Organization Of Catholic Civics Clubs Urged Here By School Superintendent

Organization of a Catholic school was urged here today as Civics Club in every parochial "a potent aid in training boys and girls to become alert and articulate Christian citizens." This recommendation was made in a letter sent to all principals by the Rev. Charles V. Boyle, Diocesan superintendent of schools.

In his letter Father Boyle described the Clubs as "a highly desirable Catholic school activity sponsored by the Commission on American Citizenship of The Catholic University of America, that has become a potent aid in training boys and girls to become alert and articulate Christian citizens."

The Clubs, established by the Commission in 1946, "to promote an understanding of Christian social principles through special activities, study and practical projects," are operating in schools all over the United States and the Possessions. More than 10,000 official charters have been issued. The Clubs usually are organized among boys and girls in the upper elementary grades.

THE 1955-56 THEME of study is seen by Father Boyle as "an excellent means of showing pupils how to put Christian social and civic principles into action." He said:

"This year, in keeping with the growing need for awakening in pupils a more full realization of civic responsibility, so as to develop proper attitudes for adult life, the Clubs will study a timely and most practical theme—Good Citizens Work Together. The entire program will emphasize how the school is a community in miniature."

Illustrating how this theme would be implemented, he continued:

"As in the past, the Young Catholic Messenger will cooperate with the Commission by carrying articles developing this program of study. Monthly articles will cover such school activities as safety patrol, the library, mission work, school newspaper, clean-up and paint-up.

"The Clubs' program this year should prove especially timely, interesting, and valuable."

GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

* * *

WHY do so many modern writers claim that Christianity has failed, and that Communism is presenting itself as the only alternative to the human spirit? All know the answer of Chesterton: "Christianity has been found hard, but not tried." I wonder if this is really the answer. May it not rather be that Christianity is not tried because it is not found hard.

Morern neo-pagans who complain against Christianity are not as far away from Christinity as we believe, they turn away from it, not because it is too hard, but because it is too soft; they reject it not because it demands too much of them, but because it demands too little. Sermons too often are moralisms, not calls to heroism.

That is where Communism comes in to fill the void. It demands absolute surrender; its victims must put on the mind of Marx, as we are bade to put on the mind of Christ; they are asked to crucify their flesh and its concupiscences to the hammer and the sickle, and millions are doing it, because we are not asking people to crucify themselves to the Cross.

The modern man wants heroism, an absolute; a complete and total abdication of self, and above all sacrifices for a great cause. In the depths, he discovers that he must either embrace God and the Cross of His Son, or else reject God unto an atheism that fights against Him. There is no middle ground. Modern man has the taste for heroic values; instead of complaining against the false absolute, it is we who should be giving him the True Absolute.

We who help all the Missions of the Church and all the Missionaries of the world and all the Mission-sending societies under the leadership of the Holy Father, ask for something to help spread the Kingdom of God—and we ask it in the name of the Cross. That is why we ask for no gifts, or anything off the top, or something that does not sear the flesh or scorch the soul when it is pouder from your hands into that of the Holy Father. Give us a dollar that is made up of self denial, rather than a thousand that is taken from millions.

Our missionaries are heroic, therefore they must be helped by heroes. It is for you to decide how your heroism of sacrifice will match their heroism on the missions. But whether it be a dime or a million dimes—let it be done in the name of Christ crucified and His Sorrowful Mother. Then shall we be aroused from our sleep, as we prove to the world that Christianity has been found hard and tried.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE SOON IN THIS COLUMN. WATCH FOR IT!

GOD LOVE YOU to L.L. "Please find enclosed a check for $14 which represents one week's pay increase granted lately to the Registered Nurses in our area." . . . to A.H. for $10. "I'm giving up one day of my vacation." . . . to V.D "I am a high school girl and have my first summer job I have enclosed $1.50 of my earnings for some poor child." . . . to W.C. for $500 for a special intention. to G.F.T. for $15. "In thanksgiving for a wonderful vacation trip to California I had long looked forward to.

How often do you remember to pray for the oppressed millions in Asia—for the lepers in India—for the hungry and aged all over the world? When you pray the five decades of a WORLDMISSION ROSARY your intentions are offered for the five missionary contenents. For an offering of $2 and your request, we will send you a WORLDMISSION ROSARY.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and send it to the Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1x, N.Y., or your Diocesan Director, Very Rev. Msgr. John S. Randall, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.

Parish Opens Street Block Rosary

A BLOCK ROSARY is being conducted in Holy Family Parish, Rochester sponsored by the Legion of Mary on Tuesday nights for families on two new streets in the parish—Chemung and Natalie Streets. Each week a different family on these streets conducts the services. Shown leading the Rosary last Tuesday at the home of Mr. anr Mrs. Joseph Sart, 37 Chemung St. are the Rev. George J. Schmitt, pastor and the Rev. Joseph Reinhart, assisant pastor.

Rochester Nun Is Professed; Aunt Observes Silver Jubilee

Theresa Ann Robonie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Robonie of 20 North Goodman St. was received into the Order of Divine Providence in ceremonies at St. Anne's Convent, Melbourne, Ky. She is now known in religion as Sister John Marie, O.D.P.

Her twin, Sister Anne Martin, O.F.S. of Allegany and her aunt, Sister M. Vincentia who marked her Silver Jubilee, this year, attended the reception. Besides her parents, also at the ceremony were two other sisters, Juanita and Roberta.

SISTER VINCENTIA, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Apton, 38 St. Jacob St. celebrated her 25th anniversary as a nun at a High Mass in St. George Church, Hudson Ave. The Rev. John M. Baksys, pastor, celebrated the Mass.

Assisting Father Baksys were Sister Vincentia's brother, John Apton and her nephews, Albert Rieder and William Apton as altar boys.

The Rev. Dominic Mockevicius, assistant pastor, relatives and friends attended.

Breakfast was served at the home of her sister, Mrs. Marie Ann Robonie. Dinner was given by her parents at the Redman's Club, Lexington and a lawn supper at the residence of another sister, Mrs. Julia Rider of 252 Lettington Drive.

Sister M. Annette, O.S.F., another daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Apton, professed this summer, was unable to attend.

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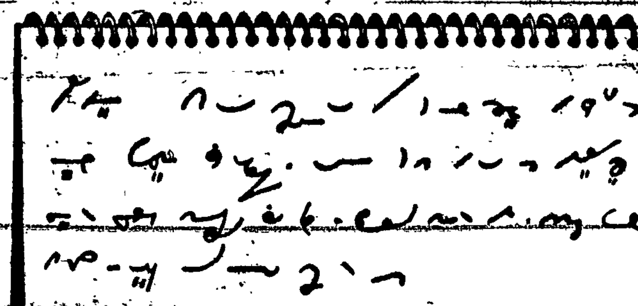
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This, as any Rochester executive's secretary will know, is the type of letter her boss would write to confirm a date with a man who is coming to Rochester to see him next week. And, as most secretaries and executives are doing, they've reserved a room for him at the new . . .
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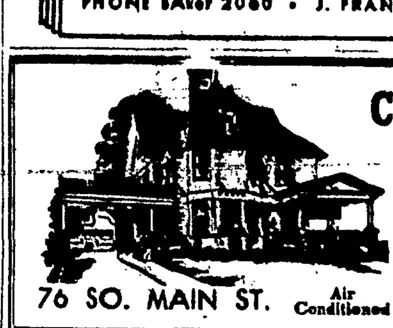
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