

## First Lay Catechist Training Course Opened In Diocese By Ithaca Nuns

Progress of the first Lay Catechist Training Course being conducted in Ithaca by Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart was made to the Rev. Albert H. Schnacky, diocesan director of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, this week.

The course was opened at Sacred Heart Mission Center, 235 N. Plain St., Ithaca, in September and upon its completion in May, the Catechists who qualify will receive a Diocesan certificate upon graduation, Father Schnacky said.

THE 12 WOMEN who volunteered to teach Christian Doctrine to Catholic children of public schools and to others who missed early religious education are themselves being taught two subjects. Aim of the course is to train in Christian doctrine and secondly in the technique of teaching.

The Rev. James F. Baker, assistant pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Ithaca, is giving the group of lay catechists a thorough course in Doctrine to assure the future lay teachers knowing Christ's truths well. In addition to knowing the Catechism, the volunteers must take apart its abstract definitions, find their inner meanings and be able to formulate the Truth correctly, Father Schnacky said.

Sister Maureen of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, a community of nuns who on the invitation of His Excellency Bishop Kearney and under the direction of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Byrne, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Ithaca, came into the diocese in 1950, is conducting the thirty hour course in the Adaptive Way Method of teaching religion.

This course is published under the auspices of the National Confraternity of Christian Doctrine office. This particular method has been especially developed to meet the needs of our Catholic children attending public grade and high schools. It is, Father Schnacky said, the result of more than 60 years of specialization in this field.

THROUGH THEIR visitation in the homes, the Sisters in Ithaca learn the needs of these children and adapt their teaching accordingly.

Lay Catechists share in the Sisters' experience and are trained to teach religion in such a manner that the children will know it well, love and appreciate it so much that they will be led to practice it of their own volition, the Sisters have found. A thorough grasp of background material and a knowl-



TWELVE "ZEALOUS APOSTLES" are shown training to be teachers of religion at the Sacred Heart Mission Center, Ithaca. Standing (from left) are: Sister Maureen, M.H.S.E., Mrs. Clare Smith, Mrs. Molly Joyce, Mrs. Elizabeth Ervay, Mrs. Elizabeth Zellar, Mrs. Margaret Bennett. Seated (from left) Mrs. Helen Hillick, Mrs. Elizabeth Harstock, Mrs. Alice Benscoter, Mrs. Jane Bedell, Mrs. Caroline de Ycaza, Mrs. Phyllis Flanagan and Mrs. Anna Mahool.

edge of the psychology and vocabulary of the particular age group prepares these lay catechists to teach doctrine in language and ways adapted to the interests of the pupils.

After each lesson plan has been checked by the Sisters, the lay catechists will be ready to present the day's lesson to their respective groups of children graded according to their grades in school.

RESPONDING TO the call of Pope Plus XII for the laity to spread Catechetical instruction, the "zealous lay apostles" training in Ithaca, learn the Adaptive Way Course by using it. Each class is brought to a close by the instructor asking "Keep the Faith?" and the lay catechists answering, "No, Spread It!"

WHEN THE COURSE is completed the lay catechists will serve as instructors at special parish sessions, released time classes, rural classes and wherever else requests lead them.

The four Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart came to Ithaca from their motherhouse in Towson, Maryland, a little more than two years ago to found the Sacred Heart Mission Center.

The community is a Pontifical Congregation of Sisters founded for the purpose of helping Bishops and pastors to extend the faith and to deepen the spiritual life of the flocks under their care through teaching Christian

## THE CATHOLIC COURIER JOURNAL

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## Rosary On Patronal Day Set By Diocesan Women

Geneva — Weather conditions didn't detract any from attendance at the meeting of this Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, Sunday, in Geneva.

Despite a snowstorm, forty members were present from Geneva and area for the first quarterly meeting of the new board of directors in the Knights of Columbus Home. Representatives came from Rochester, Ithaca, Corning and Geneva.

MEMBERS PLEDGED to recite the Rosary on the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Patron Saint of the organization, on April 26. All affiliates of the Council will join in reciting the Rosary on this day.

Mrs. Arthur T. McAvoy, Diocesan president, presided. The Rev. Francis R. Waterstraat, Penn Yan, moderator of Geneva Deanery, gave the opening prayer in the absence of the Rev. Louis Hohman, Rochester, who was ill.

