

Society for Propagation of the Faith

The REV. JOHN S. RANDALL, Director

50 Chestnut St. Home - Foreign Catholic Missions Stone 4013

The account of another story behind the headlines came to us this week in a delayed letter from Belgium. Forwarded to the American convent of an Order of nuns whose name is withheld for fear of reprisals, the communication, describing the bombing of Louvain, was typical of the now almost proverbial courage demonstrated by religious throughout the war. Entrusting themselves to Divine Protection, with the safety of those around them their first concern, our nuns and priests have worked right there where the news is made. Miraculously, the loss of life has been slight in proportion to the dangers encountered.

Let an eye-witness, the Sister who wrote the letter from Louvain, tell you what a dawn attack, a Dunkirk, is like:

"One morning, during Meditation, a terrific roaring of buzzing and whirring was heard. Suddenly sharp screams filled the air, followed by tremendous crashes which we learned afterwards were explosions. Women and children rushed up and down the streets crying out 'Look! Enemy airplanes! Bombs!' Some of the Sisters thought it was the Belgian troops practicing, but in a few minutes the rattling of doors and windows, the shaking of the house, the roar of planes immediately overhead, and above all the ominous crashing of bombs all around undecieved those would be optimists. There could be no doubt. The invasion had begun, the enemy was over Louvain.

"The Chaplain arrived for Mass which was over like a flash of lightning so fearful was Father lest the house would be blown up in the middle of the Sacred Mysteries. All of the consecrated Hosts were distributed.

"Within a few minutes some of the Sisters were at St. Peter's Hospital, where the wounded and dying were brought in all day. Parachutists were filling the air like flies around a jam pot. Then at about 5 o'clock cheering could be heard in the streets. The British troops had arrived. But the enemy pilots, spotting them swooped down to the level of the houses and machine-gunned both the soldiers and civilians, whose cheers became gasps of pain.

"All Friday and Saturday the Sisters were absorbed in the task of nursing the mangled bodies of men, women and children. On Sunday the Feast of Pentecost, a rumor was spread that the first line of defense at Antwerp had been broken through. The Superior (in Louvain) decided to send fifteen of the younger Sisters to Brussels. So off they

went on foot with the other hands of refugees whole communities of priests and nuns with children in their care, groups of little cripples holding one another by the hand - all fleeing from the terror of invasion.

"Later, more than eighty of our Sisters from different parts of Belgium gathered in Bruges, a few miles from Dunkirk. An attempt was made to reach Paris. Then word came that the enemy had broken its way in between France and Belgium and that

the road to Paris was barred. What was to happen to these eighty nuns? Who was to advise them??

"Six Sisters were chosen to staff a first-aid post in Dunkirk, and three days later they were sent to England on a ship for the wounded, the Lord leading them wonderfully through countless perils. A priest returning from England, related that the day after the Sisters left for England a bomb hit their first-aid post, and the following day the enemy was there.

"We learned, months afterwards, that the rest of the Sisters returned safely to their own convents. However, English nuns of other Orders were interned. May God protect all Communities as He has miraculously preserved our Congregation during this long-lasting tragedy."

ORGANIZE MEN
Belleville, Ill. - A Diocesan Council of Catholic Men will be established in the Diocese of Belleville, the Most Rev. Henry Althoff, Bishop of Belleville, announced following a meeting of consultants and deans.

COLLEGE CLOSED
Villanova, Pa. - The College of St. Augustine, conducted by the Spanish Augustinians at Iloilo, Philippine Islands, has been closed. It is stated in a cable received from one of four American Augustinians stationed there.



