

### Diocese Children's Homes Consolidated

(Continued from Page 1)

tracts on March 21, 1941, work has gone steadily along to provide the new homes for 100 boys and girls now being cared for at St. Mary's and St. Patrick's, ideal for purpose.

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### St. Bonaventure's To Honor Three At Commencement

**ST. BONAVENTURE** — Plans for commencement exercises of St. Bonaventure College on Sunday, May 21, which will include the award of honorary degrees to three

men prominent in the army, the Army and radio, were announced by the Very Rev. Thomas Finnan, O.F.M., president.

Speakers will include the Rev. John F. Baldwin, S.J., a St. Bonaventure alumnus who is now pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake Church, Lakewood, N. J. The Rev. Father Baldwin will give the address at the graduation which will be held beginning at 10:30 a. m. in Butler Gymnasium.

Also slated to receive an honorary degree is Major General James A. Ulin, Adjutant General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C. He will make the Baccalaureate address to the senior class of '42 of which he will receive reserve commissions in the Army Field Artillery.

Don McNeil, well-known Blue Network announcer and member of the Board of the Daily Breakfast Club program will be the speaker at the Commencement Banquet to be held at noon in Alexander Hickey Memorial Dining Hall, following which the concluding exercises will be held in the gymnasium.

Mrs. Charles Granger, president; St. Mary's Junior League, Miss Grace Keenan, president; St. Agnes Guild, Mrs. J. Daney, president; Margaret Sanford Guild, Miss Bertha Guley, president and Loretta Ciroli, Mrs. Thomas J. Cashman, president.

Negotiations began for the consolidation of the three homes for dependent children was recorded in a letter of Oct. 1, 1937, signed by the Rev. Frederick J. Vogel, C.S.B., then president of the St. Joseph's Orphan Society and sent to the Rev. Gerald Lambert, Director, Rochester Catholic Charities.

The letter stated: "Reverend and dear Father: At a special meeting of the St. Joseph's Orphan Society, held Thursday evening, Oct. 14, 1937, all the members of the Executive Board expressed their decision to go on record as most willing to cooperate with the Catholic Charities of Rochester in merging and recognizing our Catholic Orphanages."

Members of the Board of Directors of St. Joseph's Orphan Society who carried out the negotiations are: the Rev. Stephen W. Aullbach, C.S.B., Henry M. W. Mann, Charles M. Gerstner, Fred J. Hafner, Gustav J. Klotz, Frank X. Gores, William J. Meisenbach and William J. Hauser.

On Jan. 12, 1938, the Boards of St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Homes passed a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to look into the possibility of establishing the Cottage Plan institution. The committee was empowered to consult with the trustees of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum and to take all legal steps necessary to the bringing about of a consolidation of the three institutions.

Negotiations began in January of 1938 between St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Homes with the University of Rochester for the sale to the University of the property running from West Main St. along Geneva St. to Chilton St.

In December, 1939, the Boards of the three institutions informed the Rochester Community Chest of the proposed merger and of the construction of the new home on the Dewey Ave. tract. Approval of the plan by the Rochester Community Chest was received on Mar. 1, 1940.

Property of the St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Homes was sold to the University of Rochester on May 16, 1940.

Marks Transition

When the children are moved into the new home after graduation at St. Mary's and St. Patrick's it will mark the transition of dependent child care from the orphan home to the modern cottage plan. It will conclude a magnificent record of 247 years of service by the three homes consolidated. St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, conducted under the care of the Sisters of Notre Dame, had its origin in 1663. St. Mary's original home for boys was opened on Nov. 1, 1864. The St. Patrick's Girls' Orphan Asylum was organized in 1878. The Sisters of St. Joseph who will conduct the new home had charge of the latter two institutions.

A formal opening of St. Joseph's Villa is planned for about the time the children are moved in June, this year.

May War Bonds today. They'll keep you tomorrow.

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