

### St. Bonaventure Honor Goes To Scientist

ST. BONAVENTURE, N. Y. — Dr. George Spertl, nationally recognized biologist and author of "The Catholic Action Medal for outstanding service at the annual St. Francis Day celebration to be held at St. Bonaventure College on October 4 and 5.

For many years, St. Francis Day has been set aside for the annual get-together of Alumni of St. Bonaventure College, since St. Francis Day falls on Sunday this year, and the Bonnies football team will be in Buffalo engaging the Golden Griffins of Conestoga College on that day. It has been decided by the college authorities to hold the celebration on both Sunday and Monday, with the presentation of the Catholic Action Medal to be made by an outstanding member of the hierarchy at the banquet on Monday noon.

On Saturday evening a preliminary get-together of Alumni will be held in St. Patrick's Hall, Buffalo, N. Y. Sunday afternoon the Alumni will meet and attend the game of long standing rivalry between the Blue and Gold football squads, and the Brown and White of Bonaventure. The game will be held in Civic Stadium, Buffalo, home field of the Griffins.

The ceremonies on Monday morning will be inaugurated by a Mass in honor of St. Francis, to be held in the College gymnasium at 10:00 a. m. This will be followed by a meeting of the Alumni and a flag raising ceremony and the dedication of the Bonaventure Service Flag, in honor of the Alumni Faculty Members and Students now serving in the U. S. Armed Forces. The Alumni will gather for reports from chapters and election of officers at 11:30 a. m. The flag raising will take place at 11:45.

At noon the group will meet in the Key Memorial Dining Hall on the College Campus for the annual banquet and presentation of the award to Dr. Spertl.

Dr. Spertl has gained national prominence by his many contributions to science. He has made outstanding progress in the perfection of synthetic rubber and silk drugs. He is the recipient of the latest Catholic Action Medal. He is also Director of the "Institutum Divi Thomae."

### ACTION MEDALIST



Dr. George Spertl Sports

### Disavow 'Vatican Circles' Disclosures

VATICAN CITY (NO) — An authorized Vatican quarters source says nothing of the report emanating from Switzerland that Myron C. Taylor has presented to His Holiness Pope Pius XII President Roosevelt's personal definition of war objectives, which the Swiss report said, "Vatican circles" had disclosed.

The same authoritative Vatican sources knew nothing of other phases of the Switzerland report, including that which quoted political observers as saying it was unlikely President Roosevelt's personal representative had made any effort to persuade the Pope to launch a formal peace move.

Research workers of the Standard Oil Company (N.J.) believe it is still a question of whether synthetic rubbers will stand as much overloading, or as high temperatures as natural rubber.

### Barbarous Babies

By Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoeven

Editor in Chief, Catholic Action of the South

#### BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS

Many a good child is ruined by parents because no intelligence is displayed or effort exerted, and often expenses necessary to give a child a square deal are shunned. Many a boy or girl is marked down as incorrigible who fundamentally is all right if treated properly.



Thank God the child was innately good, otherwise he would have been ruined for life. Today he is as normal and natural as any lad and he is gallantly trying to make up for lost time. When your child is in any way retarded or shows little progress or seems to be slow in his actions or in "catching on," do not jump to the conclusion that he is a hopeless case. A child may have to cope with a physical handicap of which you are not aware or of which he himself has no perception. Impaired eyesight may annoy him, and throw him off the track, or give him headaches. It may be infected tonsils or bad teeth that, unnoted, poison his system and make him feel out of sorts, unable to hold his own. It is worth a trip to the dentist, the oculist or the oculist to make sure that there does not exist a hidden physical cause for your child's abnormal and inapplicable condition. Inability to keep up at school will often make children contrary or induce them to bechief in order to gain distinction or attract attention.

