

Elmira CDA Asked to Join Devotion to Bl. Mother

In a ceremony conducted by the officers of Court St. Rita 107, eight new candidates were initiated into the Catholic Daughters of America.

Assisting the local officers were District Deputy Miss Margaret Barrett of Corning and Mrs. Mary Cocco of Waverly. At the conclusion of the initiation ceremony the 36th annual banquet for members and their guests was held at the Mark Twain Hotel.

The Rev. Albert J. Shamon of Rochester was the guest speaker and reviewed the recent book "Our Lady of Fatima." The speaker told of the fact that the author of the book had just returned from the scene of the apparitions and had personally talked to the lone survivor of the three children, Sister Lucia of the Dominican Sisters of Spain.

Father Shamon urged his listeners to begin a series of universal prayers by means of the Rosary to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as the only instrument of saving civilization and for the conversion of Russia.

Others on the speaking program were the Rev. William A. Burns, Chaplain and Miss Barrett, Mrs. John J. McMahon, Grand Regent, acted as toastmaster. Also present at the dinner were three Charter members, they were: Misses Mary

Gevia, Margaret O'Connor and Jane Wigger.

Mrs. Charles N. Kasper, vice Grand Regent was general chairman and was assisted by the following: Misses Lynn Coleman, Theodore A. Doran, Agnes Long, John J. McMahon and Miss Mary Newsome.

Diocesan-Wide Scouts Planned

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other Scout Headquarters, Challenge To Men.

The Rev. Walter Fischer, Diocesan Chaplain, emphasized that the Catholic Church has given to the Boy Scout Movement as an integral part of the Church's extensive youth program. Father Fischer stated that when the Church adds the supernatural to the well planned and completely established program for character building and citizenship training which Scouting provides, Catholic men are given a challenge, to put the program into action.

Other members of the Rochester Committee who spoke included John T. Northrup, Chairman of Organization and Extension James P. B. Duffy, Matthew Lawless, William J. Blinn, Clarence Decker, Joseph W. Bann, David Brady.

Mr. Brady announced advance plans for huge gathering of scouts from all over the 11 counties comprising the Rochester Diocese to be held in Rochester in September. Further planning of this event must await the formation of additional lay committees and actual establishment of additional scout units, Mr. Brady said.

Representative speaking Charles J. Tanner of Painted Post, Chairman of the Lay Committee co-operating with the Bishop's Area Council spoke of the favorable results obtained through working with Chief Scout Executive William M. Connelley of Bath, who was prevented from being present.

Scout Executives and their Councils who participated in the discussions at the meeting and pledged their support for the expanded program in their council areas, were:

W. F. Adler, Louis Agassiz, Francis Council, Ithaca, Frederick R. Crook, Cayuga County Council, Auburn, George F. Freeman, Finger Lakes Council, Geneva and Carl F. Northrup, Sullivan Trail Council, Elmira.

K. of C. Grand Knights present included Edward F. Secaur of Auburn, Nicholas Gentile, Seneca Falls and Francis Smith of Newark. Presidents of Parish Holy Name Societies who attended included Joseph Spino, Auburn; W. J. Flunkie, Canandaigua; Santo A. Iocco, Clyde; and Fred Mulcahy of Elmira. Many other prominent laymen and scouters came from every section of the Diocese.

Following the meeting and through the courteous hospitality of Very Rev. Augustine J. Aylward, C.S.R., Rector of the Retreat House dinner was served to about 60 men remaining.

Oldest U. S. Mercy Nun Dies

Providence - (NC) - Sister Mary Bonaventure, who has died at the age of 98 at St. Xavier's Convent here, was believed the oldest Sister of Mercy in the United States. She was born on May 28, 1851, the day that the Sisters of Mercy opened their first house in Providence.

Aim for Scout Troop in Each Parish



Gathered at Our Lady of the Lake Diocesan Retreat House in Geneva, Sunday, these Boy Scout leaders were sent into each parish of Rochester Diocese, the goal of Bishop Kearney. Top row shows (front row, left) Rev. Walter Fischer, Diocesan director of Scouting, Rev. Leo Jones, St. Joseph's, Weedsport; (top row, from left) Rev. Robert A. Dobson, St. Alphonsus, Auburn; Rev. James Callan, St. John's, Clyde; Rev. Alfred Horr, Holy Family, and Rev. Leo McManus, St. Mary's, Auburn. In lower photo (front, from left) George C. Freeman, General Joe Rupp, Auburn; Fred R. Crook, Auburn, Father Fischer, Louis A. Langis, Rochester, diocesan director; William J. Walters, Ithaca; John J. McMahon, Rochester; J. Covas, Geneva; Charles J. Tanner, Bath; Leo M. Sandefur, Rochester; Gerald Loughlin, Elmira.

