

Serious Plight Of Italy Refugees Told By Escapee Program Director

By ROBERT SMETT

Some of Europe's most brilliant minds and skilled hands are "rotting away" today in the political refugee camps of Italy, according to Miss Marlene DeMattia who returned to her Rochester home last week after a year's stay in Rome.

Miss DeMattia sailed for Italy in August of 1954 for a three-month vacation, "fell in love" with the country and decided to stay.

A GRADUATE of Nazareth Academy and Mercyhurst College, Miss DeMattia soon joined herself in full charge of N.C.W.C.'s division for Italy, which is sponsored by the U.S. government.

With headquarters in Rome, the program involves five field offices throughout Italy and is responsible for the welfare of 2000 families who have escaped from communist tyranny.

The escapees coming under her jurisdiction are political refugees, mostly from the satellite countries and Russia. Nearly all are imprisoned for anti-communist leanings and through death-defying escape make their way to the Italian border.

On reaching Italy, the escapees appeal to the United Nations



RETURNED HOME after a year in Italy, Miss Marlene DeMattia is shown above with Sister Sarah of the St. Mary's Hospital staff. Miss DeMattia was in charge of N.C.W.C.'s division of the U.S. Escapee Program in Italy. Brought home because of illness, she is undergoing observation at St. Mary's

High Commissioner for political asylum. When proven genuine and while awaiting emigration, those refugees who are Catholic are turned over to the N.C.W.C. for aid. The Protestant and Jewish faiths have similar relief organizations, according to Miss DeMattia.

"Most people do not realize," she said, "that a great many of these people are highly trained doctors, professors, lawyers and diplomats, famous in their native lands. They are men and women who would be a credit to any nation who would offer them a home and help."

UNFORTUNATELY, she said, the immigration laws of the United States are very rigid, allowing entrance only to refugees who have immediate members of their family living in this country. One method of bringing these people into the country, however, is through the sponsorship of an employer, which Miss DeMattia says has met with wonderful results.

By this system an employer may contact the Escapee Program office in Rome, listing his requirements for a particular

type professional or skilled worker. Through a system of pre-processing, the N.C.W.C. is able to send the employer a complete dossier of information on the individual, even to a photograph.

Most of the refugees, especially those from Russia and Albania, come to the relief offices in pitiable stages of shock and exhaustion. Miss DeMattia said, with "hair-raising" stories of imprisonment and ill treatment.

BECAUSE OF illness Miss DeMattia was forced to give up her position and return home for rest. At present, she is undergoing examination at St. Mary's Hospital. She plans to return to work in the Escapee Program either in this country or Italy as soon as she is completely recovered.

Miss DeMattia is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. DeMattia of Bryan St. and a niece of the Rev. Albert L. Simonetti, nunciatore, Rochester.

Waverly Rites Held For Elmira Priest's Father

Waverly — Solemn High Mass of Requiem was celebrated by the Rev. Joseph F. Hogan, pastor of St. James High School, Elmira, for his father, Frank Hogan, Saturday morning in St. James Church, Waverly.

Mr. Hogan, who lived at 125 Providence Street, Waverly, is survived in addition to his priestson, by his wife; two daughters, Mrs. John Hennessy of Audubon, New Jersey, and Mrs. John J. Conroy of Waverly; and six grandchildren.

Father Hogan was assisted by the Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, pastor of St. James as deacon, and the Rev. Joseph McCarthy of Rochester, former assistant pastor at St. James, as subdeacon. The Mass was at 10:30 o'clock, following prayer services at the late home. Burial was in St. James cemetery.

The Sisters of Mercy from Notre Dame High School served as honorary bearers. Active bearers were James, Hugh, William, Bernard, Robert and William Hogan, all nephews of the deceased.

Present in the sanctuary were: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Lane of Elmira; Very Rev. Msgr. John E. Maney, chancellor of the Rochester diocese; Very Rev. Msgr. Dennis W. Hickey of Rochester.

Seated in the church were the following priests of the diocese: Reverend Fathers Joseph McNamara, Thomas J. Toole, Philip E. McGhan, Michael L. Hynds, Leo G. Schwab, William A. Burns, H. J. Joyce, Alfred J. Horr, John Walsh, John S. Maroney, John A. Morgan, Hubert B. Bisky and Bartholomew J. O'Brien, all of Elmira; Rev. Joseph P. Merkel of Elmira Heights; Rev. J. J. Steen of Newark Valley; Rev. J. A. Murphy of Sny-Lebanon; Rev. Joseph L. Hogan, James J. Marvin, Joseph M. Egan, of Rochester; Rev. W. J. O'Brien of Owego; Revs. Raymond P. Nolan, William A. Hickey, John F. Duffy of Geneva; Rev. David Singerhoff of Horseheads; Rev. Francis J. Toolan of Sayre; Rev. Thomas Brennan of Corning; Rev. John E. Walsh of South Waverly; and the Rev. Guy J. Wertz, assistant pastor of St. James cemetery.

