By Way of Mention

By John O'Connor

[illegible] lists are beginning to show signs that some of [illegible] are beginning to get paper. The mail gets [illegible] week—and so does the burden of the reviewer.

[illegible] only rare in- [illegible] constructive work, [illegible] a number of [illegible] that deserve [illegible] would re- [illegible]

[illegible] is again [illegible] this line with a su- [illegible] novel, Woman of [illegible] (Henry Holt, [illegible]) [illegible] with the real- [illegible] has long distinguished [illegible] French artist, it is the [illegible] of a woman whose ex- [illegible] reveals her as a [illegible] and [illegible] to domi- [illegible] all about her, the while [illegible] her mind or attend- [illegible] her various church society [illegible].

Any resentment of this work, [illegible] handled by a great [illegible] novelist, will be from [illegible] as Brigitte Fa- [illegible] have seen them be- [illegible] are happy to [illegible] in the [illegible] Catholic tradition and [illegible]. They are in the [illegible] and the [illegible] — a sign, I guess, that there is hope even for the [illegible].

• • •

J. B. Yeats' Letters To His Son W. B. Yeats and Others [illegible] (Edited by Jos. Hone. Dutton $4.00). Joseph Hone, the deistic Dubliner and authority on many aspects of Irish literature has contributed another work on Yeats, in this case an editing job that is quite delightful even if one knows nothing of the subject. [illegible] Hone is not [illegible] want to read other's people mail.

The letters are delightful and a necessary footnote to the history of the period. Yeats' delight with New York, [illegible] for a lecture in Phila- [illegible] — all these provide a [illegible] of today. (One thing [illegible] puzzle me is the [illegible] of a [illegible] book.)

[illegible], who is [illegible] by the following [illegible] written a novel of the Palestine Underground [illegible] of the [illegible] The writer a free lance [illegible] underground army the opposition, the British. The only trouble in this case is there is an Arab question, an all problems and a [illegible] solution. I fear the author of [illegible], [illegible] at Home, and The Yogi and the Commissar will be found to have disappointed his readers [illegible] of action and propaganda. It is [illegible] good [illegible].

One hesitates to recommend Frontier on the Potomac by Jonathan Daniels (Macmillan $2.75). A self-confessed and "happy-to-be-one" bureaucrat, once a newspaperman and the son of a publisher, he has known the Washington scene for over a generation. Latterly he has been an administrative assistant to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

There is a flavor of Washington in it, but the author evidently doesn't like the taste. While understandably and justly suspicious of the return of big money government, on the other hand he displays positive naivete about the virtues of the crew that should be packing for home by the time this is written.

He does point up some excellent observations, however, especially when he is dealing with Congressmen and Senators who, defeated, remain to lobby and hold down various positions rather than go home a defeated and retired legislator.

While it is a minor work, it does have a good touch of the real Washington, although one statement about Washington restaurants and grills will [illegible] in the Press Club. The author evidently confines his social life to a [illegible].

• • •

From time to time through the next few weeks I am going to mention at length and with an enthusiasm that must be reined by prudence The Tragedy of Europe by Francis Neilson. (C. C. Nelson, Appleton, Wis. Five volumes $12.50).

The last of the vanishing gentlemen - scholars, Francis Neilson has just completed his monumental work, a day by day commentary on the last war. An Englishman by birth, this active 80 year-old scholar has produced plays, written plays — and then in later years, been a member of the House of Commons. In 1915 he sincerely, albeit with some [illegible], resigned his seat in Parliament over the conduct of the war and came to the United States. A colleague of Lloyd George and Winston Churchill, his background of personal friendships is only matched by his tremendous amount of reading and research.

Not even the prolific John Chamberlain could review the thousands of pages that make up this work — without, regret, [illegible] to an intelligent reader [illegible] matter or librarian, professor or student can afford to be without it.

Suffice to say the introductions to the various volumes are by such men as Robert Hutchens of Chicago University, Charles Tansill, Will Lissner of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology, etc. Of all this, more in weeks to come.

U. S. Franciscans in Holy Land

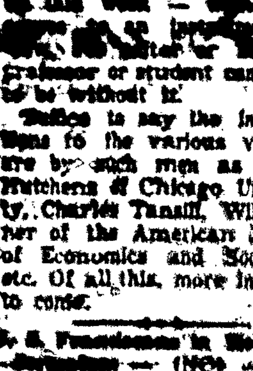
Jerusalem — (NC) — Three American Franciscan missionaries have arrived in Palestine to join the ranks of the Franciscan caring for the Holy Land shrines and missions.

