

ELMIRA CATHOLIC HIGH

25 Students In 1942 Graduation Class; Year Book Issued

By WILLIAM TUOHAN  
 Elmira Catholic High School will graduate a class of twenty-five students this year, and eight of them are ranked as honor students. This was the announcement made by the Rev. William A. Burns, principal at the Senior Day Exercises held at the Dunn Memorial Auditorium on June 4.  
 Honor students who maintained an average of 85% for three and one-half years, are as follows: Agnes O'Hara, valedictorian; Madeline Rudick and Edward Gill, co-salutatorians; Madlyn McLooney, Jess Reidy, Doris Schmidt, Francis Maloney and Joseph Curran.  
 In the course of the Senior Day program, various awards were made to members of the Senior Class. A class prophecy and class will were read, and the entire student body received copies of the 1942 "Echo" the Senior yearbook. Speaker for the afternoon was Catholic High's first priest-graduate, the Rev. James Nolan, who was recently ordained. In his brief address Father Nolan gave some worthwhile advice, especially to those in the graduating class.

Present at the exercises were Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Lee, V.F., the faculty, and parents and friends of the students.

Scranton U. Brothers Train Raid Workers

SCRANTON. — Six Christian Brothers of the University of Scranton, themselves all air raid wardens of the city of Scranton, are conducting a training course for wardens seeking State civilian defense cards.

The training is being offered in a series of lectures covering about ten hours and distributed over one week, Monday through Friday. The courses will be offered each week in June. It is based on the "Instruction Manual for Basic Courses for the United States Citizens' Defense Corps of Pennsylvania."

The lecturers and their subjects are: Brother Florus Timothy, "The Civilian Defense Organization"; Brother Dominic Luka, "The Control Center"; Brother E. Stanislaus, "Duties of the Air Raid Warden"; Brother F. Christopher, "The Air Raid Warning System and Blackouts"; Brother Godwin John, "Fire Defense," and Brother Edward of Mary, "Gas Defense." Besides being air raid wardens the six Brothers are all qualified in first aid.

Catholic Admiral



In command of the British Mediterranean Fleet in Rear Admiral Sir Henry H. Harwood, prominent English Catholic, he commanded the British ships in the battle with the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee off the South American coast early in the war. (N.C.W.C.)

Spirit Behind The Hospital Described By Fr. McGhan

CORNING—The Rev. Philip McGhan, chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, was the guest speaker at the regular meeting of the Catholic Men's Club Wednesday, June 3, at the Baron Steuben Hotel. Fr. McGhan chose as his subject "The Hospital Speaks." He said:

"I think that it is safe to say that the hospital field in most of its aspects is a closed book to nearly all except the relatively few physicians, nurses and to those who have charge of the spiritual welfare of the patients. It is, therefore, today, my object in view to review the spirit behind the hospital with particular reference to the institution conducted under religious auspices. Then, by a few experiences we shall try to show how that spirit actually works insofar as it affects the whole of the human personality.

"If we go back in history we always find stress laid on the importance of taking suitable care of those who were ailing. This care was looked upon as a duty, which indeed it is, arising as it does from the very principles of the natural law. The Jewish codes were very insistent in this matter just visiting the sick was looked upon as a duty. It is true that among the pagans there were some truly weird conceptions of physical sickness and its relation to the spiritual man. But the germ of the obligation to care for the sick surely was there strong and fervent.

"With the coming of Christianity this natural obligation was expressed more clearly. Jesus Christ Himself and his Apostles went about not disdaining to be solicitous for the sick. He emphasized as no other possibly could, the important connection between the body and the soul. In the early days of Christianity there were those who were publicly set aside to take care of the ailing. The office of deacon and deaconess were most important in their special consecration for the good care of the afflicted. They were the servants of the poor and the needy in the best sense of the word. The Bishops themselves took on a special and heavy obligation to take care of those entrusted to their special care.

"By the end of the third century, the Sisters or religious came to replace the deaconesses. Of their valor and endless self-sacrifice we know plenty. It should be borne in mind here, too, that a number of the early priests and bishops were physicians. Always, we see the thread of the idea of soul and body running through the religious works of the years. The first hospitals in the Christian era seem to be those organized under Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great and that very important institution erected by Basil outside his See City of Caesarea. This was a most complete hospital in every respect. It was to him in a great sense that we are indebted for the exemption of hospitals from taxation.

