

# State Catholic War Veterans Welcomed In Auburn Sessions

Auburn — Welcome to approximately 400 delegates and guests at the New York State Department of Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliary convention here was being extended today and today to delegates from various parts of the state.

Charge of the dinner are Leo Pichney and William McKee, chairman. Expected for the convention is National Commander Donald J. McQuade of Toledo, Ohio, who will head the street parade at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday. Posts from various parts of the state will march to the music furnished by Auburn bands.

U. S. NAVY Chaplain Bernard Hickey who has been serving with the Marines in Korea is in Auburn on a furlough and will be greeted at the CWV sessions. He was formerly assistant pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Auburn.

Convention business sessions are being presided over by State Commander Peter J. Hopkins of the Newark Division of officers will be on the Saturday agenda.

Host to the convention is Memorial Post 623 of Auburn of which John E. Walsh is commander and the Rev. Robert Meng is chaplain.

# Native Priest of India To Give Sermons In Diocesan Churches Through May 6

When a person in India becomes a convert to Catholicism, he has to dig his own water well. That's just one of the prices a convert has to pay, according to the Rev. Justin Diravian, native Indian priest who will be in the Rochester Diocese for the next few weeks. He explains it this way: "The convert sinks in caste; he cannot even use his customary water well. With the wells of all castes closed to him, it becomes the practical necessity of our diocese to help him dig his own well."



The Rev. Justin Diravian, native priest of the Diocese of Trichinopoly, India, is in Rochester Diocese for a series of Sunday visits to five diocesan churches. He is shown with the Very Rev. Msgr. John S. Randall, diocesan director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. (Courier Staff Photo)

Thousands of Indians are ripe for conversion, Father Diravian says — if only there were more priests, churches, schools, hospitals.

CONDITIONS in his homeland will be described by the youthful, dark-skinned priest at Masses in diocesan churches during the next five Sundays, through arrangement with the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

During the intervening days, Father Diravian says, he will be happy to tell the story of Catholicism in India to any groups or organizations who may wish to invite him. He is slated to speak at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, Apr. 10, in St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, Rochester, to which meeting the public is welcome.

# French Nun, War Heroine, Buried With Military Rites

Paris — (RNS) — Sister Yvonne Marie Aimee de Jesus, superior of the Augustine convent in Malesroit, Brittany, was buried with full military honors in an unusual funeral ceremony attended by government representatives and the whole population of the Breton town.

ON ONE occasion, with only minutes to spare, Sister Yvonne shaved two Allied parachutists and had them dressed in nun's habits. When the Germans came they searched the convent from attic to cellar, little dreaming that the two nuns praying with bowed heads in the chapel were the men they sought, or that their covered habits covered splints and plaster.

Behind the honor paid the Catholic nun is a story of courage during the German occupation. Led and inspired by Sister Yvonne, the Malesroit community was responsible for saving the lives of many maquis and Allied parachutists despite persistent German watchfulness.

NOT ONLY was the convent cited in dispatches, but the superior herself was given the Legion of Honor, the Croix de Guerre, the Resistance Medal, and several British decorations.

WOUNDED MAQUIS and parachutists were smuggled into the convent hospital at night. When the Germans made periodical visits Sister Yvonne lulled their suspicions by complaining bitterly about the Allied raids which were taking toll of so many victims.

Often, however, the Germans would have detailed descriptions of well-known maquis, or of parachutists, and the nun was forced to adopt bolder methods to save them. In many instances she disguised her refugees, even to the extent of dyeing their hair, made out false identity papers, and smuggled them out in the convent cart under loads of hay and manure.

# Fifth Annual Dinner Dance Slated By Lay Fraternity

Several innovations at the fifth annual Dinner Dance of St. Andrew's Lay Fraternity are planned at the Sheraton Hotel on Thursday, April 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m., according to the committee.

Guest of honor and one of the speakers will be His Excellency Bishop Kearney, as in other years. The other speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Maynard A. Connel, the fraternity's moderator.

fort to seat members of respective classes together at tables to bring about the added attraction of class reunions.