"WE FIT BY FOOTPRINT" ... Reg. Copyright

PARMELEE [illegible]

Dickerson Shoes are sold in Rochester only at this shop.

[illegible] principles are applied to the fitting of footwear at PARMELEE'S. [illegible] is illustrated by our exclusive fitting methods. Correct elevations, length, [illegible] and transverse [illegible] positions are [illegible]. Your foot balance is assured.



[illegible] EAST AVE. — DIRECTION JOHN J. MOORE

High School Boy's Reading of St. Francis' Life Leads to Conversion of Entire Family of Six

Special to Courier-Journal

Cleveland — Because 15-year-old Johnny Novak happened to read a story about St. Francis of Assisi, he, his mother, father, brother and two sisters have joined the Catholic Church.

As Johnny, a freshman at St. Ignatius High, told it:

"That story got me to thinking — I wanted to know more about St. Francis' faith. I had never thought about it before.

"I asked a pal of mine, Pete Gill — he's a Catholic — about it and he took me to Church several times.

"And his mother talked to me for hours at a time.

"I MADE UP MY MIND I was going to be a Catholic.

"I talked to a priest at St. Patrick and he told me it was fine, but that I should see if my parents didn't object. If they did, he told me to wait a while.

"So I went home and told them. Boy, were they mad!

"They thought it was just another of my crackpot ideas."

"MAD?" interjected Johnny's father, Anthony Novak. "That's putting it mildly. We blew up. I wasn't having a son of mine joining THAT church."

Then Mrs. Novak broke in:

"Mad? No — my reaction was one of horror.

"I didn't know anything about the Catholic Church, but somehow the thought revolted me.

"I told Johnny and the family right then and there—we weren't having any split family. If one became a Catholic, we'd all become Catholics, or nobody would become a Catholic."

THEN UP POPPED 11-year-old David!

"I said they'd never get ME into that old Church."

And 13-year-old Nancy nodded agreement.

But the seed had been planted. Mrs. Novak said she had a friend at work, to whom she described the crisis in the Novak household at 8002 Bridge Ave. She said:

"She gave me some books to read and I read them. I wanted to know what my son was letting himself in for.

"One of the books was the Vest Pocket Book of Facts. That finished me. When I had read it, I knew we were on our way into the Catholic Church.

"I think that book should be read by all Protestants. It explains what the Catholic Church really is.

"One phrase in particular convinced me. It was the earmark of the Church — unity, holiness, universality and apostolicity.

"That struck me as being most reasonable. Protestants have no unity.

"Then I went to Monsignor Gers at St. Stephen's, because that's where my children's friends were from, and talked with him.

"AFTERWARDS, I went with a neighbor to the Sorrowful Mother Novena at St. Colman's. I met Sister Mary Thomasine and we talked about the family.

"She told me to bring all of them over to see Monsignor Martin at St. Colman. By that time, we were all convinced—all except Dad.

"He still balked.

"But I arranged with Monsignor Martin to put Nancy and David in his school and Johnny and I began taking instructions from Father Carlin.

"That was last November. Meanwhile, I had managed to get Johnny in at St. Ignatius high school.

"I also kept up with the novena — I was praying for Dad.

"ON THE THIRD night, he came to me and said:

"'Mom, I think I'll go with you tonight.'

"It just happened that Father Carlin quoted a lot from the Bible that night. That threw Dad.

"He didn't know Catholics read the Bible.

"Then the three of us took instructions together. Nancy and David, of course, were being taught in school.

"On February 17, we all went to St. Colman's and were baptized by Father Carlin, including our youngest, three-year-old Martha Jane.

"The following Sunday we made our First Holy Communion and were confirmed last month."

MRS. NOVAK SAID the going wasn't easy. Friends from Calvary Reformed Church, where the family had been going, heard about it and were always "dropping in and trying to talk us out of it." She said:

"One night the preacher came and we talked. I told him it wasn't definite yet, but he just smiled and said:

"'Don't say that, Mrs. Novak. You are already a Catholic.'

"I was born and raised a Lutheran, but ever since I've been married, my husband and I would go to some church in whatever neighborhood we happened to live.

"Before Johnny got his idea, I had read the book, 'The World, the Flesh and Father Smith.' I started then thinking about the Catholic Church. That's a good book.

