

CHARITY IN ELMIRA— Jottings Here and There

By MARY E. FITZGERALD

Why? Why? Why? An observance of the Feast of St. Louise de Marillac? Are not corsages an extravagance? What is the idea of florist's displays? And so on and on.

This is our sixth Annual Observance—and we are still answering the questions. Well, we will keep on trying! St. Louise de Marillac was chosen by St. Vincent de Paul as one of the first Ladies of Charity. Hers was the difficult task, comparable to the field workers in our State Departments. Traveling from place to place, suffering many hardships, she brought the message of Charity to hundreds of God's poor.

Beyond this, she established and reorganized various units of the rapidly growing Society of the Ladies of Charity. She brought Catholic social work under the Christlike guidance of St. Vincent himself into being—long years before the days of organized charity. Hers was a great and noble consecration to the cause of her neighbor. Herself a widow and mother, she never neglected her child or her home duties and yet her accomplishments were almost miraculous. Reading the story of her life—any Lady of Charity is challenged to carry on—even when a sacrifice of more pleasant commitments is necessary.

As for the lilies and violets in the dainty corsages worn by the Ladies of Charity on this day and displayed in the windows of the local florists, tradition tells us:

"Saint Louise died on March 15, 1650. She was interred in the Chapel of the Visitation, and the Abbe Gobillon bears witness to a miraculous incident at the tomb, one which was testified to by hundreds of trustworthy witnesses at the same time: "There arose from the tomb a cloud which exhaled a perfume like that of violets and lilies, and so strong was the delicious fragrance that those who prayed at the tomb, while it lasted, carried it away in their clothes, the Sisters taking it to those who were sick in the infirmary. I might add," says the Abbe Gobillon, "upon after having taken every possible precaution to examine if this was not the effect of some natural cause, I have failed to find any to which it can be attributed." This quotation is taken from the "Life of Saint Louise de Marillac," arranged by a Sister of Charity at Saint Joseph's College in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

"A short time before her canonization, her body was removed from the original resting place, and although 274 years had passed, the fragrance of violets still remained. Saint Louise's canonization is believed to have been providentially delayed for such an age as the present, in order that her great leadership in caring for the poor might be brought in greater prominence by the fact that just now the suffering world is so sorely in need of such leadership."

It is "the miracle" of the 16th century which represents class at Tolérance Conference

Corning — Miss Betty Rose Hill, a junior at the New York State College for Teachers at Albany, has been chosen a delegate from her class as a representative at a conference on racial tolerance to be held in New York during this month.

Miss Hill, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Hill, of 215 Walnut St., is a graduate of St. Mary's Parochial School and Corning Free Academy. At the latter school she was president of the National Honor Society in her senior year. At Albany she is a member of the Newman Club, French Club and DeBate Club and is on the staff of the State College News.

lets which we commemorate when we wear corsages on the Feast of St. Louise, which miracle was closely associated with her canonization. Ours is the effort to make this day—comparable to Saint Valentine's, Saint Patrick's and Mother's Day.

Appropriately, the affiliation of new members is scheduled for March 17, the day of our observance. Before the statue of Our Lady, in the beautiful church—Our Lady of Lourdes, His Excellency Bishop Kearney, will recite the Prayer of Consecration of a Lady of Charity in unison with the affiliates.

Each new member of this International Society will then receive a small silver crucifix, the emblem of a Lady of Charity. These crucifixes are richly indulgenced, having been endowed with spiritual advantages by five different Holy Fathers. Justly proud are we that the Ladies of Charity is the only lay organization, having the symbol of the Crucifixion as a mark of our membership in this Society dedicated to the "service of our neighbor."

"Consultation? I guess we explained it. The first young man who came in to see us—said 'Maybe you can straighten me out. I can't seem to do it by myself.' A week later—when we had learned to smile again—when some of the tension was gone—His story was—'Thanks for everything. It is so different to have someone who understands. I was so afraid of everything. I guess it was because of all I saw over there. Yes, I'll be back. Someday soon—I may be able to carry on alone—but just now I need to talk to someone—and I guess that someone is you.'"

Sure the Red Cross Committee saw—but they also reap. In cooperation with the members of the Thursday and Friday Sewing Committees, they staged a picnic supper recently. The receipts will be used for the regular Committee projects.

Yes, the Committee of St. John Bosco is reorganized. Under the guidance of the Rev. Francis J. Lane, they will carry on with their Reformatory projects, Hospital mending and personal attentions in special needs, as well as taking their turn in supplying food for the Dominican Monastery.

Mrs. Jacob Drum is the newly elected Chairman and Mrs. Charles Hughes her Co-Chairman. Mrs. Drum succeeds Mrs. John B. Ronan, who has so ably carried on, effectively fulfilling all the requests received from Father Lane for his boys.

CDA Social Meet Held

Corning — Mrs. Arthur Erskine, assisted by Mrs. Rosa Ruppert, was in charge of the social meeting of Court St. Joseph, Catholic Daughters of America, Monday evening at the Knights of Columbus Home. Supper was served at 6:30 p. m., followed by a program of entertainment.

