true of the community in which his upright Christian life and readiness to be of service were always conspicuous. He never accepted a responsibility without doing his utmost to fulfill it and was always faithful to any cause he elected to support. He was often called upon to lend the influence of his name and the prestige of his personality and his generous service on behalf of others and did it in a sincere and earnest spirit of co-operation. These characteristics were particularly in evidence and found their greatest play in Mercy Hospital.

"He was one of the most active of the group which under the leadership of Father Flynn started the movement for another Hospital in Auburn. His whole-hearted devotion and enthusiasm for the cause was one of the strongest contributing causes to its success. No one was happier than Doctor O'Neill when the little hospital opened its doors in the old Thornton Home. He followed its course with solicitude and became a tower of strength to it in its early days. The little building was soon found to be inadequate to accommodate the number applying for admittance.

Helped in Many Ways

"When the new building which at first seemed only a dream to be realized in the far distant future became not only a possibility but a necessity, Doctor O'Neill was indefatigable in the drawing of plans, the raising of funds and the many problems connected with it. When the new Mercy Hospital was formally dedicated, his vision and untiring effort and steadfast courage had played a large part in bringing it about. His sincere interest, his generous service, his wise counsel was invaluable in the years that followed. He gave the power of his life and the richness of his talent and gifts to the creation of this Hospital.

"The Trustees now gratefully acknowledge this precious service and pay tribute to his memory. The Hospital will go on fulfilling its purpose as he saw it and, in the successful fulfillment of that purpose will constitute a fitting monument to the devotion of Doctor O'Neill and the men associated with him whose wise foresight and prudent planning brought it into being and made possible its steady progress in the community."

Billions for Allied victory... or for tribute to dictators? There is only one answer: Buy U.S. Defense Bonds and Stamps.

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Nephew of Wake Island Commander Joins Marines

WASHINGTON — The heroic stand of Maj. James Patrick Sirovack Devereux, Catholic commander of the Marines who defended Wake Island, has inspired his nephew, 19-year-old John Ryan Devereux, to enlist in the Marine Corps.

Young Devereux left for the Marine Corps training base, Parris Island, S. C., Feb. 9, it is revealed. He would have been graduated next spring from preparatory school, but, he explained, he wants a crack at the Japanese who stormed Wake Island.

Mark 400th Year

Mexico City — The Archdiocese of Guadalajara is participating in the commemoration of the fourth centenary of the founding of that city.

Mohammedan Patient Pays Nuns Tribute In Tunisia Hospital

VICHY — A pleasing tribute has been paid to the Religious at the hospital in Mutuelleville, Tunisia, by a Mohammedan patient. As he was leaving the institution, he remarked: "It is not only the doctor who cures; convalescence is facilitated by the sweetness of the Sisters."

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