

120,000 View Booths At Scenerama



Grows view exhibit booths at Mission Scenerama in Rochester War Memorial, where over 300 missionaries describe foreign and home mission work. Shown at far left is exhibit of the

Society of St. Edmund. Center photo shows booth of Daughters of St. Paul. In picture at right, pupils from the Rochester School for the Deaf, escorted by the Rev. John E. Gallagher,

C.S.S.R., view racoon, -highlight at Maryknoll-Fathers' booth. (Thomas Casey Photos)

'Queen' At Detroit School Recalls Red Terror Reign

Detroit — (NC) — From a reign of terror behind the Iron Curtain to a festive reign over the University of Detroit homecoming celebration was quite a jump for blonde 18-year-old Margaret Okon.

THE DIMINUTIVE queen, who with her court presided over a football game and crowded week-end dance, was elected by the entire student body of the Jesuit institution. Just 10 years ago, "Queen Margaret" was living in Russian-dominated Poland where her father operated an electrical engineering firm.

When Russian tyranny became unbearable Mr. Okon became active in the underground. He was forced to flee across the border to Esslingen, Germany, when the Russians discovered his activities. The homecoming queen and her mother made one escape attempt which failed before they finally secured false French papers and got out of Poland.

By REV. CHARLES G. ERB, S.V.D.
Father Erb, Mission Scenerama manager, rounds up details of this week long exhibit in the following article. The Rochester priest has served as missionary in Africa's Gold Coast and as chaplain in Europe and Alaska with the United States Army. Father Erb is a member of the Society of the Divine Word.

Some 300 tired but contented missionary exhibitors took down their booths at the War Memorial Monday to return to their monasteries, seminaries, mission colleges and convents to rest, and to recount for conferees and fellow-sisters the glories of Rochester's Mission Scenerama.

It was a hectic week, but it was also fun, every moment of it. June, Jackie and Helen, of our office force, were even sad. Jokingly we had said Sunday night: "Let's run it another week!" Exhibitors seemed to be unanimous in the opinion that Mission Scenerama was a great

success. They all recognized the difficulties under which we had worked, with a hardly finished building to cope with, but almost all said "This is the best ever!" Exhibitors praised the hospitality at the Hotel Rochester and at the convents and rectories where they had been lodged during the week; they lauded the food provided at the Memorial cafeteria by the Valley Echo caterers headed by Leo Lewis; they thought the children of the Rochester diocese wonderful (we knew that all along, of course!)

tion center the children asked all kinds of questions: "What kind of information do you give?" "Where is the priest who cures leprosy?" "Where are the crocodiles?" "Where is the camel?" "The water buffalo?" Our capable staff tried to answer all these questions as best they could.

People amused the missionaries with queries like these: "Where are the Passionate Fathers?" "Are you the Greyhound Fathers?" "Are the Ballentine Fathers in this aisle?" (For Passionist, Graymoot and Pallotine, respectively.) I had the honor to escort His Eminence, Cardinal Tien, on tour through the Hall. He invariably begged those who knelt to kiss his ring: "Pray for China." Pray for our missionaries and our missions was the request of every exhibitor and most visitors responded with a silent prayer on the spot or a special visit to the temporary chapel on the one end of Exhibit Hall. Every morning a visiting priest offered the Holy Sacrifice in this chapel. Here too Father Chiridone's Rosary Program was broadcast nightly over W.S.A.Y. A missionary priest preached the sermon, a missionary Sister or Brother led the rosary. On Friday, all day, until closing, members of the Daily Mass League and the Nocturnal Adoration Society knelt in relay teams and prayed for the missions of the world.

Among the distinguished guests visiting Scenerama were their Eminences, Cardinal Tien of Peking, China, and Cardinal Gracias of Bombay, India; Archbishop Damian, Apostolic Delegate to South Africa; Archbishop Graner, from Dacca, Pakistan; Archbishop Mar Gregorios, Malankara Rite, Trivandrum, India; Bishop Donahue, of New York City; Maryknoll's Superior-General, Bishop Lane; Bishop Casey, Auxiliary Bishop of Rochester; Bishop Yamagouchi, of Nagasaki, Japan; Bishop O'Garra, of ranchow China Abbot, Noda, Trapplat from Japan; Major (General) Ryan, Chief Chaplain of the Army Ground Forces; Father Finnegan (Deputy Chaplain of the Air Force) and Father Peter Rogers, Trapplat from Japan, both of whom preached at Scenerama ceremonies. Then there was Msgr. Freking, who heads the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade in the USA, very much pleased with the Rochester High Schools' joint exhibit; and Msgr. Craugh and Msgr. Connell of St. Bernard's and St. Andrew's seminaries, glad to find the seminaries' booth standing there bravely amidst all that commotion.

Finally I had the privilege to escort Bishop Sheen and our own beloved Bishop Kearney from booth to booth; both were fulsome in their praise of Mission Scenerama. While several missionaries came to Scenerama directly from the mission field (like Father Howard, from the Divine Word mission in New Guinea), others (like Brother Theophane, S.V.D. left for the missions right in the middle of the show). Sister Pierre

Fischette, Sister Servant of the Holy Ghost and a Rochesterian, had left the week before Scenerama's opening for the Gold Coast, West Africa. Father McCauley left his booth on Tuesday for New York to preside at the departure ceremony of 11 Holy Cross missionaries for the Field Afar. In spite of Scenerama, the conversion of the world had to go on!

