Bishop Kearney Launches Campaign For New School

Launched by His Excellency Bishop Kearney, the $125,000 campaign for a new school and convent in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Elmira, was off to a flying start, first reports showed, campaign leaders said today.

Two hundred workers at a dinner in the school hall, Saturday night heard Bishop Kearney tell them they are "making a most outstanding contribution" toward the prevention of juvenile delinquency by providing for a parochial school.

The Bishop told the parish workers that by initiating the fund effort they are making it possible to mold "strong, honest, pureminded and patriotic citizens."

BISHOP KEARNEY also reminded the parishioners that the opening of the campaign is "your crowning gift to Our Lady of Lourdes" at the close of the Marian Year dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

Other prominent clergymen of the Chemung and Schuyler deanery and of the Diocese of Rochester attended the dinner.

Captains and their workers began their making of calls early in the week.

Plans call for the convent and school on Demarest Pkwy. at W. First St. to be opened in the fall of 1956, with members of the Sisters of Mercy community staffing the institution.

REV. LEO G. SCHWAB, church pastor was toastmaster of the campaign dinner and thanked the many leaders and workers for their efforts and interest in the project.

The Rev. Charles V. Boyle of Rochester, diocesan schools superintendent, noted that some 50,000 youths are now being educated in Catholic institutions of the diocese.

He praised the parish for its "determination to make Our Lady of Lourdes a complete parish for a parish is never really complete without a school."

Father Boyle commented that construction of the school also represents "a major contribution to your community" as its availability will help reduce the public school tax burden in the district.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. William J. Brien, V.F., Dean of the Chemung and Schuyler Deanery, reminded the workers that in seeking pledges to the school fund they are "doing it for God, your parish and the community."

MONSIGNOR BRIEN said the West Elmira parish "is close to my heart for several reasons." He recalled that the parish was part of St. Patrick's Church, of which he was the pastor, prior to its formation in 1940 and he noted his long association with Father Schwab, a former assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church.

Terming the church "one of the leading parishes in the Southern Tier, Monsignor Brien expressed confidence that the campaign will be "highly successful."

Opening his remarks, Bishop Kearney extolled the parish for "making possible this beautiful shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes" at the close of the Marian Year.

IN DISCUSSING the role of the parochial school in present-day education the Bishop made it clear that "we are not here to critize or find fault with the public schools."

He remarked that he is a product of a public school education and pointed to the "many fine citizens they have given us."

Bishop Kearney explained that the building of parochial schools and giving of religious training is the Catholic Chhrch's answer to the problem of juvenile delinquency.

He said the aim of the parochial school is to develop "young boys and girls with a very definite code of morals" which in a large measure is the product of their religious training.

THE ADDRESS also pointed out that the church provides parochial education "as representative of parents who are charged with the responsibility of making their children worthy citizens of the community and eternity."

Also introduced at the dinner were the Rev. L. Emmett Davis, assistant pastor of the church; J. Albert Coughlin and Dr. Gerald T. Connelly, drive cochairmen; Mayor Emory Strachen of Elmira; and Town of Elmira Supervisor Charles F. Evans.

Buddhist Urges Ban On Hospital 'Nuns'

Colombo, Ceylon — (NC) — A Buddhist leader has demanded that the government ban the services of foreign Catholic nuns in public hospitals in Ceylon.

The demand, the first airing of ill-feeling against foreign missionaries in this predominantly Buddhist country, was made by L. H. Methananda, principal of the Ananda College and a member, of the Ceylon government's Buddhist commission.

Calling upon the government to "prevent" nuns from working in hospitals, the Buddhist leader said that he was "aware" that Catholic priests and nuns serving in Ceylon's hospitals were "under a vow to convert patients to the Catholic Church."

MR. METHANANDA'S criticism produced immediate reaction from Catholics here.

Father G. Manik Muttukumaru, a priest of the Colombo archdiocese, challenged the Buddhist leader to produce evidence in support of his accusation. The priest said that such irresponsible statements by Buddhist fanatics breeds religious strife and detracts from the Ceylon government's professed policy of religous neutrality.