If no derangement or infection or physical abnormality can be discovered, you should take him to a good psychiatrist, who will study and analyze his mind. The doctor, a specialist in a highly useful field, will go deeply into all phases of the case in trying to locate the cause of the disturbance. He may find out that there is something wrong in your general treatment of this particular little individual in your family, and, if this is the case, he will suggest a change in your methods. Some years ago, I visited a 13-year-old boy who was in a prison cell. He had murdered his mother in cold blood. His intelligence was normal. "The pervert, the little beast," you say. Yes, so said I, when I first heard of this terrible crime. In the beginning, the boy was sudden and defiant, at last, he thawed out, I had gained his confidence. "Why did you do it, Willie and how could you?" "In a fit of anger," he soberly replied. "I was a bad boy, it's true, but she beat me too much, and often unjustly. I couldn't stand it any longer." If that mother had taken her son to a psychiatrist and explained the trouble she was having with the boy, her Willie might be walking the streets of his home town today, an honorable citizen, supporting her in a happy old age. It is too easy, too convenient, to blame children's wrong behavior on bad temper and meanness. Most of the time, it is not the child's fault. The situation may be traceable to faulty training when he is very little, in which case, it is the parents' own fault. They will have to pay for their blunder or their neglect by giving more time and attention to him in the later years of childhood. It may be a physical defect or a mental twist. In this case, do not spare the money to obtain proper medical attention and advice, mortgage the home, if necessary, in order to make sure that it be a happy home in the years to come.

Not so long ago, a mother came in to ask advice about her 11-year-old son. The boy was not bad or mischievous, he simply did not care to study, and he was still in the "Fourth Grade. He did not give any trouble; his mind seemed to be normal except that he displayed an antisocial attitude, he did not want to play with other children but kept to himself although he had a good disposition otherwise. I advised the mother to take him to the child-guidance clinic for study and a check-up. In a week's time, his trouble was discovered, he suffered with an intestinal disturbance which made things somewhat uncontrollable, especially during the night. The parents attributed this to pure laziness, and, therefore, did not call the physician's attention to it. They sought to remedy matters by giving the poor boy a generous amount of beatings. A special, well-regulated diet was prescribed for the lad, and, in a month's time, general improvement was noticed. What was the boy's pitiful case? Because of the shame attached to his ailment, he had become self-conscious and was afraid that adults and children would deride him, so he lost self-respect. This, coupled with the undeserved physical punishment, made him silently resentful of the whole situation.

Up to the time of Pearl Harbor, synthetic rubber was a subject of interest only to scientists and far-seeing industrialists. Now it is high on the list of popular subjects. It characterized his priesthood. He was bent upon giving every measure of his energy in carrying on the work of his predecessors in Spencerport. But a weak body developed a strong soul, and he was called home to God in the prime of his life after a pastorate of but 5 months. But even in that short span of time Father Gaffney's pastorate was not without its accomplishments. The rectory and the convent were redecorated, a new chapel was opened for the Sisters in the convent and St. Leo's Church in Hilton was painted during his administration. Many other plans he made, plans which did not materialize for he was taken in death after a short illness. Father Gaffney was succeeded on Sept. 27, 1941, by Rev. Emmett Mige, the present pastor of St. John's Church.

### Spencerport Parish Completes 75 Years

(Continued from Page 2)

fort these children to and from school. There was no bus service at that time. Some children had to come a distance of more than seven miles. But those parents were willing to make sacrifices indeed great sacrifices, that their children might receive the benefits of a Catholic training, a Catholic education. It is another indication of their deep faith, their readiness, their willingness to meet the moral obligations which have been placed upon them in their vocation as parents.

With the opening of a school building, Father Predmore felt that an important step had been taken in endowing the growing parish of St. John's with its much needed equipment. But he made many other improvements also. Bell burners were installed in the Church, school and rectory. A new furnace was placed in the convent. During his administration the new organ was purchased and the beautiful chimes installed.

As many know, Father Predmore was recognized as one of the authorities in our diocese on church music. It was his love for church music which led him to organize from the men and boys of his parish a church choir. He gave much time and labor in the training of these men and boys. After several years his efforts bore fruit, for he had developed a very worthy liturgical choir.

In March of 1941 the parishioners of St. John's and other members of the community were saddened when they learned that Father Predmore had been named to succeed Father Philip Goding at Holy Apostle's Church in the city. That sadness was tempered however by the thought that it was a well earned promotion in recognition of his outstanding work while at St. John's.

It was also in March of 1941 that Rev. Paul J. Gaffney, who had been chaplain at the State School in Industry for 11 years, realized the ambition of his life when he was named a Pastor succeeding Father Predmore in this parish. He came with all the zeal and fervor which

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