"We're certainly a happy family now.

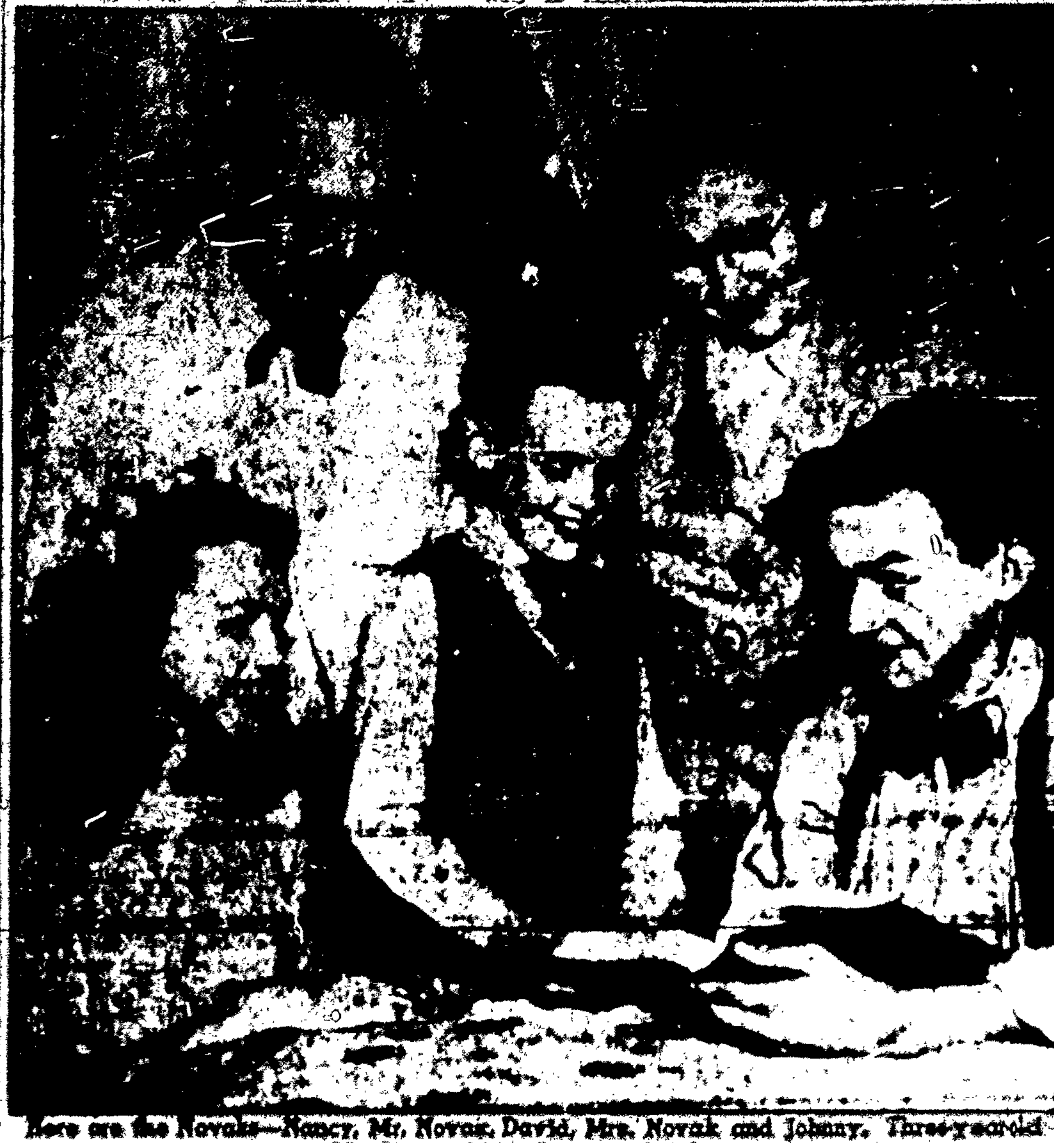
"The Blessed Mother has been awfully good to me. She is my favorite, but she was one of my stumbling blocks.

"I just couldn't understand her. I thought Catholics made too much of her and not enough of God.

"But," she smiled, "now I know.

"David has been talking about entering Holy Cross Seminary — David, who said we'd never make a Catholic of him."

"That's right," said David, grinning.