Recitation of the rosary was held Friday evening at the home led by Father Joseph Hogan.

St. James School, Waverly Opened With 132 Pupils

By ELIZABETH TUCCINARDI

Waverly — St. James parochial school has opened its second year with a registration of 132 pupils, an increase of 24, distributed through five grades, the Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, pastor of St. James church and Sister Mathilda, principal of the school, announced.

Each year another grade will be added until there are eight grades. Swings and slides have been placed on the large playground at the rear of the school for the children who are obliged to remain at school during the noon recess, and a school library is also being built up.

St. James band, also a new feature of the school, practices every Friday morning.

Sisters Benita and Margaret Desiles have been added to the faculty, and Sister Marie Mathews has returned. Sister Agnes Rowan will teach this year in Rochester.

Heads Waverly CDA — Mrs. Louise Campolite was installed for another year as Grand Regent of Waverly Court, Joan of Arc, Catholic Daughters of America, at a special service held Tuesday evening in St. James church hall.

Mrs. Florence Hennessy of Binghamton, state district deputy of the CDA, was installing officer. Others installed were: Mrs. Emma Mahoney, vice regent; Miss Veronica Hogan, prophetess; Mrs. Julia Hogan, financial secretary; Mrs. Mary C. Donnelly, treasurer; Mrs. Nora Paul, monitor; Miss Margaret Mary Nash, historian; Miss Carol Leary, sentinel; Miss Anna Frances Payne, lecturer; Mrs. Mary Sutton, organist; Miss Ellen Falvey and Mrs. Marie Stork, trustees; and Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, chaplain.

Thomas Wertz opened the meeting with a short talk on vocations and he also showed slides of St. Bernard's Seminary at Rochester, where he is a student. Fathers Hogan and Guy Wertz attended the meeting.

Club Meets — The Future Priests and Nuns club met Sunday afternoon in the church hall and at

College Enrolls Alumnae Daughters — Three daughters of Nazareth College alumnae are in the Freshman class this year—Sara Rowland, 222 Schollers Road, the daughter of Charles and Ruth Rowland, Class of 1934, is registered in the Liberal Arts Department; Margaret Mary Murley, 21 Morris St., Auburn, the daughter of Agnes Marron Murley, Class of 1930, is freshman in the Nursing Department; Marcia Vanderbrook, 100 Lily St., Newark, the daughter of Charlotte Sutphen Vanderbrook, also of the Class of 1930 is a Liberal Arts freshman, planning to major in Sociology.

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DIAL 2-1986

Richard LeClair Funeral Held
Waverly — Funeral services were held for Richard E. LeClair on Tuesday at the Kolb Funeral Home followed by Requiem High Mass at St. James Church. Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, pastor of St. James, celebrated the Mass.

Mr. LeClair, 64, of 21 1/2 Orange Street, Waverly, was the manager of the Endicott-Johnson shoe store. He died unexpectedly at his home Saturday evening.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel, at home; and three sisters, Mrs. Fred Willard, Mrs. Edward Fjon and Mrs. Rose Potter; and a brother, Henry, all of Massachusetts.

He was a member of St. James Church, its Holy Name Society and of the Waverly Moose Lodge, and was an overseas veteran of World War I. A native of New Bedford, Mass., he enlisted in June of 1918 and was a member and past commander of Betowski VanDeMark Legion Post and member and past president of the Last Man's Club of World War I. The flag was folded by Sherman Alliger and Billie Kolb who presented it to Mrs. LeClair.

Pall bearers were Glen Ryan, Ernest Walker, Thomas Watts, Daniel Haas, George Faley and John Dugan.

Burial was in St. James cemetery.

Wed in Hornell
Hornell — The wedding of Miss Rosemond Alice Kneale to Joseph Farnley Hugg took place in St. Ann Church, Hornell, on Sept. 3.

The Rev. Leo V. Smith of Rochester, cousin of the bridegroom performed the double ring ceremony and celebrated the Nuptial Mass. Wedding music by Wagner and Schubert was played by Miss Madeline Hugg, organist. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Kneale of Denz in Asse. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Hugg of Elmira.

Mrs. Rosemond Kneale, sister-in-law of the bride was matron of honor.

Dr. Charles E. Foster of Buffalo, cousin of the bridegroom was best man. Ushers were Robert and John H. Fark both of Hornell.

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Hogan will give the invocation at the graduation exercises at the gymnasium at the Robert Parker Hospital, Sayre, on Friday evening, Sept. 23.

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