

Rules School Baccalaureate 'Religious Rite'

Doctor Emil Gefell Resigns Pastorate; 43 Years In Post

Resignation of the Rev. J. Emil Gefell, pastor of St. Peter and Paul Church, Rochester, for the last 43 years, and his appointment as pastor emeritus was announced today by the Chancellor.

Reasons of health and advanced age prompted the retirement of the 80-year-old churchman, who has been 54 years in the priesthood.

He will continue to reside in the Main Street West rectory which, with the other, beautifully-styled Italian Renaissance buildings there, he constructed for the parish in 1910.

He will be succeeded as pastor by the Rev. Robert J. Fox, pastor of St. James Church, Waverly, formerly assistant at St. Peter and Paul for 17 years.

FROM ALTAR BOY to pastor is the record of Father Gefell, who was born in Rochester on July 16, 1870 and attended St. Peter and Paul School. He was the first boy of the parish to become a priest.

Father Gefell was the ninth pastor of the 107-year-old parish. His predecessor was the Rev. Francis H. Sinclair, who held the pastorate for 43 years until his death in 1907. Dr. Gefell believes there is a record in the fact that for 43 years the parish had only two pastors.

Dr. Gefell marked his Golden Jubilee as a priest on May 30, 1916, with celebration of Mass in the presence of His Excellency Bishop Kearney.

He is the eldest of three priests of the late John B. and Astasia Gefell. The other two are the Rev. Joseph H. Gefell, S. T. D., chaplain of the Nazareth Motherhouse, Pittsford, and the late Rev. John P. Gefell, who died in 1923 while pastor of St. Pius Church, Cohocton.

ON COMPLETION of a four-year course at St. Andrew's Seminary in 1893, the future pastor of St. Peter and Paul Church was sent by Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid to the North American College in Rome, where he studied under the distinguished Cardinals Salotti and Lepelletier and was awarded a Doctorate of Philosophy and a License in Sacred Theology.

He was ordained May 30, 1896, by Cardinal Parocchi, vicar general of Rome, in the Cathedral of St. John Lateran.

Dr. Gefell was one of few Rochesterians who knew the late Pope Pius XI. He met the then Father Ratti in Milan, Italy, in 1922. Father Gefell had just finished his philosophy course in Rome and was enroute to Germany for a vacation.

FATHER RATTI, 36 years old at the time, was head of the Ambrosian Library in Milan. The young American student met him by chance and Father Ratti



DR. EMIL GEFELL

evidenced an interest in America which led to a four-hour conversation with the future Pope.

Returning to Rochester after his ordination, Dr. Gefell celebrated his First Solemn Mass in St. Peter and Paul Church, then situated at King and Maple Streets. His first appointment was to the faculty of St. Andrew's Seminary, where he taught German and Italian for 11 years. He also was chaplain of St. Mary's Boys' Orphan Asylum for more than a decade.

Dr. Gefell became one of the first organizers of Italian Catholics in Rochester, and started what today are two of the largest Italian parishes in the city. For nine years he regularly preached two Italian sermons in the Lady Chapel of the former St. Patrick's Cathedral.

IN 1910, while pastor of St. Peter and Paul Church, Dr. Gefell bought School No. 6 and opened St. Anthony of Padua's combination church and school. In the same year he also launched Our Lady of Mt. Carmel parish when he purchased a lot on North Street. This first piece of property later was sold by the parish and a new site obtained on Ontario Street.

It was in the same year that Dr. Gefell sold all the St. Peter and Paul parish property at the corner of King and Maple Streets and purchased the present site at 711 Main Street West. He proceeded to direct erection of the present plant, which includes the Romanesque church, school, convent and rectory. The property extends through to Brown Street on the north.

Card. Stritch Asks Medical Care For 'Little Man'

Milwaukee — (RNS) — A call to hospitals and the medical profession to "face squarely the problem of medical care for the little man" was sounded by Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, at the 35th annual convention here of the Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada.

He spoke after Msgr. John W. Barrett of Chicago, president of the Association, had branded compulsory government health insurance "a dire threat to the continuing expansion of private voluntary hospital development" and asserted "it is not the answer to problems of national health."

CARE FOR the "little man," Cardinal Stritch contended, could not be solved simply by condemning regimentation. He said that arguments against compulsory medical care are "well balanced enough, but we must still find a way to provide sane and reasonable assistance from public authority without the tone of the present proposal."

"Outside of main street," the cardinal said, "there is no place that so resembles main street as a hospital corridor. For this reason, it is sometimes easy to forget why you are working in Catholic hospitals."

He said care of the sick is a particular act of charity to which workers had to consecrate themselves, and added that "the quality of the act of consecration to God is important."

Stressing that it is a historical part of Catholic life to care for the sick despite all obstacles and

Remember your God with a handsome White Watch. Select a Bulova, Gruen, Elgin or Longines. Waltham. Wm. S. Thorne, jeweler, 318 Main St. East. —A.L.

Graduation Ceremonies Protested

N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE

Catholic students and their parents were warned against participation in public school baccalaureate services in two New York and Massachusetts communities because of the non-Catholic religious nature of these services.

