



Saint John Fisher College

Bishop Founder



HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP KEARNEY

Foundation of St. John Fisher College was undertaken by the Basilian Fathers at the invitation of His Excellency Bishop Kearney, who headed a diocesan-wide campaign which raised over \$1,235,000 for the college building fund. He will preside at cornerstone and dedication rites on completion of the college's first building next Fall.

John Fisher President, Dean Tell Aims, Ambitions Of Diocesan Men's College

By REV. JOHN F. O'MEARA, C.S.B.
St. John Fisher Dean

A few years ago a young man, whom we will call Bill, applied for a job in the Texas oil fields. "Do you have a degree?" inquired the employer. "Yes," Bill answered and was immediately given the job. Bill then began to have his fears for his degree was a degree in agricultural science. Of what possible use could that knowledge be in the oil fields? Deciding that honesty was the best policy Bill returned to the employer and explained the situation. "But you do have a degree?" said the employer. "Yes," came Bill's answer the second time and he still got the job.

This little incident sums up two points of view which seem to be prevalent among responsible parents and eager young men. First of all a degree seems to be a key to many jobs and secondly there seems at least to be a smarting injustice which keeps back many intelligent, industrious, responsible men who do not have college degrees.

College Degrees

Everyone seems to understand for example that a man with basic and advanced knowledge of chemical engineering or medical science will naturally be placed ahead of a boy with his toy chemistry set or the witch doctor. "But why," some people say, "this distinction between the man who has a degree and some particular young person whom they know to be very alert and bubbling over with possibilities if they are only brought out?" And that last is the first part of our answer. Many men have possibilities if they are only "BROUGHT OUT." That precisely is what, from a vocational point of view, four more years of education, just general education, at the college level does. It brings out a man's possibilities.

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By REV. JOHN F. MURPHY, C.S.B.
St. John Fisher President

St. John Fisher College is proud to take its place among the Catholic educational institutions of the Diocese of Rochester. Vision, patience and sacrifice across the

years were the foundation stones upon which the magnificent edifice of our diocesan school system was founded. The most precious jewels in the crown of accomplishments are the lives of the Bishops, priests, Sisters and faithful who have spent themselves for the cause of Christ's little ones. It is with profound humility and reverence that we enter the field at this late hour to carry on for the young men of this community the realms of higher education with the prayer that we may be worthy of the blessed heritage that is ours.

The College will open lectures September 17 of this year. That day will mark the culmination of the dreams of many and especially of Bishop Kearney whose inspiration, vision and interest have been the moving force behind it all.

Patron Saint

Our College will bear the name of St. John Fisher—the only member of the college of Cardinals to suffer martyrdom. His patronage is fitting, for through a happy coincidence, he was Bishop of the diocese of Rochester, England. And surely, beyond the mere coincidence, Divine Providence would have us dedicate a college to this saint who stands out as a beacon of light and truth in his own day . . . and sheds that same light and truth through the centuries to us. The College that bears his name must restate the truths by which he lived, and for which he died. The primacy of things spiritual, the sanctity of marriage, the rights of the Church, the freedom of the individual, these are truths that need restating today in our stricken world.

John Fisher was Chancellor of the great University of Cambridge—a scholar and a saint. In him, we have an ideal of what a college should aim to do . . . That the learned man be holy, and the holy man learned, is the ideal for which we strive . . . Scores of men find no problem at all in serving God and Mammon—simply because God is one department of their lives and Mammon another. Minds that are thoroughly pagan have a few "Catholic patches" and lives are lived not in the fullness of Christ, but in a lengthening series of compromises. Certainly, it is an excellent thing for a Catholic graduate to be able to explain the infallibility of the Pope—or the Catholic teaching on birth control. But more is required, not only an explanation of Christianity—but an example of Christianity. We are not simply asked to debate—but to live.

College Education

The function of the college is not simply the preservation and diffusion of knowledge, but also the sanctification of knowledge, for learning in itself is not necessarily conducive to goodness. Education is not animal training, for man is more than an animal. (Continued on Page 5)



FATHER MURPHY
President



FATHER O'MEARA
Dean



MISS ZELDA LYONS
Registrar

East Avenue Site Serves College Plans

By REV. F. S. RUTH, C.S.B.
Treasurer

St. John Fisher College enjoys the rare privilege of a college. In having its scholastic and architectural programs completely worked out before its students are enrolled or classes begun. This was made possible by the enthusiasm and generosity of the people of the Diocese of Rochester. Realizing the contribution which the college would make to the community, they raised over a million dollars for the purchase of the site and the erection of the first buildings.

When, early in 1947, the decision was made to build the college, the architectural firm of Maginnis and Walsh of Boston was engaged to help in the selection of a suitable site and the formulation of the development plan of the new college. God, in His Providence, made available a seventy-acre tract of rolling land at East Avenue and Fairport Road, a site ideally located both in regard to accessibility for students and the transportation of supplies.

Gothic Style

The next consideration of the architect was the location of the quadrangular campus on



FATHER RUTH
Treasurer

the new site. A topographical survey was made showing the contour of the land. A ridge or hill extending northward, approximately at right angles to Fairport Road, and being some six hundred feet from East Avenue, was selected for the location of the Administration Building. This building will

be the first to be built and its Collegiate Gothic style will set the standard for the buildings to follow. It is well adapted to the needs and the setting of the college.

Constructed of reinforced concrete, faced with bluish-gray Belden brick, and trimmed with Indiana limestone, the Administration building will dominate the campus. It will command a graceful view of miles of wooded valley reaching to the westward. A loggia across the entire front lends a scholarly dignity, while the 175-foot tower will be the landmark of the surrounding countryside. The first floor will be occupied by administrative offices, the student lounge, student offices, as well as a temporary chapel seating nearly two hundred. Classrooms, library, drafting rooms and Biology laboratories will occupy the second floor. The third and fourth floors will provide more lecture rooms, Chemistry and Physics laboratories as well as departmental offices for the various professors.

It was originally planned to have a wing to this building. (Continued on Page 5)

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