

### Fr. John Corbett Jesuit Editor, Dies

**BROOKLYN**—The Rev. John Corbett, S.J., former Editor of The Messenger of the Sacred Heart, who has died at the Jesuit Novitiate of St. Andrew-on-Hudson, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., at the age of 72, was born in Brooklyn and

spent all of his early years in St. Peter's parish here. An honor graduate of St. John's College, Brooklyn, he began studies for the Brooklyn diocesan priesthood at Bernin, Switzerland, under the Benedictine Fathers and then spent two years at the famous Institutum Canisianum, Innsbruck, Austria. He entered the Maryland-New York Province of the Jesuits

in 1886, with the consent of Bishop Loughlin. Father Corbett was founder and first Director of St. Patrick's Clerical Club, an organization to encourage vocations and aid older laymen in studying for the priesthood. He spent 23 years of his priestly life on the staff of The Messenger of the Sacred Heart.

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## High Tribute To Volunteer Work In Elmira Features Women's Service Institute

"One of the finest pieces of volunteer work in the country" was the tribute paid to Elmira Catholic Women Volunteers by the Rev. Gerald C. Lambert, director of Catholic Char-

ities, Rochester Diocese, in an address at the "Call to Service" Institute held at the Mark Twain Hotel on Friday, July 17. The Institute was the last of four conferences sponsored in the diocese by the National Council of Catholic Women and the National Conference of Catholic Charities.

In connection with the Institute, the Ladies of Charity celebrated the Feast of their founder, St. Vincent de Paul, with High Mass at 9 a. m. at St. Peter and Paul's Church, celebrated by the Rev. Hubert A. Blaky, reverend moderator of the Ladies of Charity.

The opening prayer of the morning session was offered by the Rev. Leslie G. Whelan, spiritual director of the Deanery Council, Mary A. Newsome, president of the Council, presided.

**National Leaders Held**  
The morning sessions featured a discussion on "Coordinating Catholic Volunteer Work" by Miss Irma Piepho, field secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women, of Washington, outlining the functions of each separate group under the organization of the NCCW.

"Opportunities for Volunteer Women's Organizations in the Field of Charity within the Parish and the Diocese" were discussed by Mrs. Leo Kenny, national chairman of NCCW committee, cooperating with Catholic Charities.

Following an informal luncheon at 1 p. m., the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John O'Grady, Washington, D. C., conference secretary, opened the afternoon session at 2 p. m. with a roundtable discussion of particular cases encountered by individual members of committees, on the theory that discussion of such case histories was more valuable than any statistical information, because it showed Catholic Charity in actual practice.

The Personal Visiting Committee for the County Farm and the Tuberculosis Sanatorium was represented by Mrs. Walter C. Ervin, Miss Rebecca McClusky, and Mrs. Edmund Malvey. "We let them do most of the talking," said Mrs. Ervin, citing the case of a hopelessly crippled woman at the County Farm who was helped by the friendly interest of her Catholic visitor to make the psychological adjustment necessary to form friendships with the other patients. Mrs. Ervin also brought reading and sewing materials, and helped her to sell her needlework, increasing her income in a small way.

**Hospital Activities Cited**  
The Ste. Anne de Beaupre Committee, according to Mrs. Arthur Garvey, receives details concerning hospital patients, from a priest, on which members base their visits, following the idea emphasized by Msgr. O'Grady, that particular interest in the individual is better than any general ideas of charity.

A story hour brightens the day for the children's hospital when members of the Infant of Prague Committee appear, according to Mrs. Edward Dawson, assistant chairman of the committee.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Committee, suggested by the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, calls on mothers of new babies to ask them to join the Bishop's Committee for furthering Christian education. After a second visit, bringing a medal for the baby, blessed by the Bishop, the visitor calls every three months with literature on how to raise children the Catholic way, with helpful suggestions on the care of a small child even to pre-school age. Mrs. Eugene Agan described this work.

The "Big Sister" Committee for assistance for "problem" adolescents was represented by Miss Helen Rowell. Finding a common bond in hikes, and talks of the girl's school, activities, sports, etc., and most of all, interest in what the girl herself wanted to do, led slowly to increased confidence in her "big sister."

The Friendly Visiting Committee keeps its work secret so that the "visitee" has no fear of confidences betrayed. Mrs. Joseph O'Brien told the assembly. An effort is made to avoid any suggestion of routine; rather, members make frequent calls "as you would with your friends." Miss Elizabeth Dineen

and Mrs. Edmund Widman also described this committee work.

