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CHARITY IN ELMIRA—
Jottings Here and There

By MARY B. FITZGERALD

We are not exaggerating! The program for the Boy's Camp would convince any real live young man that he should go to Camp Villa Maria.

We have had several splendid boy's camps — peak attendance —interesting programs — happy carefree camping days but it dawns we are on our way to improve on even our record.

Thanks to the Reverend Director, Father Vogt, our popular former Director, Father Hurley and Head Counselor Joe Dailey and his able corps of assistants —our enthusiasm mounted to new heights. But why say more — we want to surprise our Campers and the rest of you can wait until afterwards for our explanation.

The entire staff will report for dinner Thursday evening at Patsy Clair's. Then they are in for the last few hours of pre-camp training. Since we start right in on a full program — immediately after registration — every detail of the intricate camp opening must be worked out and satisfactorily planned.

Registration for Campers begins—in—dinner—intends Friday morning — a general swim will be followed by lunch and then the regular schedule will be underway — Happy Camping to you!

And what of the girls? We, too, are looking forward to a different but better camp. Our applicants number more than 100 with those on the waiting list being accepted in proper order. We have hated to say no to those under and over age—but we had to stop somewhere. Money had to be taken — and even though there are great golden stretches of outdoors — you would need a place to sleep.

The Junior Counselors — most of whom were on the staff last year are whole heartedly entering into our training sessions. After all — these 'members of the staff are the ones who live with our Campers. They know better than anyone else — the joys and sorrows of our Camp Family.

Frankly — we are already deeply indebted to them. They have answered many of our questions — wisely, we think — and some of their suggestions have made for many worthwhile changes in our camp plans.

Meetings this past week — included a dinner at Patsy Clair's. Of this — we are certain — each and every member of our staff will know just what part she must play in making Villa Maria a Camp — with every letter a capital.

Guess what? Others besides you read this column. Quite often — we learn just that — and in the way that we like. And so — we are depending on that — and using this to say to some of your Ladies of Charity.

You knew — you complained — you couldn't always see the results. Many the Sewing Committee can count the garments which they finish — the Recreation Committee give statistics on attendance — the Secretarial Group produce pages of typing — but some of us — we have heard you say— Well, we just never see any return for our efforts.

Well — we gave you several chances and what happened? Take for instance — that stupendous task of reclaiming the grass at St. Joseph's Hospital. Did you help on that? You can really get an immediate return on your service — be of invaluable help to St. Joseph's in their hour of need.

But what happened? Need I tell you? Your committee assigned responsibility for an afternoon or evening each week. You would like to have you come at the particular time — but if it is not convenient. We repeat —you may go at any time. Just take yours—it to the solarium on the sixth floor and from there on — you will know the way.

We are really doing you a favor in calling this to your attention. Most important are the spiritual dividends — but then also — you don't want your committee to be at the bottom of the list when your chairman gives an account of her stewardship for July and August. Incidentally — the days are numbered! It will soon be time for the September Council Meeting.

It made us apologize! The makeshift altar on which the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered each morning at Villa Maria. This year that also will be different. The dear little wooden altar, which many of us learned to love during the months that it was a Bethlehem for our Divine Lord in Rosary Chapel, has been loaned to the Camp by our Dominican Sisters.

For this and how much else—we are indebted to Elmira's newest religious community. As someone says almost every day —"It's grand to have a place like this to go when everything is all mixed up." There's something of Heaven in the peaceful quiet of the tiny chapel — a warm nearness to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, exposed daily on the Rosary Altar.

But never — does one forget that she is not alone with Him. In the Sisters' Choir — separated from the public chapel by a friendly grill — kneels a white robed Dominican Sister. Every hour of the day and night — the uninterrupted eyes of our Lady's Rosary ascend to Her Divine Son — including always and ever — the welfare of Elmira and Elmirians.

Our Lord's second birthday in this new Nazareth will be observed on August 15th. If you did not ask for a participation in the special Novena which is preceding this anniversary—you may still have a share in it.

