Retiring Commander To Be Feted By Musa Caravan

Edwin G. Welter, retiring grand commander of Musa Caravan, Order of the Alhambra will be honored at a testimonial dinner in Casa Lorenzo Restaurant, 33 Chestnut St., on Tuesday, Nov. 27, according to Grand Commander James E. Marcille.

A reception at 6:30 p.m. will be followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

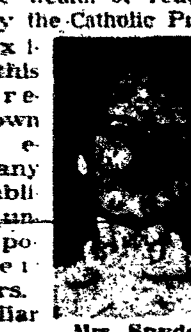
Past Grand Commander Frank S. Micell, chairman has arranged a program under the direction of Master of the Oasis Leo V. Davis. Toastmaster will be Clifford B. Sargent, Western Central New York district commander.

Reservations are being made by Joseph A. Wetzel, sentinel of the desert, GLenwood 3-6098-R, not later than Friday, Nov. 23.

AMONG WOMEN

The Catholic Periodical

By Mary Lennon Snyder


Mrs. Snyder

We are most fortunate today in the great wealth of reading offered us by the Catholic Press. Paradoxically this wealth presents its own problem because so many excellent publications are unknown to potential interested readers.

The familiar phrase "starving in the midst of plenty" suggests itself as we see so much excellent reading matter published, yet reaching a comparative few.

A case in point is the magazine, "The Torch" which carries in its current issue two articles which makes it outstanding. So many Catholics have read, with varying emotions, Katherine Hulme's, "the Nun's Story" that a special review by the editor of "The Torch" in the November issue is most welcome. But the question arises, how many know of the magazine or will read the review?

Or, for that matter, how many read the thoughtful review written by Sister Margaret Teresa of Nazareth College and published in this paper? Sister Margaret Teresa's review was timed as a pre-publication, or at least pre-reading-review. "The Torch" review seems to be an attempt to help the reader see the book in the proper perspective after having read it.

ALSO OUTSTANDING in the November "Torch" is the second installment of a two part article on St. Maria Goretti. Although I was fairly well acquainted with the story of St. Maria, I came after having read this to see her meaning to our modern world.

The author, Mary Reed Newland writes primarily for mothers, and I must confess that at times I have found myself disagreeing with her, since her approach seems to me to be in the class defined by the French as "precieuse."

However, the article is considerably more to my liking and upon concluding it I realize more fully why St. Maria Goretti has been characterized by His Holiness Pope Pius as the saint for youth in the modern world.

In another instance, I recall reading in "The Scapular" some wonderfully practical advice to persons trying to lead in the world a life closely united to God. From time to time I have quoted from the writings of the Carmelite Father Thomas McGinnis who as editor of "The Scapular" clearly stated the role of the lay person in the life of the Church.

My regret is that many who would have profited from Father McGinnis's writing never had the opportunity to read them. And this leads to two suggestions. The first is that in drawing up our Christmas gift list we remember that the gift of a good Catholic magazine is one that returns throughout the year. By such a judicious gift we may be helping not only the recipient but all of his family to grow in the knowledge of God and His Church.

FREQUENTLY PEOPLE admit that although they subscribe to Catholic periodicals from a sense of duty they never find time to read the magazine or newspaper. To these I should like to present an example of a young mother of small children, who as a member of a Third Order, daily recites the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To fit this extra obligation into her busy schedule she arises each morning a half hour earlier than she formerly did. If one wants to perform some deed, time can always be found for it.

DOINGS AT THE DALY'S

A Real Thanksgiving

By Mary Tinley Daly

Mary Daly

Slightly ahead of time, this column — and purposefully.

Next Sunday, or the Sunday after, your pastor and ours will ask us to look through our closets, bring whatever we can spare to the rectory — or wherever — for the Bishops' Relief Thanksgiving drive.

As one who has been through this many times (also as a none-too-farsighted housekeeper) I'd suggest starting now to fill that box. The weather is nippy and last winter's duds are being taken out of mothflakes.

The smell of camphor is strong as we "unstore" things that were such a headache to store last spring. Out they go for a dose of fresh air.