Here are the Novaks—Nancy, Mr. Novak, David, Mrs. Novak and Johnny. Three-year-old Martha is visiting her grandmother.

Information Desk

Morganatic Marriage

Q. Is there any indulgence that can be gained by altar boys?

A. Yes, altar boys may gain an indulgence of three years every time they serve Mass.

Q. What is a morganatic marriage?

A. It is a special form of marriage between a member of a royal family and woman of inferior rank, with the express understanding that the wife and children will not acquire the rank or title of the husband and father, and that they will be content with a determined portion of the paternal inheritance. In its essentials, a morganatic marriage is like any other union, but is different in its civil effects. Since we have no royalty in this country, we have no morganatic marriages.

Q. When was the law of Naturalization through marriage abrogated?

A. This question is a little outside our field. We suggest that the questioner consult a lawyer or an official of the respective government bureau.

Q. When I was in Canada, the Vigil of the Assumption was a fast day, and yet the Feast of the Assumption (August 15th) was not a holy day of obligation. Please explain.

A. Two laws are involved. One law of the Church requires the faithful to assist at Mass on certain holy days of the year, as well as on all Sundays. Another law of the Church requires the faithful to fast on certain days, among them the Vigil of the Assumption. The Church has dispensed the people of Canada from the obligation of hearing Mass on the Assumption itself, but she has not dispensed them from the duty of fasting on the Vigil of that day.

There are ten holy days of obligation for the universal church. But not all are observed everywhere. Here in the United States, for example, we are bound to observe six of them: the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8th); the Nativity of Our Lord (Dec. 25th); the Circumcision of Our Lord (Jan. 1st); Ascension Thursday (40 days after Easter); the Assumption of Mary (Aug. 15th); and All Saints' Day (Nov. 1st).

Q. Did Christ intend that we should obey literally such sayings as "turn the other cheek, despise home and family, etc."?

A. There are many statements of Our Lord that were spoken figuratively, and all should not be taken literally, at least always, by us. Such are the two mentioned by our questioner. Commenting on the first of these, Bishop LeCamus, says: "Accepted literally, this law of charity would be hopeless and even dangerous. To practise it without regard to circumstances and without discernment would be to encourage evil to its greatest extent. By promulgating it in exaggerated terms thoroughly in accordance with Oriental tastes, our Saviour wished only to demonstrate to us how patient, how heroic, how superhuman is the kindness, the gentleness, the selfdenial that should characterize His true disciples. Thus He Himself, instead of turning the left cheek to the servant who had struck Him on the right, merely said: 'If I have spoken evil, give testimony of the evil; but if well, why strikest thou Me?' But into these words, He put just what is demanded by His precept: mildness, affability, resignation, that give the blush to the wicked for their violence, and recall them to better feelings."

We should remember that our Lord's recorded words were spoken to Oriental audiences who expected and understood language more figurative than we are accustomed to hear. These words are directed to us only indirectly, inasmuch as they were written down by the inspired Evangelists for our benefit. Hence to understand them correctly, we must interpret them according to the circumstances in which they were uttered. It was to secure us from falling into bizarre misinterpretations of His words that our Lord instituted an infallible teaching Church, who preserves down through the centuries an accurate sense of the true meaning of His message.

Catholic Deaths In China High

St. Columbans, Nebr. — Since June 1941, the Diocese of Kanchow has lost 22 per cent of its Catholic population due to the appallingly high death rate in China. In his annual report to St. Columban's headquarters here, Bishop Patrick Cleary says: "Directly, the Japanese were responsible for the deaths of but a few of our Catholics. The destruction of Kanchow and the neighboring villages left some hundreds homeless, but these were provided with housing in the Church Compound pending the arrival of better conditions. Most of them are still with us.

"At the same time, the continued nervous strain arising from the constant threat of bombings or invasion so lowered the vitality of the people that they readily succumbed to illness which they ordinarily would have been able to combat. An inrush of refugees from outside [illegible] produced overcrowding with consequent recurrent epidemics; food shortage and high prices and taxation aggravated the misery.

"The St. Columban priests and Sisters have, as far as funds would permit, thrown themselves into the work of Relief and Rehabilitation. The Irish Red Cross, the International Relief Committee and the National Catholic Welfare Conference of America have come to our assistance with considerable donations of money and medicine. However, the end of the decline is not in sight and the situation remains grave."

