Miss McNamara In Monologues

Corning — Miss Madeline McNamara, well known Corning monologuist, left early this week for a tour of the middle west and south where she will appear before various groups in drama monologues.

Miss McNamara, who appears under the direction of the Catholic Artists and Lecture Series of New York City, recently completed engagements in the new England States, Washington, D. C., and Chicago.

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"Accept This Crucifix"

BY MARY E. FITZGERALD

"Accept this Crucifix" — and seventy-six Elmira women, young and old, kissed the symbol of our salvation, during the Affiliation Ceremony of the Ladies of Charity on Laetare Sunday.

"And wear it upon your heart" —yes, you heard aright. This little silver crucifix is not to be carefully put away, to be brought out perhaps, when your hands are folded for the last time.

"You will wear it always, proud indeed of the privilege that is yours as a Lady of Charity, the more so, because yours is the only lay organization, which has been allowed the use of the crucifix as a sign of membership.

"And bear it with you, to be your strength and protection"— so our Reverend Moderator continued, as each Affiliate was received — How many regular full fledged members are truly proud of their crucifixes?

EACH AFFILIATION brings thoughts of regret in regard to unfinished business and we hope fervent resolutions for the future voiced in the words of the Rededication — repeated by the entire assembly, the Ladies of Charity are pledged to make the coming year the most memorable one in our history.

The setting was perfect — the purple iris against the beauty of white marble, the lovely rose vestments and the sweet voices of the Children's Choir.

Tiny corsages were worn by the Ladies, in reverent memory of their little Saint, proudly and gaily, acknowledging the miracle at her tomb. Who would question the spiritual significance of the irises and violets, which played such an important part in the canonization of our Saintly Co-Foundress

"Your consolation and salvation in life and in death. Amen" —the conclusion of each individual Affiliation. Our consolation, when discouragement darkens our horizons, our salvation, when Charity is tested in life — and in death, when we give an account of our stewardships.

"It's orchids" to each Lady of Charity, who conscientiously wore her little silver crucifix, during the frigid winter months and who continuously performed the spiritual and temporal works of mercy to which she was pledged.

"It's roses" red in the Precious Blood, to the Honorary Members, who have faithfully performed their spiritual obligations as Ladies of Charity and have contributed most generously to the Dominican Monastery, Camp Villa M ria, the Food Sale and several other "calls for funds."

BUT "IT'S VIOLETS," our flower of service to each member of the Ladies of Charity, who has practiced Charity in thought and word as well as in deed — to others and among themselves.

And "It's irises," the other lovely flower of St. Louise de Marillac to our faithful Officers and Chairmen, who always do more than the maximum expected of them.

Finally, "It's blossoms" rare of every choice bloom, to you, Members and Affiliates alike because you have accepted your crucifixes. Just as the Rosary stickers — are a means to the end of promoting devotion to our Blessed Lady — so also the honor and glory of her Divine Son — will be ever increased — when Ladies of Charity wear their Silver Crucifixes, every day of their lives.

Not unrewarded will be this loving tribute to the God of Charity, because each good deed, each kind word, and charitable thought, will be the richer in spiritual dividends, if you are wearing your crucifix.

Five of the Holy Fathers of Mother Church have added to the indulgences, until your Ladies of Charity crucifix is most highly indulgenced. Do not then turn a deaf ear — but — "Wear it upon your heart!"

—o—

Fr. R. B. Ervin To Sing First Mass In Elmira

Robert B. Ervin will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood tomorrow at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Camden, N. J., and will sing his first Solemn High Mass on Sunday, March 11 at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's church in Elmira.

THE SON of Dr. and Mrs. Walter C. Ervin, Mr. Ervin was educated at St. Patrick's grammar school. Elmira Catholic High School and Christ the King Seminary at St. Bonaventure's University.

Other officers of the Mass will Rev. Joseph Dailey Deacon, Brien, V.F., Assistant Priest, Frater Joseph Curran S.J., subdeacon.

Minor offices will be filled by Robert O'Brien and John Dempsey of Christ the King Seminary

The Very Rev. Msgr. Justin J McCarthy will preach the sermon. Monsignor McCarthy is Spiritual Director of the Immaculate Conception Seminary at Darlington, New Jersey

A reception will be held at the Mark Twain Hotel from 3 until 5 in the afternoon.

—o—

Named Archbishop

Ottawa - (NC) Bishop J Patrick Skinner C.J.M., Vicar Capitular of St. John's Newfoundland, has been named Archbishop of St John's to succeed the late Archbishop Edward Patrick Roche, who died several months ago.