Headed committees as chairman are tickets, Andrew Knauft; arrangements, Bernard Ennis; publicity, Raymond Gugel; program, Joseph Benn; entertainment, Theodore Houck; reception, John Nothnagle; decorations, Emmet Norton, photographer, Frank Blinac.

Music for dancing will be furnished by Syl Novelli and his orchestra.

Spaghetti Supper Set By Corning Unit. Cooring — Mrs. Henry Cecco and Mrs. Nick Mattie are co-chairmen in charge of arrangements for the spaghetti supper scheduled by the Stella Maris Society of St. Patrick's Church, Thursday April 26 in the school hall.

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War Lords' Site Bought for School. Kankakee, Japan — (NO) — The ground on which a dynasty of Japanese warlords had their palatial residence for a century and a half has been bought by the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart for a new school.

But foreign clergy never will be able to convert the vast majority of the Indians, he notes. "It must be done by native clergy. I am glad to say we are getting more of them — but we need so many more."

But one way always succeeds in getting for you that intimate contact so necessary to the apostolate — and that's the corporal works of mercy.

India today aspires, he declares, "with all its soul toward education. Who offers these people education wins their hearts."

PRIVATE SCHOOLS are given full government aid, he says, as much as public schools, with nun teachers' salaries being paid by the state. Approximately 80 per cent of the population is illiterate.

"The Trichinopoly Diocese," Father Diravian states, "bears in itself, like some ripe fruit, a considerable group of persons who are won over to Catholicism, but who will join the Church formally only when certain conditions — conditions which are actually quite justifiable, connected with the type of life led over there and with Oriental psychology — are fulfilled. And there is even a larger mass of people open to Catholicism but whom one must find ways to approach."

Archbishop Caruana Dies in Philadelphia. Philadelphia — (NC) — Archbishop George Joseph Caruana, 68, former Papal envoy and one-time head of the Diocese of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who has been living in retirement here since 1947, died recently at Misericordia Hospital.

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# Nurses Caps Awarded 15 In St. James Mercy Class

Hornell—Fifteen student nurses of St. James Mercy Hospital received their caps in an imposing Capping Ceremony at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, here April 1.

The class was presented by the Rev. Joseph M. McDonnell, pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola Church. Miss Anne McKeivitt, Director of Nurses, awarded the caps.

HOLDING LIGHTED candles, the newly capped students recited the traditional Florence Nightingale Pledge.

Music for the capping exercises was in charge of James F. Clancy, choirmaster of St. Ignatius Loyola Church. Mr. Clancy directed the Male Choir in "O Sanctissima", traditional hymn; "Veni Creator", Gregorian; "Pange Angelicum" by Lambertini; "Ave Verum" and "Tantum Ergo", Gregorian. He also accompanied the choir on the organ and played professional and recessional music. "O God of Loveliness" by St. Alfonso Ligouri and Palestrina's "Alleluia" were used as a recessional.

Capping exercises were concluded with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Rev. John Coonan, assistant pastor of St. Ann's Church, was celebrant; Father Neagle, deacon and Father McDonnell, sub-deacon.

During Benediction the students recited the solemn "Nurses Prayer" in which they asked that they might "see God today and every day in the person of His sick."

Sister M. Elizabeth Anne led in the pledge. "The good nurse never considers her profession a mere job," Father Neagle observed from his eight years' hospital experience. "A vocation so closely allied to the Divine Physician demands more than a mechanical fulfillment of duties, he continued.

"The extra little acts of kindness above and beyond actual duty contribute immeasurably not only to the patient's morale but actually speed his recovery," Father Neagle remarked. "Good nursing care is responsible, some authorities believe, for 75 per cent of the patient's cure," he added.

There is no "easy" way to fulfill the duties of a nurse, the priest explained. The profession is a demanding one, requiring patience in the face of fatigue and discouragement, sympathy and understanding when caring for the irritable.

"Remember," he told the students, "you are not nurses for eight, nine or even ten hours a day. You must live your profession."

The tribute Sister Yvonne would probably have liked most was that paid her by the postman who was her associate during the war. As he walked away from the graveside, he said: "There was a woman who never had cold feet!"

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