Reports given included: Mrs. Colin Tracey, war relief chairman, Rochester; Mrs. Lawrence F. Weis, Rochester, Family Life chairman; Mrs. James A. Rains, Rochester; International Relations chairman.

A BRIEF business meeting was held and reports were heard from deanery presidents: Mrs. Glenn Jamison, Corning, and Mrs. J. R. Bedell, Ithaca. Father Waterstraat and the Rev. Daniel Hogan, Corning, Deanery moderator, gave brief talks. Father Hogan covered the Cane conferences and Father Waterstraat announced a plan for a moderator's meeting to be held in the near future.

Mrs. Louis Fowler, Penn Yan, newly elected Geneva Deanery president, and Mrs. Richard L. Weider, Rochester, newly elected Rochester Deanery president, were introduced to the group.

Mrs. Weider will be succeeded on the Mothers' Circle committee by Mrs. William H. Sprohmer, Rochester. Two new chairmanships were announced: Mrs. James A. Mallon, Elmira, Diocesan director of organization and developments; Mrs. George A. Snyder, Auburn, library and literature chairman.

NEWLY APPOINTED vice chairmen are: Mrs. James P. Ward, Corning, vice-chairman on spiritual development committee; Gen. Doud, military editor of the New York Times, will begin at 8:15 p. m.

## General Doud To Present Lecturer Hanson Baldwin

When Hanson Baldwin, noted military analyst, lectures in the Lecture Series Monday, Feb. 2, at Rochester Chamber of Commerce he will be presented by Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Doud of Rochester.

The lecture by Mr. Baldwin, military editor of the New York Times, will begin at 8:15 p. m.

General Doud who will preside is widely known for his work in safety and in Civilian Defense. Born in Colorado, he came to Rochester with the Rochester Gas and Electric Corp. in 1924. Until World War II, he held various positions in the Electric Distribution Department. Ever since 1925, however, he has been an active member of the National Guard.

IN 1941 he went overseas as a Major in command of the 1st Battalion of the 209th Regiment. He spent most of his time during the war in the European Theater of Operations returning to the local unit in 1945. He became director of safety for the RG&E in 1947 and in 1948 was given the commission of Brigadier General in command of the 105th A.A.A. Brigade of the National Guard for Rochester and Western New York.

## IFCA Catholic College Fair Lists Talk By Bishop Kearney



ATTRACTIVE EXHIBITS for the Catholic College Fair to be sponsored at Sacred Heart Academy, 8 Prince St., on Feb. 1 by Rochester Circle, IFCA, are planned by cooperating college alumnae. Above four graduates ponder their displays. They are: (from left) Miss Johanna McCarthy, College of New Rochelle; Mrs. Paul Romant, St. Elizabeth College; Miss Jeanne Schneider, Good Counsel College, and Mrs. William Winans Jr., Manhattanville College. (Courier Staff Photo)

His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, honorary regent of Rochester Circle, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae will give the keynote address at the group's first Catholic College Fair scheduled Sunday, Feb. 1, at Sacred Heart Academy, 8 Prince St.

The fair is being held to inform high school juniors, seniors and their parents about facilities at Catholic colleges for women affiliated with the I.F.C.A.

Rochester area students from the city from Newark, Canandaigua, Geneva, Hornell, Honeyoy Falls and Corning are expected. They will be shown catalogues, brochures, year books and other college literature attractively displayed by the alumnae of various colleges.

PROGRAM WILL open with registration at 2 p. m. At a General Session in the school auditorium following, the Bishop will address the assembly. The Rev. Edward Lintz, of Nazareth College faculty and moderator of the Rochester Circle, will speak also at the General Session according to Miss Jeanne Schneider, Fair chairman.

Auxiliary To Honor Retiring Secretary Ladies Auxiliary #47, Knights of St. John, will hold a Testimonial Dinner in honor of Teresa Grivet upon her retirement after 28 years of service as recording secretary.

The dinner will be held in St. Boniface Hall on Feb. 4 at 6 p. m. Tickets will be \$1.65 per person. Reservations may be made by calling Mary Schwalback, MOnroe 3133-J or Hilda Melsenzahl, GLenwood 0359-N no later than Sunday, Feb. 1.

