

RECIPIENTS OF DEGREES



DR. WILLIAM R. GWIN, chairman of the history department of Nazareth College, congratulates two seniors, who received degrees this week, and an instructor who received his M.A. degree from Columbia. From left are: Dr. Gwin, Miss Beaulieu Huang of Taipei, Formosa, Miss Veronica Oulton of Hunt, N. Y., and John Solowski, art instructor.

COURIER-JOURNAL Friday June 4, 1954 11

Cathedral Organist To Play in Virginia

Louis Huybrechts, organist at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester, has been invited to play an Organ-Recital in the St. Joseph Cathedral in Wheeling, W. Virginia, on Monday, June 7. The recital is sponsored by the Diocesan Guild of Catholic Organists in Pittsburgh, in collaboration with the local Guild in Wheeling.

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College Gets Loan Washington (AP)—A loan of \$457,000 for St. Francis College, Loretto, Pa., to construct two dormitories for 152 men students and a separate dining-recreation building has been approved by the U. S. Housing and Home Finance Agency.

DR. JAMES M. O'NEILL Hits 'Divisive' Charges At Nazareth Commencement

Dr. James M. O'Neill, Nazareth College commencement speaker Wednesday afternoon, denounced as irresponsible assumptions, totally unsupported by objective evidence, charges that non-public schools are "divisive" and "undemocratic."

Those who have made such charges, he said, are a threat to religious and educational freedom in the United States. Referring to advocates of an education in public schools for all American youth, he warned that uniform, government-controlled education is a necessary aspect of all dictatorships.

Dr. O'Neill is the former chairman of the departments of speech of Brooklyn College and the University of Wisconsin and Michigan. He is the author of 14 books, among them "Religion and Education Under the Constitution" and "Catholicism and American Freedom." His latest book is "Catholics in Controversy."

HE WAS PRINCIPAL speaker at the 27th annual Commencement exercises of Nazareth College. His Excellency Bishop Kearney conferred degrees upon 67 young women, 13 of whom were graduated with academic honors. Dr. O'Neill's topic was "The Place of Religious Education in America."

In a free society, he said, it is inevitable that parents will differ in regard to the type of education they want for their children, and their right in this matter will be respected.

Calling for an end of false accusations and drifts toward totalitarianism in the name of liberty, Dr. O'Neill concluded that believers in diversified culture, American freedom and democracy should recognize that both

religious and public schools are necessary and desirable, and should strive for the improvement of both.

DR. O'NEILL briefly reviewed the history of American education to show how deeply rooted it is in religion. He pointed out that the earliest schools in what is now the United States—Catholic mission schools of the late 16th century and Protestant New England common schools of the early 17th century—were all established under religious auspices and were permeated with religious content.

For decades, he said, the Protestant religion was an integral part of public schools. Deploring the modern campaign against religion in education, he said the function of the religious school in America is to serve God and country, to teach religion and American freedom, and to demonstrate that there is no conflict between them.

Mr. O'Neill is himself wholly a product of non-Catholic education and has never taught in a Catholic institution. He has behind him 40 years experience as a teacher in public schools and six in non-Catholic private schools.

HE HAS TAUGHT on all levels, from the first grade in a country district school to university seminars open only to graduate students. Since his recent retirement from teaching, he has devoted himself to writing and lecturing. He makes his home in Lakeville, Conn.

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Nazareth Grads Receive Honors

Four Nazareth College graduates have been elected to membership in Kappa Gamma Pi, national honorary society for Catholic women's colleges. They and nine others were graduated with departmental academic honors at the 27th annual Commencement of Nazareth College Wednesday afternoon, June 2, when the awards were announced.

Chosen for the society on the basis of scholastic excellence and qualities of leadership exhibited were: Dorothy A. Rozzi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Armand Rozzi, 381 Smith St., Nazareth Academy graduate who received the degree Bachelor of Arts cum laude in history and in Sacred Theology.

Ann Schelle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Schelle, 80 Wimbledon Rd., Nazareth Academy, cum laude in Latin.

Bessie Huang, Formosa, magna cum laude in biology.

Grace Zeld, Oswego, cum laude in philosophy.

Also graduating with honors were: Sister Thomas Marion Hoctor, Omitted from the list of Nazareth College graduates published in last week's Courier Journal were the names of Mary Ann DeLaura, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony DeLaura, 336 Bay St., and Dorothy Jean Fischer, daughter of Mrs. Emma Fischer, 49 Longacre Rd. Both received the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in English.

S.S.J., magna cum laude in English, and cum laude in philosophy.

Sister Mary Petrus Sullivan, S.S.J., magna cum laude in English.

Sister Peter Mary Dowling, S.S.J., cum laude in history.

Veronica Oulton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. Oulton, Hunt, N.Y., graduate of Nunda Central School, cum laude in mathematics, philosophy and Sacred Theology.

Mary Ann DeLaura, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony DeLaura, 336 Bay St., Nazareth Academy, cum laude in English and Sacred Theology.

Virginia M. Weis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence P. Weis, 24 Paige St., Our Lady of Mercy High School, magna cum laude in English.

Jeanette Serou, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Englebert E. Serou, 204 Laurelton Rd., Our Lady of Mercy High School, cum laude in biology and Sacred Theology.

Dolores Lucreio, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isidoro Lucreio, 152 Atkinson St., Madison High School, cum laude in biology.

Anne Elizabeth Gawer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Gawer, 57 Tottenham Rd., Our Lady of Mercy High School, cum laude in business.

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Loyalty To Church' Termed Purpose Of Catholic College

What their parents and faculty want from them more than anything else, the Rev. Joseph M. Egan, S.T.D., told 67 Nazareth College seniors Sunday morning, is loyalty to the Church.

Father Egan, professor of dogmatic theology at St. Bernard's Seminary, preached the baccalaureate sermon at a solemn high Mass Sunday to begin Commencement week activities. His Excellency Bishop Kearney presided from the throne.

Loyalty to the church, Father Egan said, consists in going through life with a Catholic head, a Catholic heart and Catholic hands. These "areas of loyalty," he explained, constitute the purpose of a Catholic college. They parallel the very purpose of life: to know, love and serve God, and to be happy with Him in eternity.

FATHER EGAN ventured that the Nazareth College faculty would agree with his conviction that of all the subject matter learned by the young women during the last four years, the knowledge of God and intellectual conviction of the truths of faith are by far the most important.

Simply knowing God, however, is not enough, he added. He urged the graduates to love God, the Supreme Good, and to carry with them the scale of values they acquired at the Catholic college for women.

Finally, he concluded, loyalty to the Church demands use of the hands in the service of God. While the Church had been on the defensive for some 400 years

after the reformation, he said, it is now "on the march."

AN ACTIVE lay apostolate, Father Egan advised, one which can and will apply the principles of Christianity to everyday life, is needed.

Father Egan began his sermon by noting that Commencement time is a period of "mixed emotions." Looking backward, he observed, students experience a feeling of pride in a job well done, and gratitude to their parents and faculty. As for the future, he said, the emotions are likely to be those of hope and fear.

Admittedly trying to summarize for the young women, in a few minutes, the most important lessons they learned in college, Father Egan chose his message on "Loyalty to the Church" as that which he would have them retain for the rest of their lives.

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