Dawn Mass

Manila —(RNS)—Nearly 100,000 Catholic women attended a dawn Mass and received Holy Communion in historic Luneta Park overlooking Manila Bay. The service opened the second day of the National Marian Congress here.

Pupils Work Viewed By Mothers

OPEN HOUSE AT ST. ANN SCHOOL, Hornell finds Sister M. Succursu (left) looking over a folder containing a pupil's work on the school's annual visiting day. With her (from left) are: Mrs. Humbert Solo, president of St. Ann Mothers' Club which sponsored a bazaar in connection with the open house; Sister M. Ursula, eighth grade teacher, and Mrs. Raymond Tolan, mother of an eighth grade pupil. (Memory Studio Photo)

Open House In Hornell Attracts 750 To School

Hornell—St. Ann School in Hornell held its annual open house last week with the Marian Year as the central theme of the displays. Classrooms were visited by more than 750 persons including 458 parents.

Each room featured displays depicting various phases of devotion to the Blessed Virgin. Shrines, paintings and posters by the children were displayed in the rooms. Samples of the children's academic work were also on display.

The Sisters of Mercy, who comprise the faculty, discussed classroom procedures with parents and friends.

Every room had its own Christmas exhibit, centered by the Nativity scene.

AMONG THE classroom exhibits were the eighth grade's large colored-chalk mural illustrating the first reading of the Declaration of Independence; huge maps showing the economic and physical features of the different regions in the United States, drawn in pastels by the seventh graders; the sixth graders free hand posters on books read this year with original reviews written by the students to stimulate interest in outside reading.

In the fifth grade a large mural showed apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to St. Catherine Laboure; to St. Bernadette at Lourdes and to the peasant children at Fatima.

In the fourth grade, written expression was motivated by each pupil's assembling of a "Just Me" album. Each booklet contained pictures of the youngster from infancy to the present. The children collected the pictures themselves and wrote an original caption under each of the photos.

A three-dimensional Indian village was made by the third graders. Aspects of Indian life were made more realistic by paper tepees, hand-stitched canoes, sponge evergreen trees and twig trees.

ON THE FACULTY are Sister M. Succursu, principal, fourth grade; Sister M. Ursula, eighth grade; Sister M. Brendan, seventh grade; Sister M. Paul, sixth grade; Sister M. Lawrence, fifth grade; Sister M. Germaine, third grade; Sister M. Consilia and Sister M. Angela, second grades; Sister M. Annunciata, first grade, and Mrs. Edward Deegan, kindergarten. Sister M. Raymond Joseph heads the music department.

In the Pine Room, the Mothers' Club conducted an annual bazaar. Mrs. Raymond Moretti was chairman and Mrs. Dennis Drew was cochairman. Mrs. Michael Horvat was treasurer.

Commandments Topic Listed At Classes

The Commandments of God will be the topic for discussion at the Inquiry Classes being conducted in St. Patrick school assembly rooms in Elmira on Monday and Thursday evenings, Dec. 13 and 16.

The classes are conducted by the priests of the parish and are open to non-Catholics and Catholics seeking more knowledge of their Holy Faith.

Good Wife

They were talking about how difficult it was to save money these days. Someone recalled what the thrifty old Yankee said when told that a certain industrial tycoon had left a fortune upward of $100 million.

"One hundred million dollars?" was his awed exclamation. "My, he must have had an awful savin' woman."

Bombay Marian Congress Hailed

Bombay —(RNS)— Some 80,000 Catholics gathered in Bombay's largest park for a National Marian Congress described as "the greatest and most remarkable assembly in the history of Indian Catholicism.

Every diocese and prefecture in the country was represented. Sixty-six archbishops and bishops almost all of the Indian hierarchy attended, together with prelates from neighboring countries.

Hundreds of priests and religious came from all parts of the country for the five-day religious, civic and cultural observance. Hundreds of Christians from aboriginal tribes mingled with laymen of India's more advanced communities.

Philippines Seen Watchtower In East

Manila—(NC)—The Holy Father pointed up the role of the Philippines as the "watchtower of Christian living" in the Far East in a special message to the Filipino people.

