

Catholic Central Verein Convention Slates Centennial In Rochester

New Haven, Conn. (NC) — In no country in the world is the relationship between the Church and the organized labor movement more intimate, more wholesome and more firm than it is in the United States. Msgr. Joseph F. Donnelly of Hartford told delegates to the 99th annual convention of the Catholic Central Verein of America held here concurrently with the 38th convention of its women's counterpart, the National Catholic Women's Union.

(At the women's sessions, in behalf of Rochester Branch, Miss Laura E. Schilling, extended an invitation to the hierarchy and delegates attending to come to Rochester in 1955 for the celebration of the Centennial of the Catholic Central Verein of America at its 100th convention.)

Albert J. Sattler, national president of the Catholic Central Verein, told the delegates that on the domestic scene, "the most prevalent malady among our people is spiritual immaturity. Among Catholics, he said, it appears as a failure to know and understand the truths of our holy religion and their application to the problems of the day. Many of our Catholic people, following the secularist trend of the times, are the social and political slaves of their non-religious neighbors. We must give good example to others, and not follow the un-Christian spirit of the times."

PURPOSE OF THE Central Catholic Verein of America, which was founded in Rochester,

N. Y. in 1855, is to unite Catholics for benevolent, charitable and educational purposes, and to encourage the study and practice of social justice as outlined by the Pope. Purpose of the National Catholic Women's Union is to unite Catholic women in the practical application of charity, civic virtues and Christian philosophy.

Addressing a joint session of the two organizations, Father Vincent A. Yermans of St. Cloud, Minn., said: "Our mission is to form a united, aggressive, apostolic Christian front. We must implement the program of the Pope. We must bring well defined needs, clear principles and well armed forces to our associates at home. . . . We cannot afford to cut ourselves off from other organizations and other apostles that have the same aim of restoring all things in Christ."

"We must never undermine our fellow Christians by innuendoes, misrepresentations and slurs," he continued. "We should be perpetually generous and glory in the fact that our generosity is known and sung to the ends of the earth. And that generosity should be intellectual and social as well as material and financial."

IN HIS ADDRESS, Monsignor Donnelly, who is director of the Diocesan Labor Institute of Hartford and Chairman of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration, said it is imperative today that we in the Church "recognize that the key to a successful apostolate by the Church with the workers in any land is a clear and sincere desire to help them. . . . We must convince them of that sincerity," he continued, "before they will welcome our religious instruction and moral guidance. We must first recognize that there are social injustices which are permitting suffering and want, and simply because these are injustices we must be anxious to correct the cause of them."

One of the sessions of the National Catholic Women's Union, heard a message from Mother Anna Dengel, foundress of the Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries. She asserted that "one must say 'it is the honor of the Protestants that they have been the pioneers in the mission health field in the mission. They have trained 90 per cent of the 7,000 nurses in India,' Mother Anna Dengel was a scheduled speaker but was detained on business of her community in Holland. The meeting at which her address was read was dedicated to the Foreign Missions.

THE STIFLING effect the creeping tentacles of communism have had on the work of Catholic missions throughout the world was emphasized by Msgr. James M. Griffin of Meriden, Conn., director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the Archdiocese of Hartford. He said that when they found out Catholic missionaries were not afraid to die for their cause, the communists came up with a form of mental torture—"brainwashing."

Monsignor Griffin thanked the members of the National Catholic Women's Union for their great material aid to the foreign missions and asked them for the continued aid of their prayers for the development of vocations to the mission field.

Mrs. Rose Rahman of St. Louis, president of the NCWU, presided over its sessions.

Both conventions were dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, in keeping with the Marian Year. A solemn Pontifical Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Henry J. O'Brien of Hartford, opened the conventions.

RESIDES — His comments on the malady of "spiritual immaturity" on the domestic scene, Catholic Central Verein president Albert Sattler had a few words to say about the "international scene."

"We are now reaping the sad harvest of the misguided diplomacy of the past. Because of the makeshift policy of expediency, compromise and even blindness, we have counteracted the peace plan of Germany, Austria, Korea and now Indo-China. Because of these same methods of international bargaining with the bodies and souls of men, 15 nations are now the serfs of communism. Our diplomats have stood by while nations and peoples collapsed into the Red abyss. The policies now being pursued with Red Russia and her allies are so similar to the negotiations with the Nazis in 1938, that one can only hope and pray that Geneva may not turn out to be another Munich. The time has come for us to separate ourselves from the policies pursued by England and France, who evidently are merely trying to save the last vestiges of empire and colonialism. Let them know that we will not be associated with them in such ventures, but will pursue a policy of justice and charity to all peoples."