A very popular feature of Scenerama was the Mission Theatre where Divine Word Brothers Jude and Anthony Word presented some 30 mission films for interested, sometimes enraptured audiences. One lady, coming out of Mission Theatre, was heard to remark: "Well, I got my money's worth! I was in there from three o'clock to 8:30." All exhibitors were pleased with the publicity given to their show by the local press and the diocesan paper, by radio and TV and outdoor display. Some of my copy for the Courier Scenerama Supplement seems to have gotten lost in the fuss and fury of Operation PUB and I hasten to make amends to the Maryknoll Fathers and to the Daughters of St. Paul. The Maryknoll Story is well known and they weren't really asked. I remember distinctly drawing the Daughters for their use of the radio to spread the Word of St. Paul, were he alive today, would be using radio and TV and every means of communication to trumpet the Gospel of Christ to the World. Pictures on this page include one of his spiritual daughters. I am sure they will now forgive and forget.

thing of value at Mission Scenerama, drop in at the Courier office on Sco Street. We'll be happy if we can return a lost object to you. One little girl came to the booth, and when asked if she were lost, said: "No, but my parents are!" Our records show that 120,000 people visited Mission exhibits. That includes the children. The heavy rains first part of the week had threatened to spoil our show. I was reminded of the Gold Coast, where, as I tell the kids in my corny talks, "It rains cats and dogs and there are poocles all over the place." In the rainy season, that is, Father Velleux, veteran White Father from Africa, remarked: "Rochester must be having its little rainy season."

As Father Mack, our Western Provincial remarked at the dinner Father Schmitt gave at Holy Family rectory Saturday evening for His Eminence, Cardinal Tien, "The Mission Exhibition was wonderful. Even the Genesee River rose to the occasion to make Scenerama a grand success." And speaking of the Genesee River, I was told the story of the High School girl (wouldn't you like to know what high school, girls?) who, when asked by her mother on her return from the War Memorial what she thought of Mission Scenerama, replied: "Mother, I never saw the Genesee River so high!" "Well, that brought us down to normal size! However, we still think Scenerama was super, kids.

HUNGER IN THE HOLY LAND

Across the river Jordan in the Holy Land the gallant and self-sacrificing Sisters of Nazareth have opened a hospital for the sick-refugees who fled to that land, they had to borrow everything to start this little hospital and are now in great debt. We are appealing to our good benefactors for help for these very deserving Sisters. We need \$5,000. Your gift, no matter how small, will be greatly appreciated. God will bless you always for your kindness to His poor.

ALL SOULS' DAY

"It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead." Please aid the SOULS in PURGATORY by your prayers and sacrifices especially on All Souls' Day and all during the month of November. Armistice Day, November 11th, will be a special day of prayer for our beloved war-dead. Our poor missionaries will gladly offer Masses for your dearly departed. The deceased may also be enrolled as Annual or Perpetual \$20 members. A fitting memorial could also be selected from one of the following: Medical Kit ... \$75 Confessional ... \$50 Crucifix ... \$25 Statue ... \$30 Censer, Boat ... \$20 Candles, Yrs. Sup. 20 Picture ... \$15 Altar Stone ... \$10 Sanctuary Bell

ARRANGE NOW FOR GREGORIAN MASSES AFTER DEATH. ASK ABOUT THE SUSPENSE CARD.

SPIRITUAL SON AND DAUGHTER

HELMUT is a seminarian at the Pontifical Russian College and needs \$500. MARIAN is a seminarian at the Pontifical Ruthenian College and needs \$500. Could you assist either of these future priests? They both beg just \$100 a year for their education over a five and six-year period.

SISTER FLORENCE and SISTER JUSTINE of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart in India pledge their everlasting grateful gratitude, if you help them through their available. Their training costs \$150 a year for two years. Out of love for the Sacred Heart or perhaps in memory of some loved one named Florence or Justine, please help them.

MAKE YOUR WILL HIS WILL. PLEASE REMEMBER THE GOOD LORD AND HIS NEAR EAST MISSIONS IN YOUR LAST WILL.

CHRISTMAS FOOD PACKAGES

The feasts of Christ the King, All Saints and All Souls remind us of the Communion of Saints—the union among those on Earth, in Purgatory, and in Heaven—the Church Militant, Suffering, and Triumphant. In the spirit of the oneness founded in Bethlehem, please give a \$10 Christmas Food Package to some poor starving child in Christ's homeland. We will send you a beautiful FREE OLIVE-WOOD ROSARY from the Holy Land.

RALLY UNDER THE BANNER OF CHRIST THE KING. We are now recruiting new members. Membership for a whole year costs only \$1 for one individual or \$5 for an entire family. Perpetual membership, individual \$20, Family \$100. Be an active member of the Church Militant. The army of Christ must be stronger than the army of Satan. Join now!

WHAT YOU PUT IN THE HAND OF THE HOLY FATHER YOU PUT IN THE HAND OF CHRIST.

LEPER FUND

"To see the infinite pity of this place, the mangled limb, the deformed face, the innocent sufferers, is truly a harrowing experience." So wrote Stevenson of Father Damien and his lepers. Join the LEPER DOLLAR-A-MONTH CLUB to support the Damien Institute in Trichur, India. Remember Christ and the ten lepers on the way to Jerusalem, "Jesus, master, have pity on us."

HE THAT HATH EARNED WAGES, PUT THEM INTO A BAG WITH HOLES.

Sow an act, reap a habit.
 Sow a habit, reap a character.
 Sow a character, reap a destiny.

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