Dean at Loyola

Chicago — (NC) — Dr. Roman Haremski, acting dean of the School of Social Work of Loyola University for the past three years, has been appointed dean

Library Signpost

November Reading

By Rev. Benedict Ehmann

The Church regards November as a parable of the end of the world. It is the last month of her calendar. Its nights are lengthening toward the winter solstice. Its landscapes gray and sombre. The final harvests are being gathered in, and the residue is consigned to burning or rotting.

• • •

On the last Sunday of the month, the prophecy of Jesus about the end of the world is read in the Mass. A complete Christian view of life must have the character of expectancy for Christ's return. "Watch and pray, for you know not the day, nor the hour." In the Christian outlook, history is moving toward a consummation. All wars, all treaties of peace, all developments of science and art and human relations, are stages on the road; and the road leads to that place where Christ will return and gather together the living and the dead for the judgment. Christ's people should not say, "But that may still be very far away!" Perhaps it may be for the world as a whole. But for each of us, there is only a little portion of time, a little while, before we can no longer work and prepare ourselves for Christ's coming.

FR. EHMANN

• • •

So it is that the Church trains us in Christian expectancy by treating the Fall of the year as a parable of the end of the world, and thus keeping our souls in tune with those trumpets which the angels will blow for the resurrection.

• • •

In harmony with this, the Church assigns the Old Testament prophets to be read by her priests and monks in their November breviaries. These prophets lived in the last centuries before Christ's first Coming. Their times were full of wars and struggles. The Chosen People were being driven into captivity, [illegible] in the clutches of rival empires. The Temple was destroyed. It looked as if they were abandoned even by God, and as if the promise of the Savior's coming would never be fulfilled. And then God spoke [illegible] Many times He raised up holy men from among them, gave them messages and visions, and fortified their spirits for the hard mission of speaking in His Name.

Some of their names are familiar to us — Isaias, Jeremias, Ezechiel, and Daniel. These are the major prophets, because their prophecies in the Bible are more lengthy. But there were others — the minor prophets, with briefer communications — whose names are perhaps less familiar, except Jonas whom we associate with the great fish that swallowed him; Osee (Hoseah), Joel, Amos, Abdias, Micheas, Nahum, Habacuc, Sophonias, Aggeus, Zacharias, and Malachias.

• • •

There is a good survey of these men and their work in the Catholic Encyclopedia, vol. 12, under the title Prophecy. Dom Hubert van Zeller has given us some sprightly books (sprightly is the word) on the prophets. Look for them in the Catholic Evidence Library, under these titles: Isaias, Man of Ideas — Jeremias, Man of Tears — Daniel, Man of Desires — Ezechiel, Man of Signs — Prophets and Princes — Sackcloth and Ashes — Watch and Pray; seven books all told, all written with the idea of simplifying and popularizing what looks like, but really isn't, a dry subject.

• • •

The matter is very pertinent to these present times. In spite of the atomic bomb, history is repeating itself, as it has done so often before. But millions are not prepared to read the signs of the times. "The moving finger writes"— and only Daniel can tell what it means. Today it is, or should be, the Catholic who is the "Daniel come to judgment." [illegible], however, even the Catholic is as perplexed and floundering as the rest. His faith and knowledge are [illegible], unable to operate in his sphere of action. He is a strange specimen, neither wanting to go out, nor yet wanting to come in. To put it like Gertrude Stein, he is "half in and half out." November's picture of decline and death, and the Church's warning of Christ's return, should give such a Catholic much food for thought.

• • •

The Church takes the words of the ancient prophets, puts them on her lips, and desires us to take them to our hearts. For us, as for them, the times are full of woes and threats. We seem, as did they, to be stampeded into a future without hope.

Near East Missions

Francis Cardinal Spellman, President
Very Rev. Thomas J. McMahon, S.T.D., National Secretary
Rev. Andrew H. Rogosh, S.T.L., Assistant Secretary

Yours For The Asking

Our illustrated circular, in colors, describing the Gift Card you may send to friends at Christmas, is yours for the asking. Write in.

JUST TWO NAMES

You've never heard of Damian Como and Moses Treiano, but we are placing high hopes in them. Both are seminarians in the Greek College at Rome and we are anxiously waiting the day of their ordination, when they will go forth as missionaries.

Damian is only two years away from priesthood, and he is a bright student. He is hoping that some kind American friend of the Near East will adopt him, for he must have four hundred dollars to pay for the rest of his course.

