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We're Getting Smart

Pittsburgh (NC) — The problem of intellectualism among American Catholics is not a new one. It is a real one. It is a problem that is being solved. This view can be taken on the authority of Christopher Dawson, noted British Catholic historian and professor of the chair of Catholic theological studies at Harvard Divinity School. In fact, Prof. Dawson is convinced that young Catholics in America are spearheading a "cultural renaissance."

He expressed his views during an interview, while visiting here as a house guest of Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh. Prof. Dawson said that the "cultural renaissance" among Catholic Americans does not date far back. "It doesn't date back to the first World War, and it certainly wasn't present between the great wars," he said. "It would say it is something that has taken place since the second war. It has reached the younger generation and young priests, but it has hardly touched the middle age segment and may never have any strong influence on it."

Prof. Dawson regards this "cultural awakening" as a Catholic phenomenon. "Non-Catholic representatives have been awake for a considerable time," he commented. "and, of course, the Jews, actually, have been acting as an intellectual ferment in many colleges because of their tradition of intellectual inquiry. American Catholics haven't had so much of this."

The probable reasons for this latter circumstance were described as two-fold: "Catholics in the United States were for so long socially and intellectually neglected. Look at New England in the 19th century and you'll see what I mean. Also, Catholic buildings absorbed energies. You see, principally, to all that building work now bringing returns. That the cultural renaissance among U.S. Catholics can be traced, he commented. In spite of this, however, American Catholics generally are not yet aware of the great opportunity of the parish is theirs to play in the American civilization of the future, Prof. Dawson said.

A lot of propaganda is necessary, he said, "in order to arouse Catholics to their opportunity." In this connection he cited particularly the work to date of such publications as Jubilee, the Critic and Commonweal.

When it was noted that all three are edited and published by laymen, Prof. Dawson commented: "The propaganda effort must be largely a lay movement. Pope Pius XII pointed that out in his message on the lay apostolate. Yes, it must be a lay movement. The clergy are separately educated and have their par-

ticular problems, problems which are concerned primarily with responsibilities to the numbers of Mass and the needs of the great American apostolic programs. The lay must take over their proper part and their programs must be directed to the educated minority. Their efforts will be repaid a hundred fold."

Prof. Dawson emphasized the relationship between western civilization and Christian culture and declared that the former could not be understood without a study of the latter, "out of which it arose."

"Americans as a whole are apt to be unaware of the Christian root," he continued, "but not so American Catholics. That is one reason why it is not fair to call American Catholics provincial."

Prof. Dawson said that "it is rather paradoxical" but that American Catholics are not provincial, they are "conservative." He attributed this to the fact that they maintained links with the Old World, the countries from which they came, and the old traditions.

"Also," he said, "they kept their religion, and when you keep your religion you keep a good deal else as well."

Altar Boys Given Tour Of Trappist Monastery

Auburn — Thirty-two altar boys of St. Peter and Paul Church visited the Abbey of Our Lady of the Ganges at Piffard on Friday, August 7. The group was under the direction of Rev. Peter Ohlrik, assistant pastor. Several family groups accompanied the party.

At the Trappist Monastery the Auburn group, conducted through the abbey by Rev. Fr. Ambrose, O.C.S.O. and Brother Sebastian, O.C.S.O., visited the dining hall, chapel, study, and dormitory.

The group also visited the International Rock Salt Mines where Bradley Roof, superintendent of the Retson Mine of the company, explained the processing and packing of rock-salt.

ALTAR BOYS on the trip were George Pyrohanych, Johnny Masley, Boris Yarema, William Pysnack, Michael Dylala, William Triska, Anadele Yarko, Tans Hrycko, George Pidyochak, David Myzlot, Roger Perrin, John Barczek, Paul Gera, Bohdan Konyk, Stephen Wasylko, Harry Sliwyak, John Pidyochak, Theodore Mosley.

David Goma, Stephen Mutrka, Myron Lemchak, David Walawender, Leo Strybanyak, James Ellis, Walter Berman, Andrew Roche, John Rostey and Michael Evans.

Parents who accompanied the group and provided transportation included Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harkins, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pidyochak, John Simon, Mrs. John Myzlot, Michael Evans, Mrs. John Wassili and John Barczek.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kolo are parents of the bride. Her husband is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bailey. All are of Hammondsport RD 2.

Miss Janet Patrick of Bradford was honor attendant. Miss Mary Ann Sutryk and Miss Sandra Sutryk of Bradford were bridesmaids. Miss Linda Bailey of Bath RD 2 was junior bridesmaid.