"The hospital stands today as it did all those years ago as an effective lesson. To keep ever alive the philosophy behind the best in hospital tradition, the nurses are given a year's course in Ethics or moral Philosophy, so that they may see how reasonable it is to call some courses of action good, others bad. They see clearly that there are some points on which the human mind cannot compromise because they are rooted in the very law of being, the law of nature and therefore the law of the Author of nature. They see clearly that some things are true not only because Catholics believe them to be so but because they are so because human right reason which is common to all men, proclaims that they are true.

"Do these principles work out very effectively in practice today?" Father McGhan asked. "If one could see the solicitude and the real self-sacrifice of the physicians, nurses and those others so intimately connected with the functioning of the hospital, he would not only admire but he would continue to think on and on. They go on and on with an energy that no one seems to be able to understand. On the part of the patient himself, he usually reflects the fact that

suffering can be borne without bitterness. Again there is brought home to the mind that God works His will in all the trials. He may see fit to send upon man. Very often, too, the patient loses that sense of prejudice that may long have been one of his convictions. Very often too, he thinks his first thoughts of the Supreme Being without Whom life would mean nothing, without Whom there would be no life. The patient himself, in all his vicissitudes of suffering, weaves a heavenly pattern which helps again to spell the fact that religion demands some attention also for the ailing body.

"The life of a good physician, nurse, man, woman and child becomes in a certain sense consecrated when he comes to realize the importance of what he or she does in performing the least service to those who are in physical or spiritual misfortune."

Two members were greeted by the Club, William Arney and Emmett Fitzgerald. Pvt. Bernard Smith, a member of the Club, who was home on furlough from Camp Forrest, Tenn., was also present. Cpl. Anthony Tammara, Fort Benning, Ga., and Harry Tolan, Hornell, secretary of the Steuben ABC Board were guests.

Assembly Follows Vincentian Plan

By Mary E. Fitzgerald  
 More than two hundred members and prospective affiliates of the Ladies of Charity proved their faithfulness to the teachings of their founder on Wednesday, June 3. Following the plan made by the great Saint Himself, the General Assembly on that date opened with the recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with the Rev. Leo G. Schwab, Pastor of the Church as celebrant. The altar was decorated with red and white pennants in recognition of the month of the Sacred Heart and the beautiful simplicity of the Sanctuary was a reminder of the virtues recommended as characteristic of a Lady of Charity.

The business meeting which followed was held in the Church Hall. The bright color of the new walls, shed a glow like sunlight which rested on the bouquets of purple and gold flowers which decorated the hall. The purple was chosen in tribute to St. Louise de Marillac, co-foundress of the Society with St. Vincent and the gold for the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII.

Mrs. Joseph R. Spiegel, President, presided at the business meeting. After the general announcements, the reports of the sub-committees were given in the form of a script, entitled, "Serving Him in the Ladies of Charity." Mrs. Spiegel was assisted by Mrs. Paul M. Stone, Vice-President, Mrs. Glenn R. Weigand, representing the Sewing Committee, Mrs. Joseph M. Dalley of the Committee of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mrs. Fred W. Causar, Room Registry, and Miss Mary E. Fitzgerald speaking for Catholic Charities.

Other committees and their representatives were Personal Service by Mrs. W. C. Ervin, Infant of Prague, Florence P. Kane, Associate Members, Mrs. Catherine Myers, Visiting, Mrs. Roderick Precht; St. John Bosco, Mrs. John B. Ronan; St. Anne de Beaupre, Mrs. Ivan Brady, Carpership, Mrs. Daniel Sheehan, Jr., Secretarial, Miss Elizabeth Kingston, Recreation, Miss Dorothy Martin; Big Sisters, Mrs. Thomas V. O'Leary, Employment, Miss Helen M. Burns; and Red Cross by Mrs. Fred Batteraby.

The Assembly closed with a Coffee Hour. Mrs. Spiegel and Mrs. Stone presided at the coffee table which was beautifully decorated with a centerpiece of red roses and tall white tapers.

Mrs. James E. Casey and Mrs. E. J. McGarrell were co-chairmen and were assisted by several committees. The members of the organization attribute the success of this Assembly to their efficient leadership and to the generous cooperation of Father Schwab.

NAMED TO BOARD  
 New York.—Daniel Sargent, poet and historian, has been selected a member of the Board of Editors of the Catholic Book Club. He is the first person to be added to the Board since the Club's inception in 1925.

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