Objections raised by a Catholic clergyman led to revision of the baccalaureate services in Somers, N.Y., so that Catholics could attend. In Fairhaven, Mass., parishioners of St. Joseph's Church were warned against attending Fairhaven High School baccalaureate services scheduled in a Unitarian church.

MSGR. EDWARD V. Dargin, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Croton Falls, N.Y., protested against the June 18 Somers baccalaureate program at Central High School. The program included not only the traditional invocation and benediction but non-Catholic religious services. Monsignor Dargin declared that Catholics could not actively participate if it was a religious service in which Protestant and Jewish hymns and prayers were used.

Charles A. Brind, Jr., of the New York State Education Department's council, then notified Somers school officials that "baccalaureate services are religious services" and that where an objection is made there is no choice but to call off the service in the school.

His ruling came on an appeal after the Somers school board voted 6 to 0 to proceed with the program despite Monsignor Dargin's protest. The program was then revised.

Under the new arrangements, the procession for the graduates becomes "America" instead of the hymn "Oh God Our Help." An invocation by an Episcopal clergyman and a non-religious baccalaureate address by a Jewish rabbi is retained, and in addition Monsignor Dargin is scheduled to give the Benediction.

In the Massachusetts case the Rev. Thomas Lyons, S.S.C., Superior of Sacred Heart Monastery and Administrator of St. Joseph's Church, objected to the holding of baccalaureate services of the Fairhaven High School in Unitarian Memorial Church. He said use of the Unitarian church was a "slight" against all other religious groups, and that Catholics are not permitted to participate in religious services in other churches.

After the school principal at Somers which is in Westchester, referred Msgr. Dargin's objections to Mr. Brind, the State Education Department counsel, Mr. Brind replied:

"Baccalaureate services are religious services, and consequently under the State Constitution may not be held in schools. I know it is true that many boards do hold baccalaureate services in the schools and no objection is raised. An attempt is made to make them non-religious, and representative of the different religions participate."

"However, where there is an objection, in my opinion the board would have no choice but to call off the school exercise."

"Under such circumstances, the practice is to hold baccalaureate services in various churches and permit the children who wish to attend to do so. The attendance cannot be made compulsory. I think, in fact, in many places several baccalaureate services are held, and those of different religions attend their own."

British Paralytic Walks at Lourdes; Abandons Crutches at Famed Grotto

By JOHN A. GREAVES

(Correspondent, N.C.W.C. News Service)

London — Paralyzed from the waist down ever since a spine injury four years ago, A. Kneafsey, of Halifax, Yorkshire, returned home able to walk after taking part in the British national pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Mr. Kneafsey, who was one of 21 sick pilgrims in the party, left his wheel-chair and knelt as the Blessed Sacrament passed in procession at Lourdes.

Friends who thought he had fallen from his chair came forward to aid him but he climbed



FATHER SCHMITT
Holy Family
Rochester



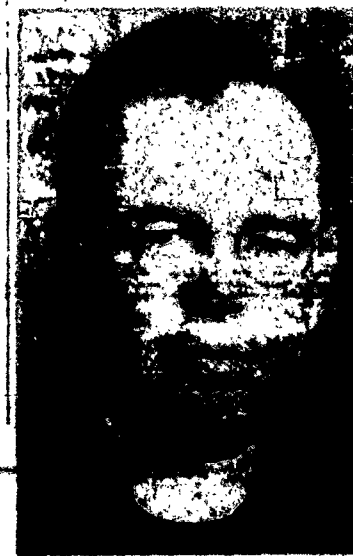
FATHER NAUGHTON
St. Anne's
Rochester



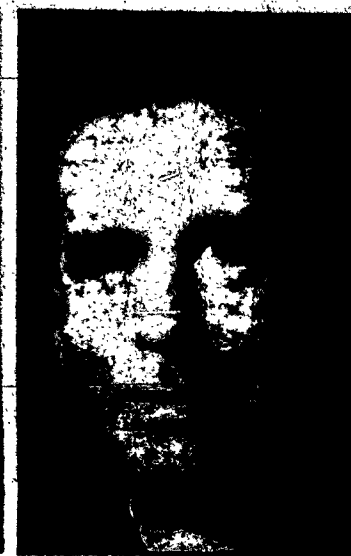
FATHER FOX
St. Peter and Paul
Rochester



DOCTOR CONNELL
St. Andrew's Seminary
Rochester



FATHER WATERSTRAAT
St. Michael's
Penn Yan



FATHER TURNER
St. Catherine's
Addison



FATHER NOONAN
St. John's
Waverly



FATHER BIRK
St. Peter and Paul
Rochester

Biographies Of Seminary Head, New Pastors Listed

DOCTOR MAYNARD A. CONNELL, professor of literature and homiletics at St. Bernard's Seminary, succeeds as rector of St. Andrew's Seminary the late Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward M. Lyons, who headed the preparatory institution from June, 1937, until his death on May 4 of this year.