Attendance at the card party, sponsored by the Court on Wednesday evening, Feb. 27, was hampered because of the inclement weather. Mrs. James Ward and Miss Mary O'Neill were co-chairmen for the party and were assisted by Mesdames C. R. Everett, John Holland, William McMahon, Robert Bigelow, Lewis Hart, H. R. Rutherford, Daniel Killgrew, Paul Lovette and Miss Pauline Reikhan.

To Oriental Church Rome — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has named Cardinal Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, to the Sacred Congregation of the Oriental Church, it was announced here. This Congregation, of which Cardinal Eugène Tisserant is Secretary, deals with all matters pertaining to persons, discipline and rites of the Eastern Church.

Why Not Rabbi Crosby? By Alfred Segal

(In view of the recent discussion of the Catholic theme in motion pictures, the following article is reprinted from the March 1 issue of the Jewish Ledger.)

Some of the Protestants have been complaining about the exclusive break the Catholic religion has been getting in the movies. "Going My Way," "Bells of St. Mary," "Bernadette."

They don't begrudge the Catholic religion these lovely stories but they inquire, isn't there at least one movie story in the Protestant, one in the Jew?

Recently "Time" quoted a Protestant leader. He was hoping that the movies would get around to the brave story of Protestantism, to the nobility of historic Judaism.

I had been thinking in the same direction after sentimental sessions with Father Bing Crosby in "Going My Way" and with Father Bing in "Bells of St. Mary."

Why, I mused, don't they make a movie about Rabbi Crosby? Gentle Rabbi Crosby, worrying about the kids in his neighborhood? Dear Rabbi Crosby taking time out to trouble himself about me strangers, a man and his wife, who had separated and should be getting together on account of their child. Good Rabbi Crosby who makes much of the small troubles among the people in his congregation.

Yes, a movie of Rabbi Crosby!

Yet, after I had snapped out of the sweet influences of "Going My Way" and of "Bells of St. Mary" I fell down to the earth with a painful thud. It hurts horribly to be let down that way by the facts. After all, is Rabbi Crosby performing the simple pastoral duties that make a refreshing experience?

Rabbi Crosby is away somewhere in the universe and doesn't know much of what's going on next door. He is playing statesman and is concerned with settling the whole world right. Next Sabbath he is giving a sermon on foreign relations.

He feels it is up to him to set the United Nations Organization going right on its way. Rabbi Crosby's eyes are far away from his neighborhood and, after next Sabbath's sermon, his congregation should feel convinced that in him they are privileged to have a rabbi who should be sitting in the State Department.

As a man on whose shoulders rest the destinies of nations, he has little time for the smaller affairs of the people of his congregation circle. They are having plenty of trouble.

If, in their distress, they ever thought of seeing Rabbi Crosby they dismissed the idea. How could they presume to bother him? Rabbi Crosby is carrying the world on his shoulders. He has this big problem and that to settle, more important than their small pains. Only last week the newspapers reported that he was deep in the matter of China. He said in a sermon that China was to be the test of the good will of the nations. He challenged the statesmen to meet the test of China.

His distressed members may as well go to the State Department with their private problems.

Rabbi Crosby is so deep. The way he knows all the books! Every once in a while he gives a sermon on the latest book. They are afraid to get close lest they fall into his profundity. Father Cronin worries about people like Pat. Not that Father Cronin is insensible to the bigger world

United Nations Judge Louvain, Belgium — (NC) — Dr. Charles de Visser, a judge of the International Court of Justice of the United Nations, is Professor of International Law at the University of Louvain here. Dr. de Visser was a member of the Belgian delegation at the San Francisco Conference which drew up the United Nations charter.

around him. He would like to see a good, international world established, in accordance with the Sermon on the Mount and its Beatitudes. But he knows that he himself can't do much about that and in the meanwhile, there's so much to do in his own parish. Regrettably, he leaves the world to the responsible international agencies.

I can't help comparing Rabbi Crosby with Father Cronin invidiously. Rabbi Crosby is a high-minded gentleman who honestly, if mistakenly, feels he has state-manlike functions. I can understand Rabbi Crosby. Perhaps this concept of his functions has to do with the cinematic complex that is of many of us and which "it" all to our credit. We want a better world because we know that when the world gets better it will be good for Jews, too.

But Rabbi Crosby's vision is

PARKS SWAN
and his
SWANEE TRIO
in the
COCKTAIL LOUNGE
Mark Twain Hotel

NEW MAGNAVOX
NOW ON DISPLAY
— Also —
COMPLETE LINE
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AND
WASHERS
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FINE FURNITURE AND RUGS
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76-78 E. Market St. CORNING

all out of perspective and he misses seeing his main job which has to do with little people; with out of the Army, who is having a hard time getting himself placed in the world; with Cohen who would like some help in putting together again the chaos of his family life; with Ginsberg who feels horribly troubled on account of one thing or another. No, it seems there isn't enough for a movie director to bite into the career of Rabbi Crosby. A movie director does like occasionally to make a picture of the career of a statesman, Mr. Wilson, but then in statesmanship Rabbi Crosby can't be classed with Wilson.