

### Priests On Hand At Brighton Fire



A scene typical of the Brighton disaster on Friday in which homes were leveled or destroyed by explosion or fire shows a priest on the scene shortly after the first alarm. In this photo the Rev. William F. White, assistant pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Rochester, confers with Brighton firefighters. More than 70 priests were at the fire ready to give assistance or administer Last Rites. (D. C. Photo.)

### Brighton Disaster Brings Crosses To Many Catholics

Catholics in the Brighton area hit by the disastrous gas explosion on Friday note a heavy share of the tragedy in deaths, homes destroyed and injuries sustained.

The area in which the unfortunate accident occurred was within the parishes of St. Peter of Lombard and St. John the Evangelist. Rev. Francis W. Luddy, assistant pastor of St. John's, was on duty shortly after the explosion and fire. While the danger from gas was at its height, Father Luddy, seeing the peril in the neighborhood of his rectory had the Blessed Sacrament taken to St. John the Evangelist Church. The greatest sorrow to the parish and the area came with word of the destruction of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Maas, 115 Buckland Ave. and news that the two children, Mary Ann, 4, and Billy, were imperiled. Father Luddy and Father

Hayes went to Buckland Avenue quickly after being notified, and Father Hayes administered the last rites to the little girl when she was taken from the wrecked home. The rescuers previously had taken out the boy. At the height of the danger in the area the housekeeper Mrs. Verda Durham had called Mr. Maas' place of business on Railroad Street, but the explosion blew her out of the house and she was taken to Highland Hospital.

Among the homes of Catholics destroyed were those of Martin Gullen and Vincent Versage of Antlers Drive, George H. Wickler on Sylvan Road, and Samuel R. Conli, also on Antlers Drive. Damaged homes included those of Harold J. Coleman, Mrs. Catherine McCaffrey, Emil J. Pinaus and Walter E. Loebman.

WORK OF THE FIREMEN and other volunteers was praised by Father Luddy, who this week, while mourning the loss of the two children from Our Lady of Lourdes parish who were killed, said it was a wonderful thing that not more were injured.

The disaster was felt among the employees of the Christopher Press printers of the Catholic Courier Journal, when George J. Giblin, composition foreman, was killed out with the volunteer firemen and Victor Palumbo, job press foreman with the volunteer police. The greatest strain, however, was on Earl Walker, apprentice who learned of the home of his parents being destroyed as news came to him during a hurried afternoon.

Great sorrow was felt for Mr. and Mrs. Maas in the tragic deaths of their children and Bishop Kearney visited them at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bertrand, 145 Normandy Ave. the maternal grandparents.

### Bishop To Bless DeSales Addition

Geneva Dedication ceremonies of the new wing and gymnasium of DeSales High School will be held Sunday, Sept. 30, at 4:30 p.m. His Excellency Bishop Kearney of Rochester will preside at the ceremonies.

Following the dedication of the new wing and the gym will be opened for public inspection.

### Graves Blessing At Bloomfield

Blessing of the graves in St. Bridget's Cemetery will take place Sunday, Sept. 30, at 3:30 p.m. according to the Rev. George W. Doud, pastor.

### Forty Hours

Devotions of the Forty Hours will be held in the following churches of the Diocese of Rochester: Friday, Sept. 28—Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester; Bush. Sunday, Sept. 29—Our Lady of Good Counsel, Holy Cross, Rochester; Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; St. Patrick, Dansville; Cantanigaglia, Horseheads; Ontario.

### SPRIT OF GOD

The priest is not to form his judgments from a worldly viewpoint, but according to the Spirit of God. In this way he will learn to appreciate God's gifts and benefits to him.

### 1,381 Signed In Thomas More Lecture Series

Reporting 1,381 memberships, workers in the campaign for the Thomas More Lecture Forum exceeded the goal in a 10-day membership invitation drive which closed at Hotel Seneca Sunday, by 551.

The lecture forum will open with a lecture by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen on Wednesday Oct. 3, in Eastman Theater. Bishop Sheen, national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith will speak on "Mission to the World."



Final results in the drive which also include 82 patrons signed were announced by F. William Gregory, chairman of the membership committee. The workers were congratulated by the Very Rev. John S. Randall, executive director of the series and managing editor of the Catholic Courier Journal sponsoring the series.

In the campaign Mrs. Joseph C. Wilson headed the division reporting 487 memberships. Other division leaders and their totals were Miss Louise Carrel, 367; Emmett Schnepf, 273; and Donald Brennan, 254.

### Requiem Offered At Lourdes For Maas Children

Funeral services for Mary Ann and William J. Maas, children of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Maas, 115 Buckland Ave. and two of the three death victims of the Brighton disaster Sept. 21, 1951, were held Monday.

Services attended by persons of all creeds, were held at the L. W. Maier's Sons Funeral Home, 870 Clinton Ave. North and at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

### Mass Is Added At West Webster

Addition of a Sunday Mass at St. Rita's Church, West Webster, was announced this week by the Rev. Francis A. Kuehmer, pastor.

### Fr. Edelman Talk On Spain Set By Guild

St. Louis Guild of St. Louis Church, Pittsford, will meet Monday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. in the church rooms. The business meeting will be followed by a talk by the Rev. Louis Edelman, pastor.