COACHED BY GRID STAR



TWO PUPILS of School of the Holy Childhood, Rochester, are getting football pointers from a Pittsburgh Steeler star. Bobby Ferencik, (center) 12 years, of 124 Revilla St., tries to kick field goal as Maurice Myhr, 13, of 184 Seymour Road holds ball and Jack Butler, former St. Bonaventure star, gives instructions at Steeler Camp at St. Bonaventure U. Holy Childhood School benefited from pro-football charity game last year at Aquinas Stadium.

Mascot Contest Slated For Charity Football Game

Chuck Bednarik of the Philadelphia Eagles intercepted a pass last year and scored his first touchdown in five years of professional football.

He was so elated that he threw the ball into the grandstands. Church will be in the Eagles' lineup when they take on the Pittsburgh Steelers in a charity exhibition game at Aquinas Memorial Stadium, Ridgeway Ave. and Mt. Read Boulevard, Rochester, Sept. 1.

Line-backers Bednarik, forte. Coaches in the National Football League consider this 63, 230 pound former University of Pennsylvania All-American one of the best line-backers in the league.

ROCHESTER COUNCIL Knights of Columbus, sponsor of the game at Rochester, will conduct a Mascot Contest in conjunction with the game.

Boys 10 to 16 years old are eligible to compete. Letters on the subject, "Why I would like to be a mascot for the Pittsburgh Steelers or the Philadelphia Eagles," should be included in the letter.

Writers of the four best letters will be selected as winners, and two mascots will serve each team when the Steelers and Eagles play at Rochester. Tickets for the game may be purchased by contacting Knights of Columbus Football Committee, Columbus Civic Center, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester.

Elmira Area Deaths

Seven deaths were reported in the Elmira area this week. They are:

Frank L. Bacon, 76, of 560 Baty St., Aug. 3, 1954. Survived by daughters, Mrs. James E. Casey and Mrs. Robert L. Stowell of Elmira; sons, Bernard T. Bacon of West Brentwood, Archibald and Robert J. Bacon of Elmira; stepsons, Robert L. Stowell and John H. Stowell of Elmira; 10 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. The body was at the Charles F. Hughes & Son Funeral Home and removed to the family home. Prayer service there Thursday followed by Solemn High Mass of Requiem in St. Mary's Church. St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery. The Holy Name Society of St. Mary's Church at the home Wednesday for recitation of Rosary. The Nocturnal Adoration Society met at the home Wednesday to recite the Office of the Dead.

Neal McConnell of 520 Perine St. Prayer service was held at the Charles F. Hughes & Son Funeral Home. Solemn Requiem High Mass at St. Mary's Church at 9. The Rev. Thomas J. Walsh assisted by Rev. John T. Walsh and Rev. Albert V. Ryan. Pallbearers: William and John Murphy, Jackson Lawes, George McCarthy, St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery.

Louis (Bushy) Bustin of 1104 Grand Central Ave., Aug. 5, 1954. He was employed at the Kennedy Valve Mfg. Co. for several years. Survived by wife, Mrs. Paraska Bustin at home; daughters, Mrs. Wasy Michalko and Mrs. George Michalko, both of Elmira; 13 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. The body was at the Charles F. Hughes & Son Funeral Home and removed to the family home. Prayer service there Saturday followed by Requiem High Mass in St. Nicholas Church, Elmira Heights, the Very Rev. W. B. Dowdovich, St. Nicholas Cemetery, Town of Horseheads.

Miss Mary I. Cronin, formerly of 530 Pennsylvania Ave., Aug. 5, 1954, following an extended illness. She was a communicant of St. Mary's Church and a member of its Altar and Rosary Society. Survived by nephew, Francis C. Murphy of Elmira and several cousins. The body was at the McCarthy Funeral Home, 628 Pennsylvania Ave. Prayer service there Saturday followed by Solemn High Mass of Requiem in St. Mary's Church. St. Mary's Cemetery, Corning.