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Corning CDA In Daily Rosary

During the Lenten season, members of the Court St. Joseph, Catholic Daughters of America are reciting the Rosary daily.

Above is a group shown in the rooms of Corning CDA. (Elmira Telegram Photo.)

Father Guilfoil Takes Issue With Film Editorial

(Continued from Page 1-A)

pealed in a pastoral letter to his flock that all Catholics boycott it. In their decision the Board of Regents condemned "The Miracle" as sacrilegious. Their decision was based on the common Christian heritage of belief as found in the Bible

"THE BOARD of Regents of the State of New York is composed of gentlemen of the highest integrity men who would not, I am sure violate their Christian consciences, men of probity and of good judgment. It is this Board that banned the film for the general public and not the Archbishop of New York. What right has anyone to say that a so-called pressure group, a "segment of the population swayed the decision of the gentlemen who make up the Board of Regents of the State of New York?

"Cardinal Spellman, as the chief pastor of his flock in the Archdiocese of New York was bound in Conscience to condemn this notorious and obscene outrage against the awful majesty of God and the sacred person of St. Joseph who was so intimately connected with the Savior of the world during His sojourn here below. Archbishop Spellman, as a free-born citizen, abstracting from his office, has a perfect right to make a protest against this film, as any other American possesses this right under the Constitution of the United States which guarantees to all freedom of speech.

"The writer of the editorial in question seems to be of the opinion that the best propaganda for a film is its condemnation. He says that it is not banned in Italy. Perhaps in Italy the innate Catholic sense of decency would naturally revolt against this dragging down from heaven a sacred character into the mire of earthly obscenity.

"The writer of the editorial speaks of 'heretical material.' There is no question of heresy here. Heresy is a denial of an article of Faith. It can be formal or material heresy. This poor woman suffering from an illusion according to Catholic moral theology was incapable of committing even a slight venial sin while under this illusion. What is here is the grossest and devilish kind of sacrilege which is defined as the abuse of a sacred person or thing. When the people of this parish stood up last December after being told that they were being called upon of their own free will and deliberately to take the pledge of the Legion of Decency, there was no mention of heresy. The pledge deals with films that are immoral and that glorify crime or criminals and with the avoidance of the theatres that show such films as a matter of policy. How any one with a conscience that is affected at all by Christian tradition to any degree would not stand aghast at this prostitution of the sublime and its being joined not merely with the ridiculous but with the mundane depravity is hard to understand

"Why there should be such a reaction called forth in this editorial because this simple and understandable action of the Archbishop or the picketing of the theatre by Catholics acting within their rights as American citizens, is difficult to understand and comprehend.

"Why this segment of the community, protesting such an abomination as the one with which we are dealing, should be labeled a "pressure-group" that desires to destroy the freedom of all those who do not accept the Catholic Faith, is for the writer to explain. It looks as if he is haunted by the bogies of Blanshard and the "spectre of Catholic power." The banning of the film, you must remember, was done by the Board of Regents, not by the Archbishop of New York. The Catholic Church is intolerant of nothing or nobody but error and sin. It can be and is merciful to those affected by these very human aberrations.

"I would say that a man taking on himself the right to speak in the name of the whole Protestant people, would hesitate to think that non-Catholics would approve, condone or be unwilling to protest with their Catholic friends such a monstrous thing as 'The Miracle.'

"At the time of the proclamation of the Dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into Heaven there were Protestant ministers who gave their reasons for not accepting this Dogma and they were perfectly within their rights in doing so within the dictates of their own conscience. But at the same time many of them spoke of the reverence they possess for the Mother of Jesus Christ

"They may not believe in the veneration and invocation of the Saints, but I know that this doesn't mean that they must heap ridicule and scorn upon these so closely united with Christ in His earthly life. If I were a Protestant minister I would publicly denounce this unwarranted insinuation implication and innuendo that the Protestant people could stomach such an abomination as 'The Miracle.'

"It looks as if in the mind of the writer we accept Catholicism by some kind of blind credulity and not through a free acceptance of the Catholic Faith, reasonably and rationally. The chief Shepherds of the Church were commissioned to teach whatsoever the Founder of the Church commanded. They are the promulgators of the Faith and Morals of the Catholic Church. The morality proclaimed by the Catholic Church is founded on the Ten Commandments.

