

**DIOCESAN EDUCATORS MEET**



INVESTIGATED by His Excellency Bishop Kearney of the robes of Domestic Prelate, Monsignor Charles J. Mahoney (center) diocesan school head, highlighted the Diocesan Teachers Conference at Aquinas Institute where Very Rev. John H. O'Loane, C.S.B., principal, watches. (Courier Staff Photo).

**Use Positive Approach In Fighting Communism, Prelate Tells Teachers**

"Accentuate the positive" was the admonition of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William J. McDonald, of Catholic University, in his address to teachers of the diocese of Rochester at the forty-eight annual Teachers' Conference held at Aquinas Institute Thursday and Friday of last week.

The purely negative approach of the educator, content with condemning communism and secularism is not sufficient, the priest said. "We must accentuate the positive, be for something. The Catholic educator," he stated, "instead of merely talking about Christianity, endeavors to put into practice its most basic precept, namely love of God and love of neighbor."

The two day conclave brought together 1,000 lay and religious engaged in elementary and high

school instruction in the schools of the Rochester Diocese.

A HIGHLIGHT of the conference was the formal investiture of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Mahoney, diocesan superintendent of schools, by His Excellency Bishop Kearney. Msgr. Mahoney was recently elevated to the dignity of Domestic Prelate by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

In addition to addresses by outstanding personalities in the field of education, a panel discussion dealing with Christian Social Living was conducted with Brother C. Patrick, F.S.C., presiding. Monsignor McDonald, a native of Kentucky, is at present professor of philosophy at the Catholic University in Washington. His broad knowledge of the educational problems and the many intellectual traps faced by the student today, led him to caution his audience of a special need for the virtue of hope in these tormented times.

"The prevailing anxiety and insecurity are particularly hard on our young people," he said, "we should be invariable optimists."

AN ADDRESS by the Rev. Michael J. Costello, rector of Xavier High School, Nek York City, closed the two day conference. Father Costello declared that the educational system was being described as "American and undemocratic" by many persons "whose peculiar reasoning demands that all American children attend only public schools."

Therefore he cautioned, "the glorious spread of our Catholic schools in America, while a reason for justifiable pride, will be protected and maintained only by constant vigilance."

In closing Father Costello pointed out that the success of the Catholic teacher and his pupils in leading good Christian lives "will be vindication of the Catholic philosophy of education."

OTHER SPEAKERS on the two day program which was opened Thursday by His Excellency Bishop Kearney were: the Rev. F. J. Gresovick, C.S.B., of the Rev. Joseph O'Reilly, C.S.B., both of the Aquinas Institute faculty; Sister M. Francesca, R.S.M., principal of Our Lady of Mercy High School; Sister M. Rose Ellen, S.S.J., of De Sales High School, Geneva; Sister M. Janet of Catholic University, Washington, the Rev. Lorenzo K. Reed, S.J., Sister M. Theodore, R.S.M., and Sister M. Florian, S.S.J.

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**More Lecture Campaigners Report Sunday**

An encouraging report on membership in the Tramps More Lecture Forum Campaign was made to the Very Rev. John S. Randall, forum director, on Tuesday of the Courier-Journal office, 35 So. St.

The 150 workers headed by John J. Conway, Jr., assistant district attorney of Monroe County, are seeking to attain the 1,200 members' goal.

"SINGLE TICKETS for individual lectures," Monsignor Randall said, "will not be available unless upon the final report of the campaign committee, it is found that there will be adequate seating capacity."

His Excellency Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, noted author and orator, will open the series in Eastman Theater on Wednesday evening, Oct. 15.

Booked for subsequent lectures at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce are: Frank Gloney and Major George Field Elliott, Dec. 3; Rev. Benjamin L. Massie, S.J., Feb. 4; Dr. Benjamin Fine, March 10; and Walter Ken, April 14, with an open date on Jan. 7 to be announced.

Final report meeting in the membership campaign will be held at Hotel Seneca on Sunday, Sept. 28, at 6:30 p.m.

**St. Nicholas Church's Jubilee, Pastor's 40th Anniversary Set**

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will preside at a Solemn Oriental Mass according to the Byzantine Rite to be celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Andrew Hallak, pastor, in St. Nicholas Church, 370 Remington St. on Sunday, Sept. 28 at 10:30 a.m. to mark a double Jubilee.

The Mass will be in observance of the Silver Jubilee of the Church for parishioners of Syrian descent and to mark the 40th anniversary of Monsignor Hallak's ordination to the Holy Priesthood.

Following the Mass, an Oriental dinner for clergy and guests will be held in the church hall. Monsignor Hallak although serving as a pastor under Bishop Kearney celebrates Mass and conducts Divine services strictly according to the Byzantine Rite.

THIS LATIN Church and the Greek Catholic Church of which St. Nicholas is a part have the same faith but the latter differs from the former in several liturgical points. Monsignor Hallak explains that instead of Latin, the Greek or Arabic language is used at will in the Mass, in the Divine services and in all religious ceremonies.

