Diocesan Women Open Annual Convention At Bishop's Mass in St. Mary's Oct. 16

Plans are being completed for the program of the diocesan convention of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Thursday, Oct. 16 in Rochester.

The day will open with celebration of Mass by Bishop James E. Kearney, at Old St. Mary's Church, who will address the delegates.

Registration will begin at 10 15 at Hotel Seneca where all sessions will be held. Business sessions include adoption of the revised constitution, 10:45 in the Red Room, and a panel discussion in the Blue Room on the Family and Parent Education, outstanding project for 1948 for the Council.

Mrs. Lawrence Weis, diocesan chairman of the project and Mrs. Arthur Farren, president of the Speakers Bureau, will conduct the panel discussion.

Luncheon will be served at 12 15 in the Seneca ballroom and mezzanine with Miss Jannette Anabel acting as toastmistress. Guest speaker is the Rev. James M. Keller, author of "Men of Maryknoll," and founder of the Christopher Movement. Tickets may be obtained through the president of each affiliation or through Miss Alice Kirk, Mrs. Harry Ferree, or Mrs. Theodore Florack. Price is $1.75.

Mrs. Frank T. Curtis, Rochester Diocesan president, has circulated a call to all Catholic women of the diocese to attend the convention.

Four Shrine exhibits will be set up by Tucker's, Brennan's, Predmore's and Trant's on the mezzanine during the convention. Chairman of the Shrines are Mrs. Michael Keogh, diocesan; Mrs. Elmer Loritz, Rochester deanery; and the Misses Mary McLain, Marian Wettrick and Mrs. Emil Kircher and Mrs. Frank Stein.

Mrs. Richard Kalb is general chairman and Mrs. John Kost is co-chairman.

'Anti-Catholic' Bloc Scored By Abp. Cushing

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any community where they become a power.

Recalling the religious clash that marked the 1928 presidential campaign, and Alfred E. Smith's subsequent comment that he prayed that "never again in this land will any public servant be challenged" because of his faith, the archbishop, referring to Dr. Shipler, continued:

"Al Smith's prayer, sincerely shared by most Catholics and non-Catholics alike, has not been answered. There are disturbing signs that it will not be for many years to come.

"For example: the editor of an anti-Catholic religious magazine, one of the largest publications of his denomination, has called for a non-Catholic bloc to protect American institutions from the danger of Catholics in places of trust."

This was immediately followed by the reference to Bishop Oxnam.

"Again," he said, "a leader in another denomination, perhaps the largest religious group in America, constantly returns in his public addresses to the theme of the alleged lack of sympathy between Catholic thought and democratic thought.

"This particular critic of Catholics frequently adopts the argument that non-Catholic religions are concerned with the development of civil liberty, while Catholicism inevitably leads to despotism and intolerance. He even declares that democratic systems are forms of government natural to non-Catholics, and implies that Catholicism finds tyranny more congenial to its ideas. Wherefore, he warns those who love liberty to beware and to [illegible] the organized Catholic Church."

AFTER INDICTING "these two leaders of the new bigotry" as typical of "scores of others dedicated to the unfortunate work of creating interfaith tensions," the archbishop, without naming him, commended the Rev. Dr. Douglas Horton, of New York, Congregationalist leader and chairman of the American Committee of the World Council of Churches, and husband of Dr. Mildred McAfee Horton, president of Wellesley College.

"The situation which they are helping bring to pass in the United States," he said, "is already so disturbing that another non-Catholic leader (Dr. Horton) has recently circularized his brothers in the ministry, asking them to be on their guard against becoming partisans of the renewed anti-Catholicism which this good neighbor fears may sweep America.

"I share that fear. I do so principally as an American. In the long run, only America stands to suffer from artificially fostered bigotry of the type promoted by these men."

WHILE CONCEDING that the asserted differentiation between Catholicism and Americanism did not represent the true sentiments of non-Catholics in general, the archbishop protested: "It is annoying constantly to have to produce our credentials and to prove that we are entitled to the common political rights of other human beings in our own land.

"American Catholics rejoice in our separation of church and state; they can conceive no combination of circumstances likely to arise which should make a union desirable either to church or state. We know the blessings of our present arrangement; it gives us liberty and binds together priests and people in a union better than that of church and state.

"For ourselves, we thank God we live in America, 'in this happy country of ours,' to quote Theodore Roosevelt, where 'religion and liberty are natural allies.'"

The only union which American Catholics seek, he concluded, was expressed by President Truman in a letter to Pope Pius XII, in which he asked that all forces unite for the [illegible] and support of the principles of freedom, morality and justice.

ON GUARD!

(Continued from Page 1)

not bound for battle, but in praise of the name of God and, therefore, of peace . . . In the beat of the drums and the song of the bugles, was the purpose of the parade—to praise the God from whom the marching men believe all blessings flow, to do it publicly on the Sabbath Day and thereby bring to an impressive close the great Holy Name convention where was renewed the faith of millions that there is faith in the world—hope that the Deity will not permit the world to become an atomic rubble heap if men will lift their eyes from the hole in the ground whence comes uranium to the hills beyond the horizon whence cometh the "peace that passeth all understanding."

Americans Warned On Fake Aid Pleas

Vienna—(NC)—Warnings have been issued here to American Catholics not to reply or to send food and clothing parcels to persons unknown to them who write begging letters.

The food situation in Germany and Austria is extremely grave but, it is emphasized, the most efficient way of rendering aid is through authorized channels and agencies, which are in a position to investigate claims and to direct relief supplies to the points where they are most urgently needed.

Mass for British Nurses

London—(NC)—One-third of all Catholic nurses, working in British hospitals are unable to attend Sunday Mass and a resolution to the national medical authorities demanding that this impediment be removed was drawn up at a Catholic Nurses' Guild convention in Birmingham this week.

Eye Doctors Hear Pope Talk on Faith

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII emphasized the preciousness of the gift of sight and compared it to the sight of the intellect—faith — in an audience given to delegates to the 30th Italian National Ophthalmological Congress held in Rome.

Referring to the eye-doctors as outstanding benefactors of humanity, because they are concerned with the care and cure of nature's most precious gift, the Holy Father stated that even Holy Scripture testifies to the preciousness of the eye.

Noting how true is the saying that many things can be seen only by eyes that have wept much, the Pontiff stated that God will dry those tears in Paradise.

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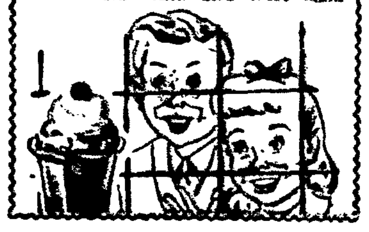

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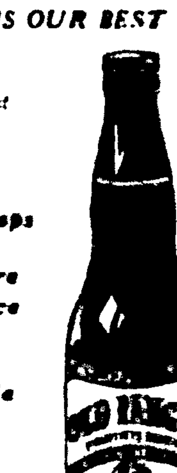

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