Louis Roy McNamee, formerly of 114 Milton St., Saturday, Aug. 7, 1954, at Bath Veterans Administration Hospital. World War I veteran. Survived by sister, Mrs. Cora Colmangan of Elmira; brother, Henry McNamee of Elmira. Body was at Keefe Funeral Home, 436 Broadway. Prayer service there Tuesday. Requiem High Mass in St. Mary's Church.

Charles H. Lewis, 72, of 918 Walnut St., Saturday, Aug. 7, 1954. Retired employee of Trayer Products Inc.; communicant of St. Patrick's Church; member of its Holy Name Society. Survived by wife, Mrs. Mary Regan Lewis; daughter, Mrs. Eugene O. Brace of Wellsville; grandchildren, Barbara and Suzanne Brace of Wellsville; sister, Mrs. Frank L. Kinney of Elmira Heights. Body was at family home. Prayer service there Tuesday. Solemn High Requiem Mass in St. Patrick's Church. St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery.

Earl Johnston of 962 Bridgman St., Thursday, Aug. 5, 1954. Erie Railroad employee; World War I veteran; member Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and Elmira Lodge of Elks. Survived by wife, Mrs. Marie Johnston; sisters, Mrs. Nellie Bush of Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Fred McLane of McGraw; and Mrs. Iva Ellis of Freeville; brothers, William Johnston of Scipio Center, Floyd of Groton and Clark of Glendale, Calif. Body at Keefe Funeral Home, 436 Broadway. Prayer service there Monday. Requiem High Mass in St. Patrick's Church. St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery.

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Rumor!

In the "Merchant of Venice," William Shakespeare wrote a short simple sentence which has a world of meaning. He said: "The devil can cite scripture for his purpose."

But what has this to do with rumors? It is evident that in the course of their circulation, rumors undergo change. One of the main reasons for this, it is said, is that it is virtually impossible for any one person to retain all the facts of a given story. Those facts which seem more important to him because they have significance for him will be remembered while those which seem irrelevant to him will be forgotten.

This point was proven recently by one of our own congressmen (Courier-Journal, June 18, 1954) by using some anonymous quotations and asking a witness to identify them. The witness said the quotations closely paralleled Communist writings. The congressman then caused a sensation when he identified the quotations as portions of Pape Encyclicals of Pope Leo XIII and Pope Pius XI.

THIS EXAMPLE, which entered the records of the Congressional investigation, clearly illustrates the danger of lifting sentences or paragraphs out of context. And that is how many rumors start, or if already started, change.

A second reason is that the listener usually adds his own interpretation. The rumor story is as vague in content as it is in origin, and it is remembered and circulated only where it satisfies the emotion of the teller.

The person who hears the rumor-story will, therefore, alter it—often unwittingly, to be sure—to conform to his own particular purpose. He is "tuned" to hear those rumor-stories which will best answer his questions, excuse his actions or relieve his emotions. If the story he hears does not fit, then he will tailor it so that, in his retelling of it, the story will more nearly conform to his needs.

Classic examples of fear, hope and hate rumors can be recalled from the two World Wars. Let us look at some of these rumors to see the panic and demoralizing hysteria this vicious weapon can have:

WHEN THE German army began its drive into France during World War II, German agents in the French army defending the Maginot Line at the Belgium border began to circulate a rumor that German paratroops had landed behind the line and had cut them off from their sources of supply.

Since this was an important matter to the French and since they had no satisfactory information about it, they accepted the story; and, afraid of being cut off by the enemy and annihilated, the French troops pulled out of the fortifications and fled, thus enabling the German army to march into France with relatively little opposition.

And, in the closing days of World War I, a rumor swept through the German Navy that the fleet was being ordered to sea for one final great naval battle so that the German fleet could go to the bottom with its colors flying, rather than suffer the shame of surrender. This story caused German crews to mutiny, and shortly thereafter the German fleet surrendered.

An example of a wish rumor during World War II occurred shortly after the invasion of Poland. A German inspired rumor was circulated among the Poles that the Germans were being halted and repulsed at the Polish border. This raised Polish morale temporarily but caused a devastating deterioration of morale when the story was found to be false.

Probably the most used and most damaging type of rumor is the hate rumor. It was found that of 1,000 rumors circulated in the United States during the summer of 1942, almost two-thirds of them were of the hate or (wedge-driving) variety.

Such rumors capitalize upon the prejudices which are harbored by people. The purpose in employing these rumors is to drive a wedge between the various groups.

During World War II, hate rumors received great circulation to the effect that Negro troops were

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