### Classroom Encouragement of Vocations Urged By Bishop At Teachers' Session

By FAWN SCHEFFEL

Fostering and encouraging vocations was cited as one of the major goals of Catholic school teachers by His Excellency Bishop Kearney in the closing session of the annual teachers conference conducted at Aquinas Institute last week.



Addressing the 47th annual teachers' conference Bishop Kearney pointed out that the principal source of character development is in the classroom. Pupils must be trained in habits of goodness and be aware of their accountability to God for their words and actions.

"There is no agency outside the Catholic home to compare with the Catholic classroom," he said. The religious must develop courage, devotion and enthusiasm in students from whom one day will come religious to take over their desks when God calls.

CHIEF CONCERN of the Catholic school teacher should be the development of vocations, the Bishop pointed out, because at present Catholic schools are forced to turn away children for lack of personnel.

His Excellency advocated a First Friday Prayer novena for vocations and to build up in the classroom the love of Jesus Christ.

"The development of social sensitivity of conscience and strengthened wills are more important than the development of the intellect."

"Catholics should realize the mistake of leaving the motto, 'In God We Trust,' on our coins and not taking it into the classroom. Pupils can't learn too soon the right of the picture of Our Saviour in the classroom, how to pray and of God's love, the Bishop told the assembly of teachers.

Extending his thanks to the priests, teachers and Sisters who were laboring tirelessly in the schools, he said the community owes a debt of gratitude.

Citing that the community is relieved of an expense of \$4,000,000 by the diocesan school system, he lauded Catholics for their willingness to pay the expensive price because "they realize the country needs people with characters like those developed in the Catholic classroom."

EARLIER in the conference, the Rev. Leo McCormick, superintendent of schools of Archdiocese of Baltimore, outlined the relationship of the teacher and the Christian heritage by saying that "our Christian heritage is the sum total of Christ's teachings applied to society. Christian social teaching is the antithesis of secular social teaching."

"You do not want your students to be intellectual giants with little or no knowledge of the moral obligations of life. Prison bars frequently close behind men and women who have labored long hours to master some of the arts and sciences, but spent little time in learning the art and science of loving God. Your secondary aim in teaching is to develop the abilities, skills, interests, habits and powers of your pupils so that

they may become worthy members of the Church, society, home and school."

Father McCormick told the gathering that in our social heritage we find respect for the child and the Christian use of authority. Successful teachers, he said, subordinate the senses of the child to the intellect, and the intellect to the will of God.

The speaker advised the priests, Brothers and Sisters, to learn to love more ardently the Supreme Teacher, Christ, that they might hold fast the heritage of social Christian teachings.

The Rev. Albert Shamon, professor of English at St. Andrew's Seminary, pointed out that the essential difference between Catholic and secular education is that the end-all of secular education is to enable the student to "make" good. Catholic education must enable the student to "be" good. "It is not what is taught but how," he told the teachers.

THE PRIEST SAID that whatever method of teaching one uses, the important thing is that the child is taught to appreciate the true, the good and the beautiful.

Speaking of teaching methods Father Shamon said that the teacher should not pontificate or monopolize the classroom period because education means to draw out. He likened the child's mind to a blank sheet of paper on which the teacher must write words of wisdom.

Teachers are dull in their presentation of subject matter because nine times out of ten they have not mastered their subject, he said. Success in a teacher was scored as defensive mechanism for a poor teacher who has failed.

"The school should resemble the family, not the State," the teachers were told, "for all school life is defensible only insofar as it is the prolongation of family life."

All discipline must come from the child. He must want it, and he will want it if he sees good reason for it," Father Shamon stated.

Other speakers at the conference included the Very Rev. Francis L. Meade, C.M., Ph.D., president of Niagara University, who challenged a recent decision

of Chief Justice Vinson of the Supreme Court when he said, "Nothing is more certain in modern society than the principle that there are no absolutes." Addressed by the Rev. Arthur W. Loohey, C.S.B., Sister M. Anita, O.S.F., and Sister M. Fidelia, O.S.F., and the Rev. Thomas W. Necessary, A.O.S.B., rounded out the conference.

EDUCATORS GATHER for a chat after closing session of the Diocesan Teachers' Conference held at Aquinas Institute (upper photo). Shows with His Excellency Bishop Kearney who addressed the session, the Rev. Leo McCormick, superintendent of schools, Baltimore; Rev. Dr. Charles J. Mahoney, school superintendent in Rochester Diocese and in charge of the conference, and Rev. William E. Davis, principal, Holy Family School, Auburn. Among the teachers who enjoyed the confab (lower photo) were Sister Mary Josephine, Mother of Jesus and Sister Mary School, Auburn; and Sister Mary Lory, Sister of St. Francis of Pittsburgh, St. George's School. (Catholic Courier Staff Photos.)

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**Fr. Edelman Talk On Spain Set By Guild**

St. Louis Guild of St. Louis Church, Pittsford, will meet Monday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. in the church rooms. The business meeting will be followed by a talk by the Rev. Louis Edelman, pastor.

Father Edelman will be about his trip to Spain in 1952 and France this summer. His firstments will be served by Mrs. James Hutchinson and her committee.

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