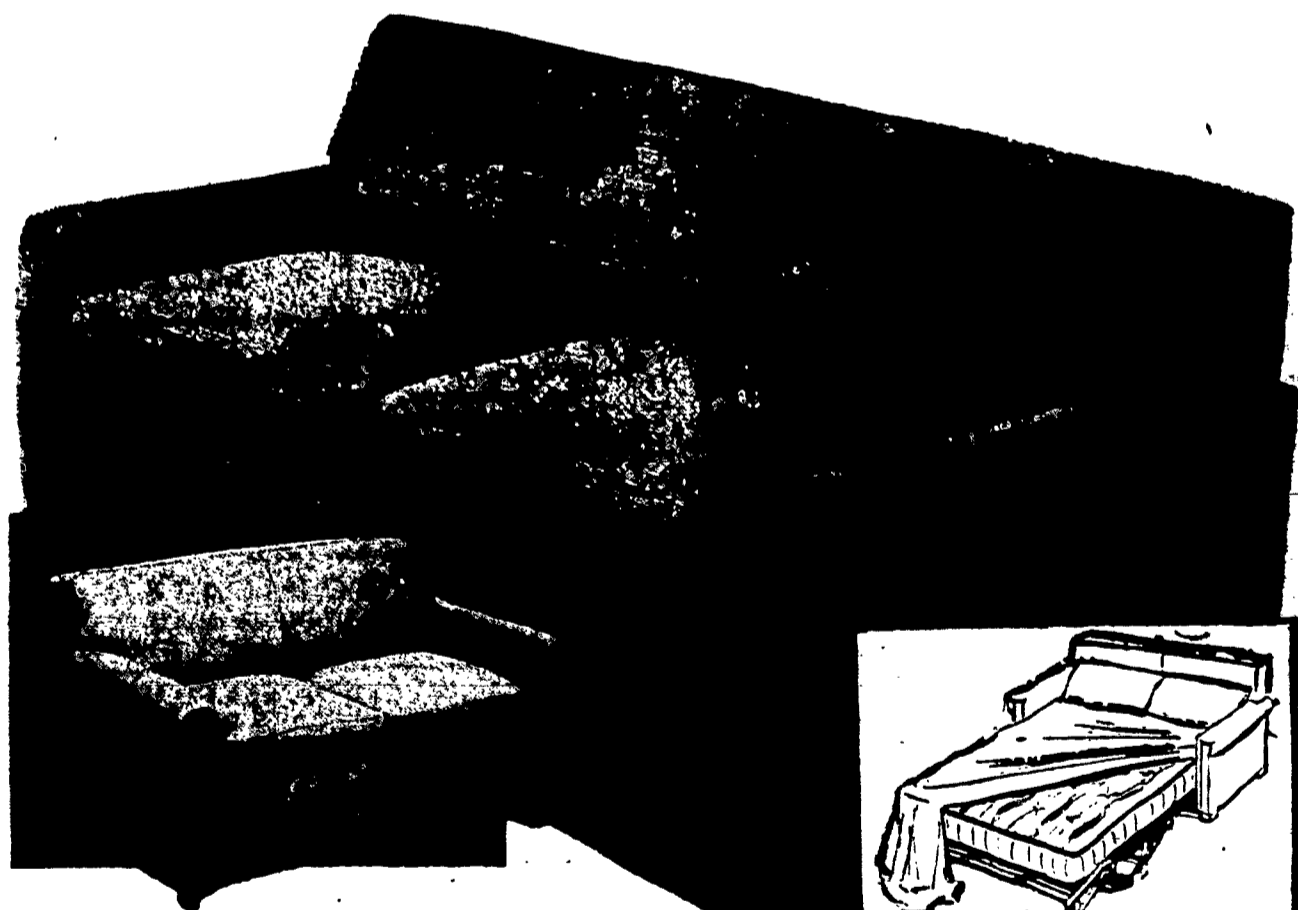
## Fr. Shamon Lecture Slated By Eastman Newman Club

Eastman School of Music Newman Club under the direction of the Rev. Richard M. Quinn will present the second in its series of lectures on religion for college students, Sunday, Feb. 1 at 7:30 p. m.

The talk to be presented at the Bible, its inspiration and the Eastman Dgrm, 424 University Ave., will be given by the Rev. William H. Shamon, M.A., Professor of Religion at Nazareth College.

FATHER Shamon will speak and arrangements for a Valentin on "The Bible-Fact or Fiction," the Day Party to be held Feb. 15 explaining the make-up of the at Hutchinson House.

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