

Nation-Wide Youth Training Mapped By Kolping Society

By ARTHUR F. TABERN

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 82 Illinois 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. Helwick Krewitt, OFM, of Chicago. He succeeds the Rev. Severin Lamping, OFM, of Cincinnati.

HIS EXCELLENCY Bishop Keeney, 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, 80 per cent Americans, a threat to our nation, many of whom gradually decline into 'pink' and 'reds.'" Many of these books, he added, are found on the shelves of some of our great universities.

Nearly 80 delegates from 13 American cities attended the convention, which opened informally on Saturday and closed Monday afternoon.

FATHERS RIDDER pointed out that Monsignor Adolph 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 city was Cologne and the date was May 1, 1849.

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



GRATITUDE to the Kolping Society in Rochester was expressed by the 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)

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 suppressed Kolping societies "behind the Iron Curtain" in Poland, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania and Czechoslovakia.

One of the principal accomplishments of the Kolping movement, he explained, is the conduct of hospices, or houses for youthful workers. Of the 400 houses in Germany, the priest said, 80 per cent were closed by Nazi persecution or destroyed by World War II bombing.

MORE THAN 50 per cent of these have been rebuilt. Father Ridder disclosed, with beds and rooms being supplied, expenses in 90 per cent of the cases.

Ten such houses are operated in the United States—in New York, Chicago, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Francisco and St. Louis. Other Kolping branches which do not conduct houses are in Rochester and in Newark and Paterson, N. J.

More than \$350,000 in cash, food and clothing has been sent to Europe through American Kolping units since World War II, reports of the delegates revealed.

Convention reports disclosed Kolping membership nationally at approximately 1,000,000 with 180,000 in Germany alone. More than 4,000 are listed in the United States. In some of the European houses adult education is carried on in the course of the after regular working hours.

PRINCIPAL AIMS of the Kolping program are promotion of saving men for their life, good citizenship and productivity in vocations. Another step

Firm Promotes C. A. Bennett

Auburn Charles A. Bennett, prominent Auburn in of St. Athanasius Parish, has been promoted from sales manager of the Syracuse branch of Brace, Mueller, Huntley, Inc. to general manager of the company's Buffalo and Canadian branches according to the firm's president Maxwell Brace.

In a prepared statement, Mr. Brace said "The change in duties of Mr. Bennett to a field of greater importance with our company was done in recognition of his outstanding ability and experience."

Bennett began his career with the Henry and Allen Company of Auburn where, from his first job at a salary of \$2 per week, he rose to the position of works manager. In 1930, he joined Brace, Mueller, Huntley, Inc. and was appointed sales manager of the Syracuse branch in 1940. Since September, 1948, he has been a member of the company's board of directors.

Mr. Bennett is the father of the Rev. Charles A. Bennett, assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Rochester.

Geneva Army Officer Promoted To Major

Geneva—Word of the promotion of Captain Frank H. Dwyer to major has been received by Mrs. Frank Dwyer of 25 Geneva park, his mother.

Major Dwyer was expected to return for duty in the United States in November, has been stationed on Okinawa for three years.

His wife, the former Elizabeth O'Brien of Geneva and their 3-year-old daughter, Mary Margaret, are with him.

The major enlisted in the Army as a private ten years ago, before going to Okinawa, he was stationed in California.

Central Verein Meetings Draw Rochester Delegates

(Continued from Page 1) finally an apostolic zeal, a self-sacrificing devotion to the cause."

IN THE SERMON at the Mass at St. Lawrence Church presided over by Bishop Edmond F. Gibbons of Albany, the Rev. Thomas Chapman, C.S.S.R. of Saratoga Springs praised the state bodies for their success in carrying out the ideals of the national organization.

Tracing down through its almost century of existence, he pointed out their actions had helped fulfill the wishes and

desires of the Pope and hierarchy of the church.

Subdeacon of the Mass was the Rev. Frederick Fochtman, C.S.S.R. of St. Joseph's Church, Rochester who headed the delegation from this diocese.

Also in attendance from Rochester were Charles H. Mura, Michael Lang, Gervais, Anthony Kehrig, Mrs. Magdalena Schneider, Mrs. Loretta Ritzenthaler, Mrs. Mary Pfahl, Mrs. Charles Mura, Miss Bertha Schemel, Mrs. Catherine Dentinger, Miss Helen Kehrig, Mrs. Bertha Dick and Miss Marie Brower.

St. Philip Neri HN Men Sponsor Parties

Two events are planned by the Holy Name Society of St. Philip Neri Church for the coming weekend.

The society will launch a series of parties in the church hall, Saturday evening, Sept. 8 at 12:00 North Goodman St. Bill Donald and his orchestra will furnish music. Members and their families and all parishioners are invited.

After corporate Communion on Sunday, Sept. 9 at the 7 a.m. Mass, the members will hear Dr. Benedict Favata of Strong Memorial Hospital at a Communion Breakfast.

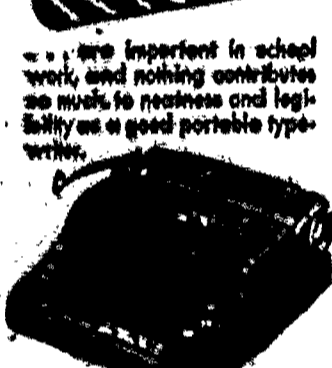
Catholic School

St. Francis School... Father Nacci recently made possible his own gratitude and the appreciation of the parish for the generous donation of \$500 to the new school by William M. Emerson, president of the Dunn and McCarthy Emma Jettick Shoe Corporation. Mr. Emerson, who is not a Catholic, has among his employees many parishioners of St. Francis Church.

Harry Doolin Honored
Harry T. Doolin, 35 Terrell Place, retired August 31 as chief accountant and statistician, after 44 years in the United States postal service.

He was presented two gifts by Assistant Postmaster John F. McGuire.

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