Moses still has four years to go. He comes from a very poor but pious family, and it prayers will do it, his Mother is anxiously hoping to have an adopted American mother [illegible]. All told, he will need six hundred dollars to cover his expenses.

Here is a truly golden opportunity. Make one of these your adopted son in Christ, and reap with him a harvest of souls. This is treasure in heaven.

CHAMIA

This little town of Egypt needs a chapel-school. It will cost fifteen hundred dollars. Are you interested? Write for a picture.

BIND UP

Bind up the wounds of the poor by giving fifty dollars for a missionary sister's medical kit.

DAILY, DAILY!

"Daily, daily, sing to Mary!" Your deposit in MARY'S BANK from which we help our Near East missions assures you of Our fervent daily prayers to Our Lady for you. We send you her picture.

HAVE PITY!

What are you doing for your beloved dead during November? Have Masses offered by our needy priests. Write for our free leaflet on the Gregorian Masses.

ETERNAL LIGHT

We have been asked for a special sanctuary lamp, to be placed in the chapel at Sedfa, Egypt. It will cost twenty dollars, and it can be an eternal light, always burning before Our Eucharistic King, for your fondest intentions.

PEARLS

Our Lady, appearing to the three children at Fatima, Portugal, held in her hands a rosary of shining pearls, with a silver cross. Even the smallest gift will help to build the Rosary Chapel of OUR LADY OF FATIMA in the Holy Land for the conversion of Russia.

DOCTOR HAILU

We just received a letter of thanks from our old friend and classmate at Propaganda College in Rome, Father Hailu, now a missionary in Ethiopia. One of the few native Catholic priests of that poor country, he is [illegible] He was the smartest one in our class.

WHOSE FAULT?

St. Augustine claimed that his holy mother, Monica, became a saint through the pious example of a Christian slave. St. Monica is the patron of our Near East Altar Sodality. Join the MONICA GUILD and give a dollar monthly for Mass vestments for poor Near East missionaries.

LOAN TO GOD

"Who gives to the poor, makes a loan to God." Won't you help us to fill the hungry mouths of our thousands of orphans, by giving a little for ORPHAN'S BREAD? As Christmas approaches, we are thinking of Bishop Hakim's orphanage at Nazareth.

VERY SOON

Very soon we shall have to tell you about our neediest cases. Your stringless gift will be much needed.

LOGIC?

Our Near East missions lie in lands converted by Our Lord and His Apostles. Should we not do as much to reclaim them, as we do to convert new pagan lands? Your stringless gift to our missions helps our missionaries to do this.

BROTHER ANTHONY

From far off Jerusalem, comes a note from Brother Anthony, an American Franciscan. Ten cents for the missions will bring you our "THREAT TO THE HOLY PLACES." You ought to know all about the Christian stake in Palestine.

Send all communications to

Catholic Near East Welfare Association
480 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York 17, N. Y.

A New and Beautiful Assortment of Religious

CHRISTMAS GREETING CARDS

Now arranged in a grand array for your most discriminating selection . . . at Trant's.

YULETIDE GREETINGS
14 lovely designs $1.00

FAMOUS MADONNAS
A variety of 15 for $1.00

Assorted CARDS
Attractively Boxed
12 for 50c
12 for 75c
20 for $1.00

Rochester's Largest selection of Personalized Cards to please the most particular taste.

TRANT'S INC.
THE CATHOLIC SUPPLY STORE — FREE PARKING NEXT DOOR

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
Brooks Ave. cor. Genesee Pk. Blvd.
REV. EDWARD T. MEAGHER - Pastor
Masses—Sundays: 7 - 8 - 9 - 10 - 11 - 12:00

SOUTHWEST SHOE REBUILDER
We Close Wednesday All Day
Ask "CHARLIE"
[illegible] Thurston — Gen. [illegible]

WOLFF PHARMACY
Lowest Prices — Thurston Rd.
Professional Pharmacist
641 Thurston Rd. — Gen. 4176
2 Doors from Brooks — Free Delivery

HUNT'S HARDWARE
HARDWARE — PAINTS
Electrical Appliances
Gen. 6813 — 390 Thurston

Just Better
ICE CREAM & SHERBET
JACKSON-BAILEY
501 Thurston Rd.—Gen. 7100

HENNER'S LIQUOR STORE
GENESEE 4460
534 CHILI AVE., Near Thurston

Do You Read "AS WE SEE IT" It's Good