In this country, all Melchite churches are under the jurisdiction of American Bishops and the church properties belong to their respective Roman Catholic dioceses. There is no Melchite Bishop in this country.

Monsignor Hallak who has the title Archimandrite in the Byzantine Rite was born April 8, 1888 in Yabroud, Syria.

His early schooling was obtained in the Jesuit School in Yabroud. At the age of 15, he joined the St. Basil Order in the Monastery at Mt. Lebanon. (This

is not the same order as the Congregation of St. Basil conducting St. John Fisher College and Aquinas Institute.)

Ordained on Dec. 25, 1912 in Yabroud, Monsignor Hallak served 2 years as secretary to Bishop Flavianus Kfoury of Yabroud. He taught French and Arabic at the College at Zahli in Lebanon.

In 1920, the young Syrian priest came to the United States and was given charge of the Church of the Assumption in Dulois, Pa. in the Diocese of Erie with faculties of missionary in Altoona and Pittsburgh dioceses.

He transferred to Birmingham, Ala. in 1933 in the Diocese of St. George's Church in Birmingham. In 1946, Monsignor Hallak who has been elevated to Archimandrite in 1939, came to Rochester to take charge of St. Nicholas Syrian-Melchite Church.



MONSIGNOR HALLAK

**Syrian Parish Activities Date Back To 1899 Here**

Although the Syrian parish of St. Nicholas, 370 Remington St., Rochester is marking the 25th anniversary of its own church on Sunday, Sept. 28, the parish goes back in activity to 1899 when the first Syrian families came to Rochester.

Before the turn of the century, the Syrian people had no church for their own Rite. Lack of numbers at that time did not assure them of building one.

Strong in their Catholic Religion, they assisted at Mass in the Catholic Churches of Rochester and prayed and hoped for the day when they would have Mass in their own Byzantine liturgy.

In 1924, meeting of the Syrian families were called at frequent intervals in one another's homes to seek ways and means for raising funds to build their own house of worship. By diligent application, they found that in November 1925, sufficient funds had been accumulated to buy the land for their church.

ACTUAL BUILDING was started in 1926. Not having the funds to hire the work done and determined to have their church edifice constructed as soon as

possible, men of each family with the abilities they had, started the actual building. They worked in spare time, after their own day's work and often neglected their own work to achieve their goal.

Their day of triumph came on Oct. 30, 1927, when His Excellency, Archbishop Thomas F. Hickey, Bishop of Rochester, dedicated St. Nicholas Syrian Roman Catholic Church.

Down through the years zealous pastors have labored for the people of St. Nicholas. The first priest to arrive to take charge of the church on Dec. 23, 1926, was Rev. A. Gebara. His pastoral charge was taken over by the Rev. Raphael Gedda.

Archbishop Monev, then Bishop of Rochester, in May 1935, sent for the Rev. Thomas Fayad, who was then in Brooklyn to come and take charge of the church. He was followed by the present pastor, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Andrew Hallak who came in 1946 and on Sunday will lead in marking the church's Silver Jubilee.

**State IFCA To Convene Here For Three Days**

A three-day convention of the New York Chapter of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae will open Friday evening, Oct. 3 at 8:00 p.m. with a reception for out-of-town guests in the Sheraton Hotel.

On Saturday, all sessions will take place at Nazareth College, beginning with Mass at 8:30, celebrated by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney. Closing the day, members will be guests at a tea given by Reverend Mother M. Helene, President of Nazareth College.

Our Lady of Mercy High School will be the setting for meetings scheduled on Sunday. The convention will close at noon with the installation of officers.

THE NEW YORK State Chapter is made up of the representatives of the various chapters.



CURRENT TRENDS in education are studied by three outstanding educators at the Diocesan Teachers Conference at Aquinas Institute (from left) Sister Francesca, Our Lady of Mercy High principal; Sister Mary Janet of Catholic University of America, and Sister M. Pauline, Nazareth Academy principal.

**Catholic Information Class To Open At Holy Cross Hall**

Inquiry or Catholic Information Class will begin at Holy Cross School Auditorium, Latta Rd., on Tuesday, Oct. 14, according to Rev. J. Joseph O'Connell, Pastor.

Non-Catholics and Catholics alike, who wish to better in-

**Forty Hours**

Devotions of the Forty Hours will be conducted in the following churches of the Diocese of Rochester:

Friday, Sept. 26—Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester; Bush.

Sunday, Sept. 28—Our Lady of Good Counsel, Holy Cross, Rochester; Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; St. Patrick, Danville; Canandaigua, Horseheads, Ontario.

**Daylight Time Ends Sept. 28**

Daylight Saving Time in areas of the Diocese of Rochester, where voted, will end Sunday, Sept. 28, at 2 a.m. Clocks should be set back one hour for Sept. 28 and church services will be scheduled on Standard Time, Sept. 28.

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