

# Nation-Wide Youth Training Mapped By Kolping Society

By ARTHUR P. FARREN

Election of a Rochester man to its advisory board and a resolution to expand its youth program featured the 10th quadrennial convention of the Catholic Kolping Society of America in Rochester over the Labor Day weekend.

William Wittman, of 22 Hiram St., Rochester, a vice-president and one of the founders of the Catholic Kolping Society of Rochester, was elected to the 12-member national advisory board.

Highlighting the sessions, held in the Notre Dame Retreat House on Alexander Street, was an address by the Rev. Dr. Bernhard Ridder of Cologne, Germany, who is touring the nation to express the thanks of Kolping members for American relief during the postwar period.

Father Ridder, a pastor in Cologne, is spiritual director of the worldwide Kolping Society, a Catholic youth workers' movement.

Elected president of the American society was the Rev. Holwick Krewitt, OFM, of Chicago. He succeeds the Rev. Severin Lamping, OFM, of Cincinnati.

HIS EXCELLENCY Bishop Kearney, one of the speakers at the convention banquet Sunday night in Hotel Seneca, congratulated the delegates "on keeping the great and humble figure of Monsignor Kolping alive" when, he noted, "it has become the tendency of the modern generation to lose respect for great figures of the past."

This "decadence," the Bishop declared, "is being brought about by modern biographers who have sought out and written about the lesser qualities of great men of history." These biographies, he said, are "producing indifference, 50 per cent Americans, a threat to our nation, many of whom gradually decline into 'punks' and 'beds.'" Many of these books, he added, are found on the shelves of some of our great universities.

Nearly 50 delegates from 13 American cities attended the convention, which opened formally on Saturday and closed Monday afternoon.

FATHER RIDDER pointed out that Monsignor Kolping—whose cause for beatification is reported to be in its closing stages—founded his Society on the same day and in the same city that Karl Marx first preached his "hated" theories. The



GRATITUDE to the Kolping Society in Rochester was expressed to His Excellency Bishop Kearney (left) and William Wittman, local leader, by Rev. Bernhard Ridder of Cologne for relief material sent from here to Germany. Delegates held a banquet in Hotel Seneca, Sunday. The Society held its national convention here. (Courier Staff Photo)

city was Cologne and the date was May 1, 1848.

Then, as now, the German priest noted, Marx drew the largest crowd. He had 2,000 listeners, while Monsignor Kolping had seven.

"But," Father Ridder declared, "the Kolping Society will outlast Communism because it is based on the eternal values arising from the spiritual relation between man and God."

Bishop Kearney celebrated Mass for the delegates Sunday morning in St. Joseph's Church. In his sermon Father Krewitt pointed out that Monsignor Kolping's social doctrine "was 100 years ahead of his time" and needed as much today as a century ago.

Father Ridder, who spoke in German, brought greetings from Kolping units in Germany, Holland, Switzerland, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Argentina, Brazil and Japan. He asked prayers for oppressed Kolping societies "behind the Iron Curtain" in Poland, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania and Czechoslovakia.

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### 8 Rochesterians Given Kolping Society Honors

Pioneer members of the Catholic Kolping Society of Rochester were honored at ceremonies in Hotel Seneca in conjunction with the national Kolping Society convention Sept. 1-3.

Eight men, headed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. George W. Eckl, pastor of St. Andrew's Church, who is honorary spiritual director of the Rochester group, received lapel pins at the Kolping banquet Sunday night, presented by the Very Rev. Augustine J. Aylward, CSB, director of the Notre Dame Retreat House for Men and spiritual director of the local Kolping unit.

THE ROCHESTER Society marked its 25th year during the convention.

Particularly praised were William Wittman and Adolph Kister, 30-year members, who founded the Rochester branch. Others receiving pins were Bernard Stricker, 30-year member, and Edward Nick, William Roeger, William Seeger and Rupert Leber, 25-year members.

PARTICIPATING IN the convention program were members of Rochester Regiment, Knights of St. John, who marched behind the Rochester Kolping band in a parade from the Retreat House to St. Joseph's Church for the Mass celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Kearney on Sunday morning.

Wittman headed the local convention committee, with Leo Keum in charge of the banquet and lightening arrangements. Greetings of the city to delegates were extended by Vice-mayor Norman A. Kreckman. A dance followed the banquet on Sunday night.

In a report to the convention, the Rochester Kolping Society stated it has sent more than \$10,000 in cash and more than 40,000 pounds of food and clothing to Europe during the postwar period.

### Aquinas Mothers Meet On Tuesday

The Rev. Eugene A. Cullinane, C.S.B., principal of Aquinas Institute will speak at the first fall meeting of the Aquinas Mothers' Club on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 8:15 p.m. in the school auditorium, Dewey Ave. He will outline the year's program.

Presiding will be Mrs. John Urquhart, president for the 1951-1952 season. Other officers are Mrs. James Malley, secretary and Mrs. Paul Rombaut, treasurer.

New members will be welcomed and all members are urged to attend.

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## Bishop To Celebrate Lawyers' 'Red Mass' On September 20th

Seventh Annual Lawyers' Red Mass will be celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Kearney in St. Joseph's Church, 175 N. Broadway on Thursday, Sept. 20 at 8 p.m. according to the committee headed by

Rev. William F. Leys, former supreme court justice. Plans for the Mass which marks the opening of the courts are being made by a committee of lawyers and laymen.