Of course — each and every benefactor has been included in the prayers of our Dominicans during these special days of thanksgiving. You and your dear ones and the most precious wish of your hearts will be particularly remembered — if you make your request known.

As usual you may mail, deliver, or telephone your request to The Monastery, Dial 4505 or to The Catholic Charities Office.

Overheard — the other day—"You know Mrs. ———'s son is very ill. He may not get better. The other night when he was very bad, his mother called the Monastery at two o'clock in the morning. The sister told her —"We'll start right away to pray special" and Mrs. ——— said she felt so comforted and helped—just to know some one like that was there to pray for her and her darling."

Ex-Army Chaplain Heads For Africa as Missionary

REV. CHARLES ERB, S.V.D.

Home only a few months from Europe and Alaska where he served as an American Army chaplain, the Rev. Charles Erb, S.V.D., will soon be heading overseas again, this time to do missionary work on the African Gold Coast.

A former Rochesterian and a graduate of Holy Family School, Father Erb expects to depart for his new assignment early next month. He is now visiting at the home of his Brother Herbert Erb of 588 Child Street in Rochester.

The former Army chaplain, a priest of the missionary Society of the Divine Word, will go to Accra, capital city of the Gold Coast, West Africa, which is a British Crown Colony.

The Accra Mission, established ten years ago by the Fathers of the Divine Word, has 18,000 Catholics and 700,000 more natives who are potential converts, Father Erb plans to make a moving picture of the Accra Mission in order to give Americans a better knowledge of Catholic mission life on the Dark Continent.

In going to Africa as a missionary Father Erb is realizing plans which the outbreak of war forced him to postpone until now. As an army chaplain he served with the Armed Forces in Alaska and Germany.

Squires '47 Plans Set For Owasco

Auburn—Officials of the Columbian Squires' Camp Colvin-hus on Owasco Lake have decided to re-open the camp on a full-time schedule in 1947.

Plans for the new schedule were discussed at the annual meeting of the camp's officers and Board of Directors held on the grounds on the east side of Owasco Lake. The Rev. Frederick C. Straub, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church and president of the Columbian Squires, presided.

Due to the shortage of food and other necessities the camp has been operating this season as a day camp for the 50 to 70 youngsters who attend each day.

Water System Planned

The meeting also voted unanimously to tap the Owasco Town Water Line now under construction and install a water system for the camp.

Father Straub, with other officers of the organization, was re-elected to serve in the coming year. The motion was made by Fred Atkinson and seconded by Joe Graney.

Officers are: William E. Bouley, vice presidents; James F. O'Neill, secretary; Rev. John Wildman, treasurer.

Besides the officers present, the following Board members attended the meeting: Joseph E. Helerk, William D. Garvey, Raymond E. Butler, Fred Atkinson, Joseph E. Graney, Robert A. Nelson, J. Joseph Rumpf, Henry F. Schmitz, W. Joseph Curtin and Leo A. Pinckney.

RETREAT DRAWS 32 FROM CITY

Thirty-two men of the parishes of Our Lady of Good Counsel and St. Augustine's, Rochester, and Holy Ghost, Coldwater, made the closed retreat at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat House, Geneva, Aug. 9, 10 and 11.

Rev. Augustine Aylward, C. SS.R. and Rev. Thomas Sanderson, CSSR., conducted exercises and gave conferences.

Father Sanderson celebrated the 7 o'clock Mass on Friday with Father Aylward celebrating the various parts of the ceremony.

The men were complimented on their strict observance of silence from the opening conference at 9 o'clock Friday until Sunday dinner.

Rev. John M. Duffy, pastor of St. Augustine's parish, made his own private retreat over the weekend at the Retreat House. He officiated at Benediction closing the retreat, and expressed his edification at the devotion shown by the retreatants.

Miss Larish Wed At Waterloo Rites

Waterloo — Miss Elizabeth G. Larish, daughter of Mrs. Anne Larish and the late Claude Larish, was united in marriage to Edward J. Fleming, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Fleming, Geneva, in St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, August 10.