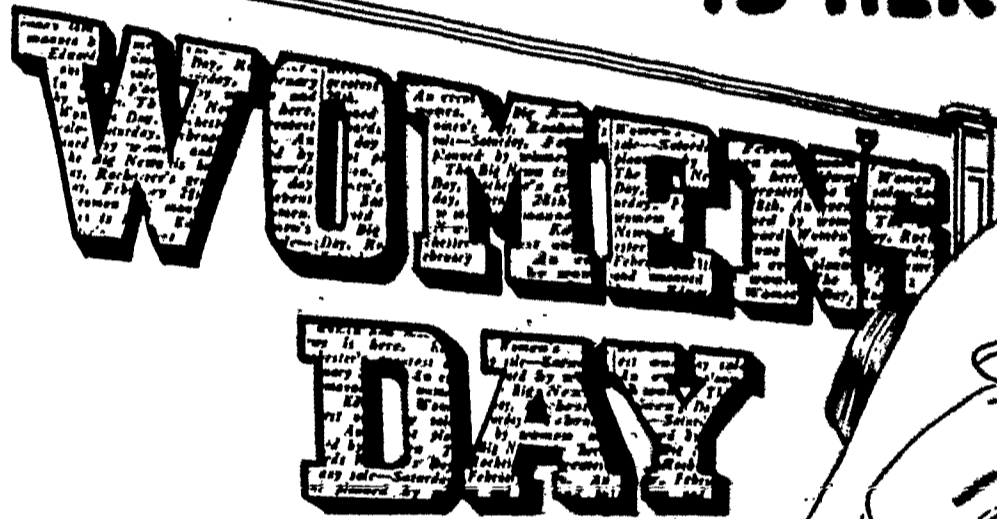
George E. Morton

REPAIRING CLOCKS, WATCHES AND ALL KINDS OF JEWELRY FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS AT 491 HAWLEY ST. ANNOUNCES THE OPENING AT HIS NEW LOCATION

903 GRANITE BUILDING

(Operated by the late W. J. Parkinson for 13 years) WORK CALLED FOR and DELIVERED PHONE CHM. 1144-W

ROCHESTER'S BIG NEWS FOR 1942 IS HERE!



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28th

ROCHESTER'S GREATEST ONE DAY SALE!

The ENTIRE EDWARDS STORE Will Be Operated by Women

2 HRS. FREE PARKING at St. Paul & Pleasant Sts.

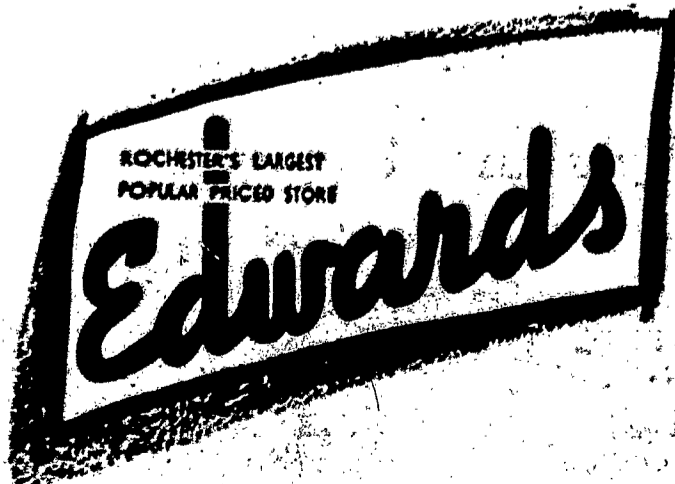
Women Will Take Over Every Store Position From General Manager Down to Stock Boy! Everything You Need for Yourself, Your Family and Your Home is Offered At Savings Made Possible But Once Each Year... And for One Day ONLY!



Special Notice:

In Order To Give Customers Who are Busy-by-Day In Defense Industries An Opportunity to Share in WOMEN'S DAY BARGAINS Edwards Store Will Remain

OPEN 'til 6 P. M. SATURDAY FEB. 28th



GIVE SCHOLARSHIP TO TRAIN CATHOLIC YOUTH LEADERS

LOS ANGELES. - Numerous small contributions from Catholics of Los Angeles' Mexican colony made up a large part of a scholarship fund for the education of a Mexican youth in Catholic leadership which was presented to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles before the 1,200 members of the Holy Name Union who attended the annual Communion Breakfast.

To be known as the Bishop Francis Garcia Diego y Moreno Scholarship, the award represents the sum of \$1,000. Gustavo Lopez, youthful member of the Mexican branch of the Holy Name Union, made the presentation of the certificate, which was received in behalf of the Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, Archbishop of Los Angeles, by Justice Thomas P. White, who pre-

Catholic Press Outstanding In Netherlands East Indies

NEW YORK. - With attention centered on the Netherlands East Indies as a result of the Japanese invasion in the far Pacific, the National Office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith here, stresses the importance of the Catholic Press in the Dutch Indies.

It points out that besides the daily newspaper, *Koerier*, there are some 43 Catholic weekly and monthly periodicals there in Dutch, Malay, Javanese and Batak, covering every class and need.