Catholics Keep Strength in China

Shanghai - (NC) - The immense staying power of the Catholic Church in China is shown in the first compilation of mission statistics which appeared here in four years.

This is the year book, published by the French Jesuits the 1947 edition of which has just been issued.

Because of disrupted communications, this year book gives recent figures only from 61, less than one-half of China's 133 ecclesiastical divisions. However, some returns have been received from some part of every province, thus providing a wide cross section.

Despite losses caused by deaths and migrations, the total number of Catholics in the areas reporting is only 54,000 less than in June 1942. The total number of Catholics in China is estimated at approximately three and one-quarter million.

Despite deaths, repatriations, and the non-arrival of new missionaries, the number of foreign priests in the areas covered by the survey has decreased only by 120 during four years of Pacific War. Foreign priests still total about 3,000 in the whole of China, and native priests more than 2,000.

Augustinians Name American

Washington - (NC) - Word has been received here that the Rev. Joseph Hickey, O. S. A., Assistant General of the Order of St. Augustine since 1923, and from 1940 to 1947 a member of the faculty of the school of canon law at the Catholic University of America, has been elected Prior General of the Augustinians at a general meeting in Rome.

Father Hickey, who at present heads the faculty of the Augustinian Monastery of St. Thomas of Villanova, Villanova, Pa., is the first American to be chosen head of the community.

Born in Chicago, Father Hickey entered the Augustinians on March 17, 1902 after completing his studies at Villanova College.

He was called to Rome in 1913 and after an examination was named to the agency of studies by the Prior General of the Order. Father Hickey received his Doctor of Divinity at Villanova on May 26, 1919. Father Hickey was also socius and secretary to the Provincial from 1917 to 1924, when he was named President of Villanova College.

Czechs Protest School Attacks

Prague - (NC) - Some 5,000 Czech Catholics crowded into one of Prague's largest assembly halls to voice their opposition to the proposed Czech Government school reform which would eliminate all private schools.

Archbishop Joseph Beran of Prague declared emphatically that Catholics will not tolerate a State monopoly of schools. The Czech Minister of Education, Jaroslav Stránský, a Catholic member of the National Socialist party, appeared at the meeting unexpectedly and tried to defend the government plan.

The minister's speech failed to dampen the ardor of the other speakers who came out emphatically against any State monopoly of the schools or any measure which would deprive Catholics of

Corning Weddings

Welly - Marland

Corning - The marriage of Miss Lois Evelyn Welly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Welly of Painted Post RD 1, and George Marland Jr. son of Mr. and Mrs. George Marland of Corning, RD 3, took place Saturday, May 31, in St. Mary's Church. The Rev. John A. Smith, pastor, performed the ceremony.

Attending the couple were Miss Marilyn Marland, sister of the bridegroom and James Rodgers, bridesmaid were Miss Joyce Parks of Painted Post and Mrs. Franklin Blake, George Haas and Franklin Blake ushered.

Following the ceremony a reception was held in Union Hall after which Mr. and Mrs. Marland left by motor for Maine. They are now living at 573 W. High St., Painted Post.

The bride, a graduate of Painted Post High School, has been employed at the New York Telephone Company Mr. Marland, who served 18 months with the Navy, attended St. Mary's School and Corning Free Academy. He is an employee of Corning Glass Works.

Campbell - Lyons

Corning - The marriage of Miss Marjorie Ann Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Campbell, 416 St. Clair St., Ligonier, Pa., and John T. Lyons, son of Charles J. Lyons of New York City, and the late Louise Morrow Lyons, took place Saturday, May 31, in St. Mary's Church. The Rev. John A. Smith, pastor, performed the ceremony.

Attending the bride as maid of honor was Miss Betty Hall of Gasport, Pa. Bridesmaids were Miss Betty Chesmar of Charleroi, Pa., Miss Isabel Lyons of Elmira, sister of the bridegroom, Mrs. William D. Campbell of Uniontown, Pa., sister-in-law of the bride, and Miss Joyce McMahon of Corning.

James Spitz of Rochester was best man and James and Richard Campbell of Ligonier, brothers of the bride, and Arlie Farr of Painted Post, ushered.

Following the ceremony a reception for 75 guests was held at the Hotel Stanton, after which the couple left by motor for Virginia and will spend some time at 116 Jennings St.

The bride, a graduate of Ligonier High School, attended Divine Providence Academy in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Grove City College, Grove City, Pa. She has been employed in the Glass Technology Department of Corning Glass Works. Mr. Lyons, a graduate of Corning Free Academy, is a Navy veteran. He is an employee of the Purchasing Department of the Glass Works.