Maybe you're wise . . . could decide last spring that it's foolish to keep the extras. In that case, you probably sent them to Catholic Relief Services--NCWC at that time and they're already warming some shivering persons overseas. More power to you!

What - - you didn't send them? Neither did we.

TO LOOK AT our backyard line, one would think that we didn't believe in the providence of God. We stored clothing that, unless we were in dire straits this fall, we couldn't possibly use.

There's that old brown suit belonging to the Head of the House. Trouser cuffs frayed, elbows baggy, and the "drape" long since lost. Why did we keep it? And that old red coat of mine — complete with 1952's padded shoulders. Handy to wear to the grocery store, we'd thought. (Not in our supermarket — a car coat is far more sensible.) Then, there's Ginny's blue snowsuit. At age 11, and growing like the proverbial weed, we might have known that in this snowsuit she would look like a tub in a tube by fall. She does.

Thinking ahead of time about the Bishops' Relief collection of used clothing gives us a chance to do a bit more than simply go through the closets and dump things. A big box (cardboard carton from the grocery store) is a must.

And looking at those "extras" on the line, we see them in a new perspective. If we were not so fortunate as to have replacements, these things would seem mighty fine — warm and comfortable and mothless. Frayed trouser cuffs? There's time to fix them with iron-on tape from the five-and-ten. Red coat? A few minutes time and the torn buttonholes can be reinforced, a 10-cent expenditure will see that it has all its buttons. The snowsuit — split from trying to get our tub into the tube — there's time to mend the seams and hem up the sagging lining.

AS WE TAKE the winter clothes into the closets, we find a lot of summer things that never will be worn again — at our house, that is. Why store them all winter, only to be discarded later? Since the sewing machine is already set up and the box waiting, let's get busy. These are for people in year-round warm climates — and even those in cold winter areas can use these things next summer.

Taking up closet space is the seersucker suit the Head of the House thought he might save for painting togs. Paint in a seersucker suit? Silly. When he paints, it's in a tee-shirt and gabardine slacks with daubs of paint from years past — reminding us of all the colors ever used at our house. Though the old seersucker looks like a pair of pajamas on him, for a man in a warm climate it could well be "Sunday best" — might even enable him to get a job.

And the summer dresses! . . . Someone in my youth once said that "Summer clothes never go out of style." Subconsciously, I've gone along with the idea — hanging onto voiles and linens that do nothing but gather dust and take up space. There are women in the Philippines, in Puerto Rico and other places who could use them.

NOW, LET'S get down to shoes. Shoes and bedding are crying needs, too often overlooked as we hurry-scurry through the closets, getting a package to the rectory . . . after Father's announcement.

Forget about the silly evening shoes. But don't forget the "mother's comforts" you bought that day you were shopping and your feet hurt — then found the gruesome twosome too old-lady looking for wear in public. To someone in Europe, tramping over hard ground, these will indeed be "mother's comforts." Looking over the men's shoes in any home will unearth real treasures to those overseas. Tops that show cracks? O.K. Whole soles are the real tops.

With extra time to pack that box, do have the shoes repaired — or at least tie the pairs together. (Can you imagine anything more frustrating than receiving one good shoe?)

Bedding? Anything to keep people warm! Shamefacedly, we discover three worn blankets on the shelf "to put over the car on cold nights." Well, all three are washed and put into the box. The car can get an extra dose of anti-freeze and jolly well keep itself warm with newspapers. No blankets that could keep people warm!

This year of all years, when need is so urgent, let's get that cardboard carton out early and start filling it.

It may take a few hours, a bit of foresight, but it will be a real act of charity — and of Thanksgiving.

Square Dance Smorgasbord Set

A square dance and smorgasbord sponsored by the Rosary Society of St. Charles Borromeo Church will be held Saturday, Nov. 17 at 8 p. m. Home baked foods will be served at 11 p. m.

Music will be furnished by Bob Brethin's orchestra, with Bill Donadoni as caller. Terry Root and Virginia Blind are cochairmen.

Leicester Church Lists Smorgasbord

Leicester — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Leicester will sponsor a smorgasbord Saturday, Nov. 17 in the town hall. Servings will be from 5 p. m. until all are served. Tickets are $1.25 for adults and 75 cents for children under 12.

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