

Dony Rumors About Pope
 Vatican City — (Radio, NC) —
 Rumors that the health of Pope
 Pius XII has suffered a serious
 setback are totally unfounded, it
 was reported here. The Pontiff

contracted a cold a week ago
 which forced him to cancel a
 number of public audiences, it
 was stated, but his health is not
 in serious condition and reports
 of a "setback" are unfounded.

Cooperative Store Guide To Social Reconstruction

BY C. F. THOMAS

Everyone interested in rebuilding the social order is aware of the tremendous value of the cooperative movement as a means toward this end. Catholic leaders especially, from the Supreme Pontiffs down, have taken a particular interest in the establishment and promotion of co-operatives and credit unions.

The Bishops of the United States, in their Program of Social Reconstruction, praise the movement in the highest terms, and Saint Francis Xavier University, at Antigonish, Nova Scotia, is one of the mainstays of Canadian co-operation.

How many Rochesterians, on the other hand, know that a genuine consumers' co-operative, run strictly according to the admirable Rochdale principles, actually exists and flourishes in this very city? Located at 661 Thurston Road, and operating under the name of the Genesee Co-operative Society, Inc., the co-op food store has been operating since 1937. Its owner, the Society (that is, the consumers themselves) has an active membership of some 400 persons, scattered throughout the city, whose patronage accounts for about 60% of the \$70,000 yearly turnover.

The remaining 40% comes largely from non-member patrons in the neighborhood, though a city-wide delivery service is maintained and telephone orders taken. If the location and function of the store were better known, no doubt the membership roster and the annual turnover would both be much larger.

Advantages Cited
 What are the advantages of dealing with a co-operative store? For non-members, there is first of all the moral satisfaction of helping a praiseworthy project to succeed, of doing their bit towards rebuilding a Christian social order. There is also the material benefit of buying goods in a clean, well-run and well-stocked store at prices which usually compare favorably with those charged by the chains.

The goods on sale are carefully graded, so there is no possibility of misrepresentation; the buyer knows exactly what he is getting. The money spent stays in the buyer's own community; profits are not drained off to some head office in New York or Chicago. And the co-ops work hand in glove with the unions; wherever possible, products handled by the co-op store bear the union label.

Benefits of membership are even greater. All those who purchase a few \$5 shares in the society become real owners of the store; they have a voice in the management equal to anyone else's, regardless of the amount invested. They receive also a share in the operating profits of the store, the size of which depends on the amount of their purchases; that is, a member spending \$500 yearly receives twice as much as a member spending \$250. They receive a fixed rate of interest on the shares they own.

Most important of all, they are able to buy their food practically at cost, since any surplus is automatically returned to them.

Like all properly run co-operative enterprises, the Genesee Society welcomes people of any creed, class or color to its membership, and offers the same courteous and efficient service to non-member as to member patron. It has no affiliation of any kind with any religious or political organization. As it happens, and as it should be, a number of Catholic laymen play active parts in the Society.

For example, there is Joseph Cervoni, prominent lawyer and lay leader, who heads the store committee; Thomas Scully, former resident supervisor of the House of Hospitality, who assists in the actual operation of the food store; and Joseph McLaugh-

lin, till recently Treasurer. Labor leaders, too, like Julius Loos, are active members. The group also operates a Federal Credit Union which, like the consumers' co-op, is run along strict Rochdale lines. That is, it adheres to the one-vote-per-member rule, regardless of amount invested; returns its operating profits to the members; and provides loans at a fraction of the rates charged by banks and loan companies.

It must be remembered that theoretical discussion and impractical thinking about social reconstruction is not enough; effective action is necessary before anything can be really accomplished. The Rochester co-operators, therefore, deserve all possible praise and practical assistance in their courageous project.

Delegates Elected By Holy Apostles Group

Two delegates from Knights of St. John Ladies Auxiliary No. 126 of Holy Apostles Church have been elected to attend the International Convention of the organization this summer.

Representing Auxiliary 126 at the convention will be Mrs. Leona Gifford, president of the Holy Apostles group and Mrs. Hazel Wachter, 1st vice president.

The convention is scheduled in Cleveland, Ohio, from June 30 to July 4.

Alternates from Holy Apostles will be Mrs. Mary Dalton and Mrs. Frances Kase. Also attending will be the Misses Olga and Kathleen Wachter, Agnes Schell, Margaret Quigley, Mary Gardner, and members of the Rochester District Drill Team.

TREASONABLE ACT

Washington — Senators Styles Bridges, (R) of New Hampshire, "Anyone selling America down the River to a Foreign Country is guilty of Treason."

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