A recording of his Spanish-language address, flown here for the closing rites of the national Marian Congress, was broadcast over the radio and over loudspeakers installed at the historic Luneta before an estimated crowd of one million. The Pope said:

"Your country represents in Southeast Asia the only great Catholic nation. Because of its position as a natural barrier between two immense seas, which are the zone of friction of civilizations and peoples, the vital knot of routes and currents, it cannot but play a providential role on the stage of history."

He praised the Marian Congress for its deep tone of spirituality and advised the Filipino people to "open your souls to what is new, but preserve the old Faith."

Persecution A Tribute

"The greatest tribute that the world can pay to Christians is the fierce persecution of hate . . . Men build colossal dams to obstruct only mighty rivers; they make use of fearsome weapons of destructions only against an enemy with a tremendous potential. So too, they rage with rentless hate only against the love that is strong as eternity."—Simon Wood, C.P., in The Sign.

Apostleship of Prayer

By Father Moore, S. J.

PEACE IS A PERSON

The General Intention recommended to the rayers of Associates of the Apostleship of Prayer for the month of December is "World Peace through the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

Peace is not a thing; it is a Person. The presence of this Person in a race of men unites it. "For He Himself is our peace, He it is who has made both one, and has broken down the intervening wall of the enclosure, the enmity in his flesh." Christ is our peace. How can the members of the Apostleship of Prayer bring Christ and his peace into the world?

MARY BROUGHT peace to the world under the stars of Bethlehem. "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth among men of good will." But that was long ago, before redemption. This is now, two thousand years after Bethlehem, in the age of the resurection. To bring Christ into the world then, Mary needed the help of no one save God.

To get men to accept Him, now that she has borne Him and He has redeemed us, is another matter. Love is always of two. Our Lady's task is to rouse in men a love for Christ, and then to put that love to work.

YOU CANNOT love someone without interest in his work, in the things that occupy his time and energies. If he needs you, your love makes you throw yourself into the task at hand. This (when applied to the things of God) is called "consecration". The Morning Offering is a consecration.

Most Catholics would gladly offer themselves if they thought what they had to give was worth anything. You cannot stand with the Mother of God without making comparisons, without thinking that your bit added to hers does not make for much. Here we have to make a big distinction.

YOUR BIT, all by itself, as if coming from an unbaptized person, would have little apostolic value. It would be like an unconsecrated host. But you are baptized; and through Baptism, you are united to Christ. **What He does, you do; and what you do, He does.** He energizes what you do and communicates to your deed divine worth.

If you think of the host at Mass, it will help you to understand this. The bread, of itself, is of little value; but if Mass is to be said, it is absolutely necessary. The priest offers it in all its littleness. Then, at the Consecration, the wafer receives the full impact of Christs redemptive power and becomes his own Body. Who would say now that it has little worth? It has become the very instrument of our salvation.

To say that what you can do is of little count is to forget what Baptism has done to you. You are not alone any more. You walk with a mighty step.

The Monthly Intention then comes down to this: Peace is not something which men can arrange among themselves, leaving God out of it; for the simple reason that peace is not an arrangement but a Person. Christ is our peace. All history, every man's conscience, tell us this. God tells it to us in the pages of Scripture. God gives men peace, but they must accept it.

Father Murphy Speaks At First Saturday Meet

Ithaca—The Rev. David Murphy, a graduate student at Cornell University, Ithaca, was guest speaker at the First Saturday Breakfast held in the Clinton House on Dec. 4, following the 7:30 Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Ithaca.

The breakfast was the last in the present series sponsored by the Altar and Rosary Society of the parish.

Mrs. Clinton Wilcox was chairman assisted by Mrs. Alice Howley, Mrs. Paul Gillis and Mrs. George Bossack. Miss Mary Clynes was piano accompanist.

Father Murphy, who was ordained at the North American College in Rome, Italy on Dec. 8, 1953, gave a talk on Rome. He stated that the North American College is supported by bishops of the United States to bring North America into closer association with the center of Christianity.

He described the garb worn by the students from 53 nations at the College. He said he found the Italian people to be a warm, friendly race with a sense of humor and a philosophy of patience and unhurriedness.

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