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Catholic Charities Program Includes Youth Activities

By **MARY E. FITZGERALD**
 Catholic Charities opened their doors in the Federation Building in Elmira for the first time on January 21, 1930. Financed by funds from the first Community Chest Campaign, the agency was organized under the leadership of the late Most Rev. John Francis O'Hern, Bishop of Rochester, and the Right Rev. Mgr. John J. Lee.
 A local committee of business and professional men and women made up the Board of Directors. Under such guidance Catholic Charities has been able to give thoughtful rehabilitating service to the families under their care for more than twelve years.

Wholesome family life has always been essential and important because it is the foundation of the strength of the community. Today in a world crisis, family life should be the very roots of our national morale. The Catholic charities in Elmira have met the needs in the community and have adjusted their program accordingly. Catholic families who are threatened by problem they cannot solve, continue to find this agency a sustaining force and guide, aiming always to preserve wholesome family life.

The Board of Directors of Catholic Charities saw the need of a larger lay participation in their program and so planned the organization of the Ladies of Charity in Elmira. As the result of this far-reaching volunteer program, which includes every spiritual and temporal work of mercy, volunteers have been trained for participation in the parish activities as well as in the Ladies of Charity projects.

Alarmed by the share that Catholic boys and girls have had in non-sectarian recreational programs, the Catholic Charities have been instrumental during the past two years, in planning leisure time activities under Catholic supervision. The Catholic Youth Organization has become a reality in Elmira under the splendid leadership of a Committee of Men and Women representing the parishes in Elmira and Chemung County. Soft Ball, Basket Ball and Baseball on the basis of parish units have made CYO a sign post on the road to Catholic manhood for many a boy in Junior or Senior High School.

The Friday night dances for the Junior and Senior High School students, complete the Catholic Youth Organization program. Supervisors are members of the Recreation Committee of the Ladies of Charity. Average attendance is approximately two hundred and the enthusiastic reports of the youth as well as unqualified approval of the parents indicate the popularity of this project. Dancing parties will be held regularly until June 12, when the post Lenten series will close with a gala party, featuring prizes and refreshments.

Preliminary plans for the second season of Camp Villa Maria on

Fr. Guilfoil Talks on Far East To Corning Men's Club

CORNING—The situation in the Far East was discussed by the Rev. Joseph V. Guilfoil, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul's Church, in an informative address given at the weekly meeting of the Catholic Men's Club in the Baron Steuben Hotel, Friday noon, Apr. 21.

The priest expressed belief that European nations having colonial possessions in the Far East took more from those possessions than they gave in return. This situation, he said, paved the way for Fifth Column activities.

He said that the Filipinos are fighting shoulder to shoulder with American soldiers, because the United States has been fair in its dealings with them and has kept them satisfied with their government.

Getting On In The World

TAGALONGS

A Fijian chief was climbing a mountain path one day escorted by a long file of his warriors. He stumbled in the path and fell to the ground. At once all his men stumbled and fell with him, excepting one. Him they attacked fiercely and desired to know why he esteemed himself superior to the chieftain.

Do not laugh at this tribal yarn, for many of us are very like the Fiji Islanders, in that each of us does the same thing he sees done and does it in the same way.

The follow-the-leader spirit is too often the sign of a weak character. He who is content to tag-along on another's merits, or spade work, or leadership is a weakling. Loud-mouth blusters frequently seek to lead—the wrong way and frequently the so-called tags along though he knows that he is doing wrong. He is as brainless as the Fiji men.

A firm "No" is what he needs. "No," from his conscience, from his lips, his heart and his actions. Once he gets the feel of manliness that comes from saying "No" at the proper time, he will be inspired to become himself the right kind of a leader.

Harris Hill are being made. The Advisory Committee composed of representatives from the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, the Men's Committee of CYO and the Ladies of Charity will meet on Wednesday evening, May 6, in the Federation Building. The camp period this year will open on June 29 and close on July 13. The popularity of the Camp last year indicates a full registration for this season. The demand for a longer period for both boys and girls can not be met this year because of the restrictions placed on the upper camp on Harris Hill. Practically the entire personnel of both camps will return this year to be welcomed by new and return campers at Chemung's County's first Catholic Camp.

COLOMBIA OFFICIAL LAUDS PASTORS' AID IN COMPILING AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

BOGOTA, Colombia—A letter from the Comptroller General of the Republic, addressed to rural pastors and asking their cooperation and collaboration in compiling various types of agricultural statistics, met with a prompt and efficient response. An article published in the official bulletin of the Comptroller's Office praises the work of the clergy.

"These priests," the bulletin says, "are great patriots and men who have studied with undentable preoccupation, the situation of our incipient agriculture in regions remote from the principal centers of consumption. In Colombia the clergy has always had great influence in all the memorable days of our Country and that is why without any hesitation we called for the happy intervention of the clergy in behalf of one of the most interesting chapters of national economy."



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LADIES OF CHARITY SCHEDULE MEETINGS

Wednesday, Apr. 25—8:00 P. M.—At Columbus Center. Red Cross Committee will meet with Co-Chairmen Mrs. Fred J. Batterby and Miss Eleanor Kelly. A full attendance is urged.

8:30 P. M.—In Catholic Charities Office, regular Monthly meeting of Secretarial Committee with Miss Elizabeth Kingston, Acting Chairman.

5:30 P. M.—Picnic supper followed by important business meeting of all members of Recreation Committee. Misses Dorothy Martin and Elizabeth Sommers are Co-Chairmen of the Committee with Miss Ann Batterby in charge of the plans for the supper.

Thursday, Apr. 26—2:00 P. M.—Sewing Committee will meet in Columbus Center with Mesdames Glenn E. Weigand and Bertram L. Constock, Co-Chairmen. Because of need of First Communion clothing, all members of this unit are invited to attend the meeting.

7:30 P. M.—First Aid Class meets for Final Examination in Columbus Center.

8:30 P. M.—Committee of Our Lady of Good Counsel will hold regular monthly meeting in Catholic Charities Office. Mrs. Joseph M. Dalley, Chairman, requests a full attendance because of plans that must be made in regard to the new project assumed by this committee at the request of His Excellency, the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester.

Friday, May 1—CYO Dancing parties at Columbus Center supervised by Miss Dorothy Martin, Chairman; the Misses Elizabeth Sommers, Ann Batterby, Margaret Kelly and Kathryn Daly. Seventh and Eighth Grades will meet from 7:00 to 9:00 o'clock and the high school students from 9:04 to 11:00 o'clock.