David H. Johnson, chairman and Eugene H. Connor, co-chairman.

The Red Mass which marked that the courts were opened in the United States of America, is observed on the last term court in the Court of Justice. Its origin goes back centuries in Europe but at recent years the Mass is being celebrated in principal cities of the United States and Canada.

Deputy here in 1945 by Bishop Kearney the ceremony has each year attracted a distinguished turnout of judges, lawyers and prominent civic leaders.

ANNOUNCING the general committee are: J. Paul Brennan, Joseph H. Connor, Ernest L. Doyle, Rocco M. Fichetto, Matthew Kowalski, Paul S. Kree, Norman A. O'Brien, Joseph R. Pappick, Emmet J. Schnepf, David H. Shearer, Eric P. Smith and Howard M. Woods.

Excocting the Bishop into the church will be Jacob Ark, Halton D. Bly, Hon. Harold P. Burke, Karl F. Case, Anthony V. Colaneri, Hon. Samuel L. Diener, Hon. James P. E. Duffy, Hon. Joseph M. Freaney, R. Kenneth Finucane, Daniel F. Fitzgerald, Walter S. Forsyth, Jeremiah G. Hickey, T. Carl Nixon, Hon. James C. O'Brien, J. Emmett O'Brien, George J. Siskind, William F. Strong and Charles S. Wilcox.

UNLESS NAMED are Fred O. Boylan, John J. Conway, Jr., J. Eugene Giddens, Edward James Hickey, Andrew E. Kneat, John P. Lomenzo, John A. Macfarlin, Samuel C. Pilate and Thomas W. Sullivan.

An outstanding speaker has been heard at each of these Masses with Bishop Kearney as the first speaker in 1945. The Bishop said then that the ceremony was intended to dedicate the legal profession to the service of God and to obtain divine blessings on practice and proceedings.

Speaker for this year will be announced shortly.

## Childhood School Opening Set Back To Sept. 24th

Opening of the Rochester School of the Holy Childhood on Amherst Street has been postponed until Monday, September 24, to allow completion of remodeling work, the Rev. Charles J. Mahoney, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, has announced.

Father Mahoney also announced that only pupils interviewed and registered by the principal at the present date can be accepted. Applications for over 100 children have been received but present accommodations will permit only the registering of about 25 pupils, he said.

## National, State Verein Groups Elect Gervais

A Rochester man was chosen for office at both the national convention of the Catholic Central Verein of America in Pittsburgh and the state convention of the Verein in Rochester during the past week.

Joseph H. Gervais, assistant attorney at law, 200 Ave. B, was elected a national director at the 20th convention of the Catholic Central Verein meeting in Pittsburgh last at the same time convention over the Labor Day weekend in Troy. He was named secretary of the state organization.

Unanimous endorsement and participation of the Verein and religious groups are testimony of the strength of the Verein in the United States. The Verein declared in a resolution adopted at its 20th convention in Pittsburgh that it is "a Catholic Central Verein of America."

CALLING DEFENSE "a matter of self-protection for the Verein," the Central Verein held that "neither the Verein nor its members are to be held responsible for the actions of individuals who are not members of the Verein."

In a resolution, on the question of the Verein, the Central Verein said "we have reason to believe that many of our members were declared ineligible for membership because they should have been admitted."

"The direct measure shall be taken to correct existing errors in our membership program in the appointment of officials, changed with the following measures: 1. All new members must be interviewed by the Verein or at least not antagonistic to them," the resolution declared.

President Albert J. Smith of New York and five other national officers, as well as five representatives of the Verein.

(Continued on Page 3)

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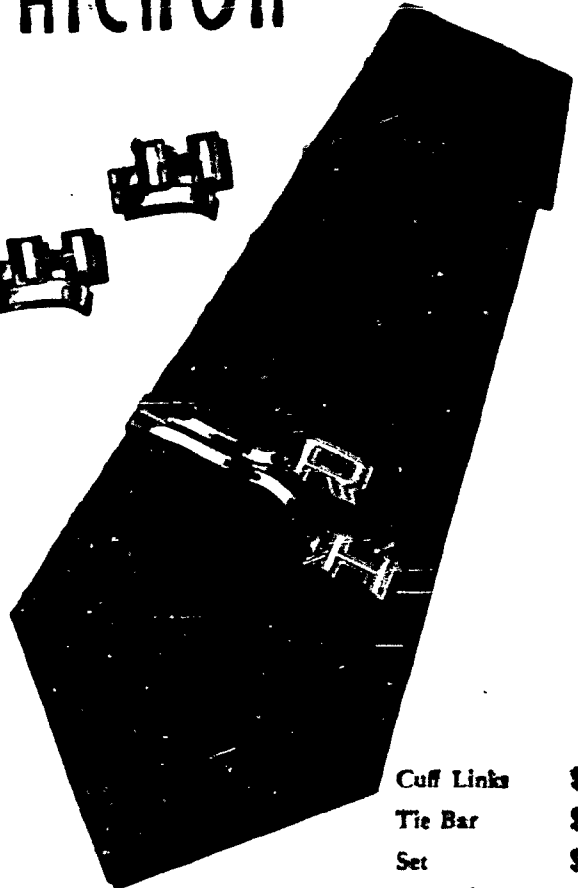
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