Kelly - Smith

Miss Eileen A. Kelly, daughter of Mrs. Agnes Kelly of Elm St., South Corning, became the bride of Raymond Smith, son of Mrs. Edith Smith on Saturday, May 24, in St. Patrick's Church. The Rev. E. A. Rawlinson, pastor, performed the ceremony.

The maid of honor was Miss Patricia Mangano of Milwaukee, Wis., cousin of the bride. Miss Virginia Kelly, sister of the bride, and Miss Doris Cain, another cousin, were bridesmaids.

George Smith, brother of the bridegroom, was best man and John Webster and Joseph Gibbons were ushers.

A bride's list of 45 guests at the Baron Steuben Hotel followed the ceremony and later a reception for 125 guests was held at Corning Country Club. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Smith left by motor for the Adirondacks and Canada. Upon their return they will live at 104 W. Third St.

The bride, a graduate of St. Patrick's School, Corning Free Academy and St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, has been a member of the nursing staff at Corning Hospital. Mr. Smith, an Academy graduate, served three years in the Army, after which he returned to his position in the First National Bank and Trust Company.

5 Nazareth Graduates

Corning - Five Corning girls were members of this year's graduating class at Nazareth College, Rochester. They were: Miss Ann Brennan, Miss Edith Goff, Miss Joan M. Purcell, Miss Evelyn A. DeMuth and Miss Mary Catherine Miller.

Miss Goff and Miss Brennan were specially honored. Miss Goff was graduated as a nurse with bachelor of science degree, cum laude. She was elected by the faculty to be a member of the National Catholic Honor Society, Kappa Gamma Phi. Miss Brennan, formerly of Addison, who received a bachelor of arts degree, received recognition from the faculty for "outstanding contribution to the Catholic life of the college."

Miss Purcell received the bachelor of arts degree and the Misses DeMuth and Miller graduated in nursing with the degree of bachelor of science.

Negro's First Mass

Mobile, Ala. - (NC) - Said to be the first Negro born in Alabama to be ordained to the priesthood, the Rev. John Marcellus Faustina of the Society of St. Edmund offered his First Solemn Mass in the Church of the Most Pure Heart of Mary here. He is also the first Negro to become an Edmundite priest.

70,000 Chinese Witness Crowning of Mary's Statue

Shanghai - (NC) - Before the largest religious gathering ever seen in China, amid peal of bells and flourish of trumpets, two bishops, one Chinese, one foreign, crowned the statue of the Blessed Virgin at Zou shrine, 35 miles west of Shanghai, in a sunlit ceremony at which the Papal inter-nuncio presided.

"This ceremony is an act of thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin," declared the inter-nuncio, Archbishop Anthony Ribert, addressing the multitude from the outdoor pulpit. "It has also the special purpose of obtaining through her intercession a precious grace—a great increase in the number of priestly vocations in China."

From dawn trucks packed with men, women and children were rolling out from Shanghai. Some pilgrims came by boat along the canals. Many traveled all night. Estimates of the attendance ran from 50,000 to 70,000. Probably one-tenth were non-Christians.

Three archbishops, the Most Rev. Paul Yu Pin of Nanking, George Heymer, C. M. of Hangchow, and Frederick Melendro, S.J., of Anking, with seven bishops, were present.

Shanghai's veteran Bishop Auguste Houssier, S.J., in whose diocese the shrine is located, was host to the pilgrimage and one of the cocoroners. Archbishop Yu Pin joined him in placing the gold crowns on the images of the

Divine Child and Our Lady. Archbishop Ribert said that the symbolic crowning was in accord with the strong devotion to Mary for which Chinese Catholics have long been known. It signified gratitude for her intercession through which the Mystical Body of Christ had been engendered in China.

Emphasizing the urgent need of more candidates for the priesthood, the inter-nuncio said that as a result of wartime destruction, dispersal of students and up set conditions, "the number of Chinese seminarians is now only one-third of the pre-war total."

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Mexico-Vatican Parley Denied

Vatican City - (Radio, NC) - According to an authoritative statement issued here, there is no foundation for rumors that negotiations are under way for the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the Holy See and Mexico. Such rumors, it was declared, were possibly born from the desire expressed by certain eminent Catholics, interpreting the sentiments of the Catholic people of Mexico.

An official denial of press reports about the possible reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the Holy See and Mexico has also been issued in Mexico City and broadcast by the Mexican radio. "A number of press reports, which have originated abroad, assert that Mexico would begin negotiations for the purpose of establishing diplomatic relations with the Vatican," the statement said.

"By order of the Chief Executive, the Secretariat of Foreign Relations wishes to announce that reports of this nature lack a basis in fact."

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