"The authorities of the Church did not invent these commandments. These were given by Divine revelation to mankind. If there is any 'dictatorship,' it is the 'dictatorship' of God, and we use that term most reluctantly. There are too many in the world today disputing the right of God to make laws in the midst of His own Creation, if, indeed, they admit at all His very Existence

"We are not driven nor hounded by the hierarchy of the Church. We accept their authority freely and rationally. Whether the writer knows it or not the Catholic Faith is based fundamentally on the use of pure reason, but over and above this we consider supernatural Faith as a gift of God who gives Grace to the humble and denies it to the conceited of heart

"Most certainly religion, ideas and ideals cannot be 'mandated.' Religion is fundamentally a thing of the mind and heart. It is impossible for any power on earth except the one possessing them to control a man's thoughts, ideas and ideals. I am speaking here this morning on this subject and any one of you can heartily disagree with me and what can be done about it?

You are the sole masters of your thoughts, ideas and ideals. These are purely internal acts of the mind and cannot be controlled by anyone except yourselves. External acts come under the control of the police power of the State for example the cavorting of nudists the sale of poisonous drugs the keeping a way of firearms [illegible] with [illegible] the Catholic [illegible] such power [illegible]

When I [illegible] school [illegible] a week [illegible] The first [illegible] consisted [illegible] of the hymns of [illegible] There is one hymn that I [illegible]

[illegible] for Jesus [illegible] the singing of [illegible] hymn in the profession of [illegible] common Christian heritage Protestant and Catholic [illegible] I believe that that hymn is still used extensively in the churches today And, moreover I know that against many of the enemies of God in the world today there are millions outside the Catholic Church who are ready [illegible] up with the Catholic [illegible] the rights of the Son of God Jesus Christ.

Behind [illegible] and even the Bar[illegible] Catholic shops [illegible] and [illegible] Christ. The film 'The Miracle' could very well [illegible] from the [illegible] in Red Russia [illegible] satellites.

Since the writer graciously concedes our right to speak out 'If we are sincere' then let him know that the Catholic Church will never [illegible] never be [illegible] by the efforts of the enemies of [illegible] to stifle her [illegible] and against the [illegible] His Divine Mass [illegible] such a [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] her by [illegible] the Christian profession."

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Registrations Open For Camp Stella Maris

Parents may begin to register their boys and girls for the coming season at Camp Stella Maris, Diocesan summer Camp on Conesus Lake.

The boys' encampments will run: A: July 1 to July 7; B: July 8 to July 21; C: July 22 to August 4; D: August 5 to August 11.

The girls have been assigned the two weeks from August 12 to August 25.

Full information may be obtained at the Camp Office, 30 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, N. Y. Telephone number is BAker 7400.

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Elmira Catholic Highlights

By ANN MOFFATT

Elmira Catholic High played St Agnes High at Towanda on Feb 27 and wonder of wonders, we won! — both games! The Varsity score was 51 to 41 and the Jayvee was 33 to 12.

Dick Halpin helped us along with a high score of 21 points. The Jayvee's high scorer was Willy Minch with 14 points. This was our thirteenth game and there were only 13 players on the whole squad that night so we consider ourselves very lucky.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have scheduled a party for the Varsity and Junior Varsity players and Cheerleaders March 10th at their house. Maybe it's to "celebrate" the end of the basketball season!

A LIST OF topics for the Bishop's Oratorical has been placed on the bulletin board and all students interested in rhetoric are racking their brains to decide on a topic.

Four Seniors took the State Scholarship Exams on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. They were as follows Mac Curran, Jacqueline Dowling, Ann Moffatt and Dick Von Hendy

ALUMNI NEWS

One of our Alumni, Robert Ervin Class of 42 is being ordained a priest on March 10 at Camden, N. J. He trained at Christ the King Seminary and will be stationed in the Camden Diocese. Another alumnus, Joseph Curran, who is studying to be a Jesuit will be sub-deacon at Father Ervin's first Mass.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT
Thomas Curran

Mac. (It seems unnatural to call him Thomas for nobody does) is one of the most popular boys at Elmira Catholic High. He is of average height with dark hair and dark eyes and is proud of his Irish ancestry (claims all four grandparents came from Ireland)

His popularity and willingness to work are shown by the offices he has held. He was secretary of the Freshman Class, president of the Junior Class, Editor-in-Chief of the Echoonian, Second Vice-Prefect of the Sodality, Treasurer of the Athletic Club, member of the Varsity basketball team, representative from Catholic High at Boy's State.

He writes the Sunday High School news for the rival newspaper, the Sunday Telegram. He played one of the leading roles in the Senior Play, that of William Barry, Eddie's father and he played the part to perfection. He is planning to study dentistry at Georgetown University next year.

His favorite song is "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue"; his favorite food, steak; his favorite subject, Chemistry (in which he excels); and his pet peeve, Latin (in which he doesn't excel)!

He is the son of Mr and Mrs. Florence A. Curran of 957 Farnham Street.

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