Rev. George T. McCall performed the ceremony and offered the Nuptial Mass. Miss Mary Clark presided at the organ and John Ging was soloist.

The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Philip Larish, and attended by her sister-in-law, Mrs. Philip Larish. John Fleming of Rochester was best man and the ushers were Robert Ralston and Frank Fleming of Geneva. Following the Church rites, a reception was held for 75 at the home of the bride's mother.

Variety Shower Held For Geneva Bride-to-Be

Geneva — Mrs. John Gillmore of 30 North Street entertained Monday evening, August 5th, at a variety shower in honor of Miss Eleanor Plop, whose marriage will take place this month.

The guests were: The Misses June O'Malley, Anna Marie Kidd, Jacqueline Stockman, Ruth Baxter, Avis Kellner and Marie McDermott, and Mrs. Herbert Bentz, Mrs. Joseph Fennell, Mrs. Betsy Davis, Mrs. Wayland Eggleston, Mrs. James Gilligan and Mrs. Irving Eggleston.

Seminary Alumni Set Jubilee Meet

(Continued from page 1-S)

Executive Committee of the association.

Members of the committee are: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph E. Grady and the Rev. John S. Randall of Rochester; Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Smith, Sioux City, Ia., Rt. Rev. Msgr. Richard Kelly, Chicago, Ill., and the Reverend Fathers Francis J. Sugrue, Hartford, Conn.; Richard J. Patterson, Cleveland, O.; Patrick J. Molloy, Chicago, Ill.; Francis H. Durkin, Scranton, Pa., and Martin J. Watley, Syracuse, N. Y.

The tentative program worked out by the committee includes a Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass for deceased alumni on Oct. 23 and the Pontifical Jubilee Mass on Oct. 24.

The Alumni Banquet is tentatively scheduled for the 24th at Hotel Seneca.

The program as devised follows:

Tuesday, Oct. 22 — 2:00 p. m., Registration, Hotel Seneca; 7:00 p. m., Alumni Mixer, Ballroom, Hotel Seneca.

Wednesday, Oct. 23 — 10:30 a. m., Pontifical Requiem Mass; 12:30 p. m., Business Meeting, Seminary; 1:30 p. m., Luncheon, Seminary; 2:30 p. m., Student Entertainment, Seminary; 6:00 p. m., Class Reunions.

Thursday, Oct. 24 — 10:30 a. m., Pontifical Jubilee Mass; 1:00 p. m., Alumni Banquet, Hotel Seneca.

The St. Bernard's Seminary Alumni Bulletin, under direction of the Rev. John S. Randall, alumni secretary, makes its debut with the August issue. "It is hoped," Father Randall states, "that this monthly alumni publication which will reach St. Bernard's men throughout the country and in the nation's far-flung military outposts will become a permanent feature of the Alumni Association."

Quebec Aids New College

Rimouski, Que. — (NC) — The Government of Quebec has made a grant of $75,000 towards the cost of erecting a college in the town of Price, Que. It will be directed by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

Priest Strike Mediator

St. Louis — (NC)—Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach has appointed the Rev. Leo C. Brown, S.J., of St. Louis University, director of the Institute of Social Sciences, to serve as mediator in the four-month-old strike of 175 members of the International Association of Machinists, which has idled 1,500 other employes at the Granite City Steel Company plant in Granite City, Ill.

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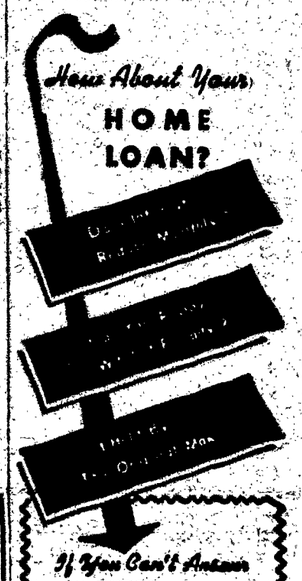
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