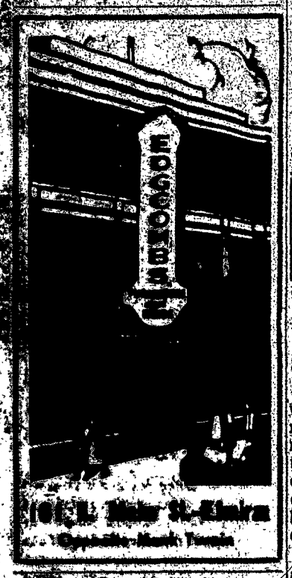
Father Wieland Free American Priest

[illegible] — The Rev. [illegible], 43, a Mary[illegible] missionary, has been released by the Chinese Reds after [illegible] months in Communist prisons, according to a message received here by the priest's mother, Mrs. James Wieland.

Mrs. Wieland was notified that her son had arrived in Hong Kong and was in good health. News of his release came from Maryknoll headquarters in New York.

Father Wieland had served at an educational mission in Kwangsi province, South China, for the last 12 years.



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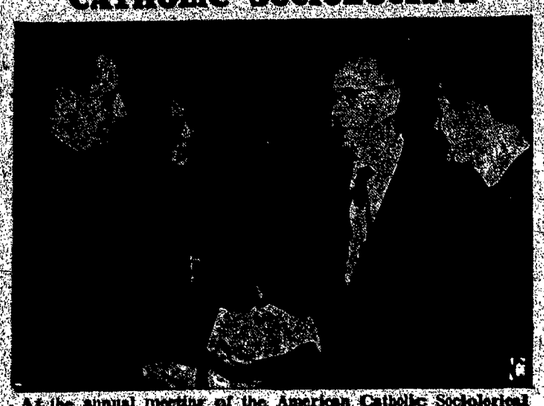

At the annual meeting of the American Catholic Sociological Society, held at Catholic University of America, Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara, of Kansas City, was named Honorary President. Pictured on that occasion are, left to right: Rev. Ralph A. Gallagher, S.J., Loyola University, Chicago, Executive Secretary; Sister Mary Gabriel, G.N.S.H., D'Youville College, Buffalo, N. Y., Second Vice-President; John J. Kane, University of Notre Dame, Ind., President; Rev. Joseph P. Fitzpatrick, S.J., Fordham University, New York City, First Vice-President.

IT HAS BEEN TWENTY-TWO YEARS

By MARY E. FITZGERALD
Executive Director—Catholic Family Service

We reminisce! January twenty-first marked the twenty-second anniversary of Catholic Charities, now Catholic Family Service in Elmira. Twenty-two years, filled with victories and failures, happy memories and sad disappointments, cooperation and opposition. Years, months, and days crowded to the last minute with opportunities to love our neighbor, because we saw in him, another Christ.

Almost a quarter of a century and yet not enough time to do even a small part of His work, because the fields are ripe with the harvest and the laborers are so few.

1930.— The first year for the Community Chest in Elmira and the horrible onslaught of a depression. Catholic Charities with one paid worker, sharing a tiny room in the Federation building, ironically enough with the Humane Society.

1931-32.—Depression Years—Inflated Case Load — Subsidy from Public Funds — staff and more staff — but always an effort to continue Case Work Treatment — to do Catholic Social Work.

1934-40 — We returned to the role of a Private Agency. We pledged ourselves to the cause of Social Work that was different because it was Catholic.

And so down through the years there has brought many changes, some of which was truly progress. Advisory Committees brought more people into direct contact with Catholic Charities and gave us the benefit of their experience. Work Always on Charity with a program which includes almost every spiritual and corporal work of mercy, became a valuable auxiliary to our Agency. Camp Villa Maria, a Catholic supervised Camp, was sponsored by Catholic Charities and the Ladies of Charity.

Page after page could be filled with a record of these changes and a careful omission of the incidents, when the wheels of progress did not revolve rapidly. To some of you it would be history, to others repetition and to us a challenge — but we question the effectiveness of such a record.

In loving gratitude, we must mention, the long sought goal of our incorporation, bringing with it the license to place children in foster and adopted homes. Placing a baby or an older child in another Nazareth, is a privilege for which we can never be truly appreciative. It's almost like playing God and that is why we so carefully investigate every little human being, who needs a father and a mother as well as prospective adoptive parents. The evils of the bootleg adoptions which still prevail, the selling point of placements minus Agency red tape are mistakes, in which, we hope never to have a part.

OUR NEED of Foster Homes for temporary and long time placements, is a challenge to Catholic Action. We flounder helplessly, as we face our twenty-third year, seeking a channel, closed hearts. Foster children, who but for the grace of God might be yours — children in whom you might enkindle the light of Faith, and through whom you might save your own immortal soul. How can you and you refuse them?

And—as we look to the future, our faith is first because of the loyal, helpful interest of our friends and supporters. Over and above even that great asset, is the true security of Catholic Social Work to which we are consecrated. It is work, which is more than a profession, which is our vocation, our life, and which has but one ultimate end, the love of our neighbor and the practical application of that emotion.

In the "Prayer for the Handicapped," we find a measuring stick for our every action for each thought and word that is a part of our Catholic Social Work. "God let mercy and compassion suffuse understand, for every [illegible] misfortune has [illegible] brother. Bless our [illegible] to persuade America to accord justice and equity to those souls among us who have been signed with the Seal of Charity."

Father Kleintjes At Saturday Club

First Saturday luncheon will be held Saturday, Feb. 2, in the Powers Hotel Ball Room at 12:15 p.m.

Speaker will be the Rev. John Kleintjes, assistant pastor of St. Ann's Church. His topic will be part of the Litany of the Blessed Virgin.

The luncheon is open to all Catholic women who are interested in the words of Our Blessed Lady at Fatima. Reservations may be made by sending a card to the First Saturday Luncheon Group, 20 Nicholson St., Rochester 20, N.Y. The new prices of the luncheon is $1.50.

The moderator of the group has announced that the luncheon will begin promptly at 12:15 and will be over by 2:00 p.m. Outstanding speakers have been contacted for future luncheons. The luncheon is sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Women.

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