Mrs. Fred Demuth headed the Corning delegation, bringing delegates from Bath and Groveland as well. She commented on the sick visiting done by the Catholic Daughters of America in Corning.

Following the discussion, Mary E. FitzGerald, director of Catholic Charities in Elmira, recalled Msgr. O'Grady's first visit four years ago for the formal organization of the Catholic Charities. "There is more work in Elmira than could be done if all the persons in this room gave a full half-day each week—we have only scratched the surface," said Miss FitzGerald.

She then referred to the fine work done by committees which could not report due to lack of time: the Sewing Committee, which has given four or five hundred hours service; the Red Cross Committee, the Volunteer secretarial force which takes over when the regular office workers leave, and the Recreation Committee.

"I want to tell you how proud I am of Elmira," said Father Lambert, the next speaker. He said that the Elmira group was years ahead of others of its kind, and referred to the fact that in connection with the National Council of Social Welfare, a committee appointed for investigation of the possibilities of volunteer work in Catholic Charities, he had used the experiences of the Catholic Charities in Elmira as a pattern and model for other groups. "Directors throughout the country feel the need of the type of charity which you have here in Elmira," he said. "There is no force greater than Catholic women united."

### Canadian Religious Flee Nazi Camp

(Continued from Page 1)

St. Denis internment camp with some 200 other Canadians. Four times they were transferred, eventually being returned to the St. Denis camp.

There were some 2,000 prisoners at this camp. They lived in barracks with 10 men in a room built for eight and with the windows always shut. They were allowed to say Mass every day.

"I was ordained during the internment on Dec. 21, 1940," Father Brault said in London. "Benevolence did not inspire the Germans when they permitted the ordination. They took pictures of the ceremony in St. Denis Cathedral and circulated them for propaganda purposes."

Mr. Bourgault was the first to escape in the series of camp breaks which occurred over the better part of a year. He was given refuge in a seminary in Unoccupied France. Several months later Mr. Masse eluded the prison guards and went to the same seminary but was unable to get accommodations there because of overcrowding. He was taken in at another seminary.

The two priests escaped in January and February of this year. All were aware they would be shot if caught making the attempt to get away. Father Brault told reporters "I feel that I was protected in an extraordinary fashion. I know I prayed to the Blessed Mother all the time."

**Others Interned**  
Father Despins said there was no word as to how the four had reached Gibraltar together some six weeks ago. They proceeded from there to England.

"These four members are not the only ones to have escaped from the Nazis. In the fall of 1940, the Rev. Louis Gerard Van Vynckel of Canada got out of the north of France on a motorcycle just in time. He escaped to Lisbon, whence he returned to Canada.

Father Despins said there were seven other Canadian members of the community still being held in Nazi internment camps. They are: the Revs. Camille Nicoud, of Conception, Alberta; Phillip McGuire, of White Fox, Sask.; P. H. LeFebvre, of St. Hyacinthe, Que.; Rene Fortin, of Montreal; Pierre Demontigny, of Ste. Angèle, Que.; Rene Turcotte, of St. Methode de Beauce, Que., and Martin Moulla, of Visitation, Que.

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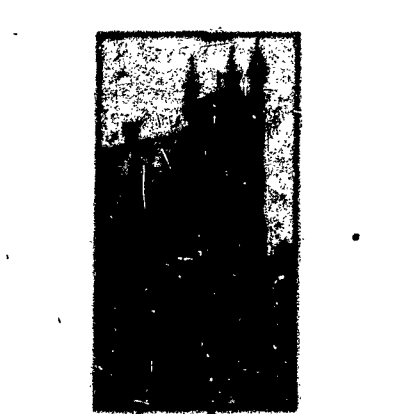
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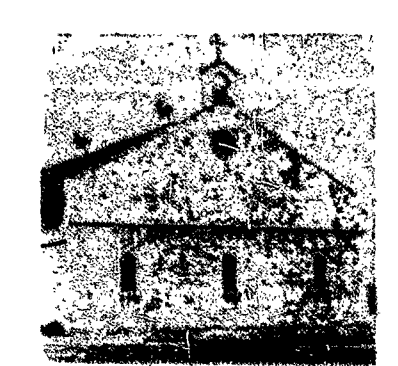


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