The new rector is well-equipped for the post. He is completing 18 years of teaching at the major seminary, to which he was appointed in 1932 after having received his master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the Cornell University Graduate School.

Dr. Connell also taught in the college department of St. Andrew's from 1935 to 1937, and in the latter year, on the death of the Rev. William Ryan, added to his schedule the teaching of homiletics at St. Bernard's.

Dr. Connell is widely known throughout the diocese and is in wide demand as a preacher. He delivered the eulogy at the funeral of Monsignor Lyons. He was selected to preach at the annual Lawyers "Red Mass" in Rochester at the opening of the court year in 1945. His voice was heard throughout the nation on June 4 this year when he spoke on a 125-station nationwide Columbia Broadcasting System program which originated in Station WHCC in Rochester.

DURING HIS years of teach-

ing at St. Bernard's, Dr. Connell has been serving as weekend assistant pastor at Blessed Sacrament Church, Rochester, from which parochial school he was graduated in 1918 before entering St. Andrew's Seminary.

Born in Canandaigua Aug. 27, 1903, he came with his family to Rochester in 1912. On completion of his studies at St. Bernard's Seminary he was ordained June 13, 1927, in the former St. Patrick's Cathedral by the Most Rev. Archbishop Pietro Fumagalli, the then Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

After two years of parochial work as assistant pastor at the Church of the Nativity, Brookport, St. Mary's in Canandaigua, and Immaculate Conception, Ithaca, Dr. Connell took up graduate studies in Cornell University in 1932. He was a member of the faculty in 1932.

The Rev. Charles B. Connell, assistant pastor of Corpus Christi Church, Rochester, ordained in Rochester June 7, 1941, is a younger brother of Dr. Connell.

FATHER GEORGE SCHMITT, appointed pastor of Holy Family Church to succeed the late Rev. William W. Heide, who died April 18, founded and has been the only pastor of St. Anne's Church, Brighton, on the southeastern outskirts of Rochester.

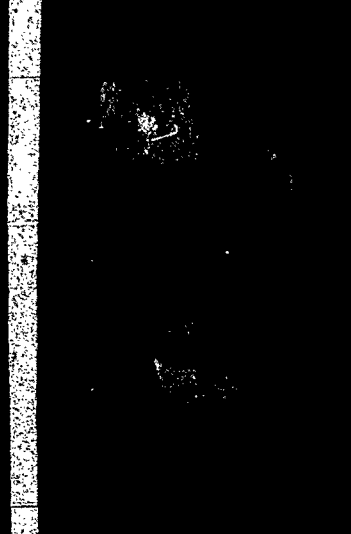
Father Schmitt was assistant pastor of St. Boniface Church, Rochester, from the time of his ordination in 1914 until 1929, when he was chosen to establish the new St. Anne's parish adjoining that of St. Boniface. He directed construction of the present St. Anne's Church frame building at Brighton Parkway and West Henrietta Road and became its pastor when the little chapel was dedicated by the late Bishop John F. O'Brien on Feb. 9, 1930.

Father Schmitt served the new parish from the St. Boniface rectory until he built a parish home in 1931. He also constructed a parish hall in 1934.

As the parish grew it welcomed parishioners, students and employees of the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial and Municipal Hospitals and other state and county institutions.



FATHER KIERHAMMER
St. Michael's
West Webster
(Father Jaschowski, Father Tobin photos unavailable.)



FATHER FELLER
St. Patrick's
Moravia

Barden Heads School Aid Group

Washington — (NC) — Rep. Graham Bagdon of North Carolina has been elected chairman of the House Labor and Education Committee. He was named to succeed the late Sen. John L. Lewis of Michigan. His election was not unexpected since he ranked second in seniority to Mr. Lewis on the committee.

Representative Barden was the author of the controversial Bar-

den Bill in the Federal aid to education field, which was opposed by Catholic leaders of the country as discriminatory and un-American. The Barden Bill that the door on any aid to nonpublic school pupils, it failed to obtain committee approval.

Representative Barden was a champion of Federal aid to all school children.

Press Morality Depends On Patronage, Public Told

New York — (NC) — Americans by their patronage should encourage the press to maintain a high standard of morality, the Very Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.S.B., declared Sunday on the Catholic Hour broadcast.

"Those who read the papers as well as those who publish them have the duty to support the ethical standards of the press," Father Connell said.

The publishers would soon withdraw objectionable material from their columns if the people refused to buy their papers.

"And as I say to all of you who read the daily papers, don't patronize those journals that seek sensationalism rather

His Excellency Bishop Kearney today announced appointments of a new rector to St. Andrew's Seminary and seven priests to new pastorates. They are:

REV. MAYNARD A. CONNELL, S.S.C., to rector of St. Andrew's Seminary from the faculty of St. Bernard's Seminary.

REV. GEORGE J. SCHMITT, S.S.C., to pastor of Holy Family Church, Rochester, from pastor of St. Anne's Church, Brighton.

REV. WILLIAM A. BARDEN, S.S.C., to pastor of St. Anne's Church, Brighton, from pastor of St. Boniface Church, Rochester.

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