

Some Liked It, Some Didn't

# Sisters Discuss 'Nun's Story'

Last Saturday morning Sisters of the Rochester area attended a special performance of the new movie "The Nun's Story" at the invitation of the Paramount Theater management.

The movie dramatically portrays a missionary nun who finally decides she is not called to such a life.

Following opinions were given by various Sisters after viewing the controversial film.

"For the reverent, dignified treatment I am grateful. Difficult situations are handled with amazing sensitivity. But... the title leads one to expect to be let in on a nun's story. What one really views is an ex-nun's story. The book and film should have been called that."

"The emphasis on a soul in unsuccessful conflict causes an element of utter joylessness to pervade the entire convent atmosphere."

"I could not live in such an environment of rigor, penances, and culpa. In the life of a real nun there is love, a love strong enough to put all external in their proper place in her life. She knows detachment from rigor and penance as well as from herself."

"An ex-nun's story can never reveal a true nun's story. No one would concede that a mother abandoning children and husband could write a true mother's story. The element of 'sinner's faith' in the heart of a nun is also in the heart of a nun. This is born of love for Christ, and it is the love of Christ that is the essence of her dedication, that makes her life joyful, vibrant, and completely filled."

"The true spirit of a nun is found in another best seller—'The Autobiography of St. Therese.'"

"One of the most beautiful meditations I have ever experienced on the vocation of a Sister..."

"We were ready to be critical, of course, more alert to interpretation of theme (our life) than to loveliness of scene or excellence of acting—the last two expected, and present in highest measure..."

"We suffered a temporary shock—the Novitiate solemnly was it the European way? Was it the way of two decades ago? Did anybody ever anywhere unlock and lock a chapel door after a line of postulants and with a grim, castle-size yek? Was any Novitiate Mistress so unsmiling?"

But the purpose of the Director became clear. He was intent on showing that nuns are concerned with more than baseball and picnics, are more than innocuous gigglers. He wanted to show that they have a high and serious purpose, an earnest and difficult life to lead—and in a few moments of film-time you can't get in everything. You have to sacrifice much to make your point. You can't show the recreations and the fun, and have time left over for the deeds and the goal."

"We felt honestly bored by Sister Luke's troubles; she was right, they were all alike, they repeated. She was the only..."



AUDREY HEPBURN  
Sister Luke

flaw in her story! Her preoccupation with herself, her trying to work out all of life from the natural standpoint when the supernatural was hers by right, was time-consuming, just as it is in life."

"The others—were wonderful. The other nuns, the various Superiors, the Mother, the nursing Sisters, the African hospital aides, the priest, the doctor—all these were perfectly cast and focused right on the main theme—the way of life Sister Luke had been called to."

"She prayed—but she didn't expect all from God, from Our Lord."

"There was no inner spiritual life for her. Or else you can't present it."

## St. Alphonsus Parish To Host Verein Meet

Auburn—A meeting was held by the Auburn and Syracuse branches of the Catholic Central Verein and Youth Section of America on July 9 in Assumption Hall, 812 North Salina Street, Syracuse.

These two groups met to discuss in detail further plans for the forthcoming convention to be held in Auburn in September. St. Alphonsus parish will be host for this convention.

THE CONVENTION opens on Friday, Sept. 25, with registration at the Auburn Inn, followed by a Youth Forum and social hour in the evening at Holy Family auditorium.

On Saturday morning a requiem Mass will be offered at 8 o'clock in St. Alphonsus Church for the deceased members of the Catholic Central Union. Mass will be followed by a breakfast in the school hall after which executive meetings will be in session. Lunch will be served in the school hall followed by a social hour in the school hall.



MISS EILEEN GISLER "Mass beginning to shine"  
MISS MARY JANE SNEIDERKER "hope to start very soon"  
MRS. ELIZABETH BACON "depends on the pastor"

## Organists Learn How To Sing At Mass

Seventeen Catholic organists and choirmasters studied this week how to put into practice Pope Pius XII's instruction of Sept. 3, 1958 encouraging the laity's participation at both Low and High Mass.

The week-long course, which ends today (Friday), was held at Rochester's Eastman School of Music.

The Rev. Benedict Ehmman, pastor of St. Mary of the Lake parish, Watkins Glen, offered instruction in liturgy, church music and specific problems facing Catholic organists and choir masters.

Sheldon Eschrich, choirmaster from St. Thomas-Aquinas parish, Toledo, Ohio, stated that his church proceeded along the Pope's instruction some months before publication of the decree as an activity of the Christian Family Movement.

THE CONGREGATION takes active participation in the Mass through Refice's Missa Choralis on first Fridays and special occasions. Children of the parish sing daily Mass. Refreshments are arranged, he said, through the church societies.

"The people enjoyed it and took to it," the Ohio organist stated.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bacon, choirmaster at St. John the Baptist and St. Cecilia Churches in Elmira, stated that good doctrinal opportunity to ride in a pony cart and to fish from the fish pond, both.

Mrs. Jeremiah Flynn is chairman of the committees and Mickey Millio is co-chairman. A list of the various booth chairmen and workers is in the church bulletin issued Sunday, July 12.



"The people enjoyed it and took to it," Toledo organist Sheldon Eschrich tells Father Ehmman.

## Seven Rochesterians Take Degrees At CU

The Catholic University of America recently awarded degrees to seven residents of Rochester:

Rev. Gerald C. Krieger, 201 Sylvan Road, received the Bachelor of Canon Law degree from the School of Canon Law, Jean Rita Hogenmiller, 1625 East Ave., received the Master of Arts degree from The School of Social Science.

Three from Rochester were awarded the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree: Sister M. Remigia Melleny, S.S.J., Nazareth Convent; Lorraine Freitas, 1058 Clifton Ave. and Donna Lou Warren, 1600 South Ave. Frances Elaine Bryan, 15 Coniston Drive, received the Master of Science in Nursing degree.

The School of Engineering and Architecture awarded the Bachelor of Architecture degree to Robert Neil Monahan, 1052 Edgemore Drive.

The presentation took place at Catholic University's 70th Annual Commencement Exercises, held June 7.

Msgr. Connors Marks 89 Years  
Rev. Msgr. Thomas F. Connors, pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish, celebrated his 89th birthday Sunday evening. Bishop Kearney attended a dinner honoring the Monsignor in the parish rectory.

Monsignor Connors said: "Our only hope is to be able to work for souls as long as the good Lord wants us to."

## New Attractions Stated For Mt. Morris Event

Mt. Morris—Annual St. Patrick's parish bazaar will be held on Saturday, August 1, on the church grounds on Chapel St.

Along with the usual concessions several new types of stands will be added this year such as the Country Store, Fancy Goods booth, Pizza and pop stand and many kinds of home made baked goods.

THE CHILDREN will have opportunity to ride in a pony cart and to fish from the fish pond, both.

Mrs. Jeremiah Flynn is chairman of the committees and Mickey Millio is co-chairman. A list of the various booth chairmen and workers is in the church bulletin issued Sunday, July 12.

## Hospital Nuns Present Views

At the June 23 meeting of the Rochester Regional Hospital Chapter of the American Association of Hospital Accountants, Sister Mary Charles, St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, and Sister Joan Francis, St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, presented their views of "Why did I become a Fellow in the American Association of Hospital Accountants."

Sister Mary Charles and Sister Joan Francis are the only two Fellows in the Rochester Chapter and were among the first nineteen Fellows to successfully pass the first written examination prescribed by the Board of Examiners.

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