Barbara Lou Hilleger of Tranquility, N. J., was flower girl. Ray Kolo was best man. Ushers were Bill Bailey, Fred Myers and Anthony Kolo.

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Rectenwalds Feted

MASS OF THANKSGIVING highlighted the golden wedding celebration of Mr. and Mrs. George Rectenwald, Spaulding Drive, Bath. Following the Mass, the jubilarians renewed their marriage vows. The couple was honored by a reception at the home of Mrs. George H. Ames, sister of Mrs. Rectenwald.

Exchange Vows At St. Gabriel's. Hammondsport — The Rev. Earl M. Tobin wed the single Miss Kay Hughes, niece of the bride, in St. Gabriel's Church of Hammondsport to unite in marriage Miss Kay Hughes and Thomas Obrochta.

The bride, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Claude W. Hughes was accompanied to the altar by her brother, Claude F. Hughes.

Her husband is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Obrochta of Hammondsport RD 1.

Mrs. John C. Sebring of Hammondsport RD 1 was matron of honor for her sister, Miss Janet Hughes, niece of the bride, who was bridesmaid.

Junior attendants were Miss Linette Sebring, niece of the bride and Miss Diane Obrochta, sister of the bridegroom. Deborah Sebring, niece of the bride was flower girl.

James Obrochta of Hammondsport was best man for his brother. Ushers were John J. Sebring of Hammondsport, the bride's nephew, Robert Luchiw of Brooklyn, cousin of the bridegroom, and Jay Barker of Corning.

Miss Betty Tharp of Campbell RD 2 and Leon E. Koperczak of Savona RD 1 were married Saturday, Aug. 8, 1959.

The Rev. Stanley H. Blaszowski officiated at the double ring service in St. Joseph's Church, Campbell.

The bride is the daughter of John C. Tharp of Campbell RD 2. Her husband is the son of John E. Koperczak of Savona RD 1.

Mrs. J. Grandie Benedet of Campbell RD 2 was matron of honor for her sister.

The bridesgroom brother-in-law, Carmen J. Sparr of Corning, was best man. J. Grandie Benedet of Campbell and Thomas Donald Phillips of Thurston ushered.

St. Aloysius Unif. Makes Pilgrimage. Auburn — The Shrine of the North American Martyrs at Auriesville was the object of a pilgrimage made by women of St. Aloysius Church recently. The group made the trip by bus. Arrangements were under the direction of Mrs. Walter A. Burns, chairman and Mrs. Frank Tortorici, co-chairman.

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Weddings In Corning

Corning — St. Peter's Church in the N. Y. was the scene of the summer wedding of Miss Jean Anne Duffy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald J. Duffy of 401 Furin St., Corning, N. Y., and Robert Charles O'Brien of Corning last Saturday morning, Aug. 8.

The room is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh O'Brien of 180 W. First St., Corning.

The Rev. Mr. Edward P. Buttimer performed the marriage and celebrated Nuptial Mass. He was assisted in the Mass by Richard O'Brien, brother of the bride and Michael Mahoney, both of Corning.

The matron of honor was Mrs. Gerald G. Duffy of Corning. The bridesmaids were Miss Peggy O'Brien of Corning, sister of the groom, and Miss Linda Jo Wells of Rome.

Carroll V. O'Brien of Washington, D. C. was best man for his brother, while ushering guests at the church were Gerald D. Duffy, brother of the bride, and Donald O'Brien, brother of the groom, of Corning.

Corning — Miss Sharon Lee Ruddy and Robert Michael Brown, both of Arlington, Va., were married Saturday, July 25, at 11 a.m. in St. Patrick's Church, Corning.

The Rev. James Baker performed the double ring service. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur M. Ruddy, Jr. of 208 E. Second St., Corning, are the bride's parents. Her husband is the son of

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Bowler of Norwood, Mass. Miss Dolores Kennedy of Arlington was maid of honor. Mrs. Douglas Law of Corning and Miss Marian Breymert of Arlington were the other attendants.

William Bowler of Norwood was best man for his brother. Another brother, John of Norwood, and Ronald Oakley of Arlington ushered.

Some 250 lights and guests attended the 2nd Annual Outing of Elmira Council, 223, Knights-of-Columbus, Sunday afternoon, Aug. 9 at Ukrainian Park, Elmira, 10 a.m.

WILLIAM HACK was awarded a grand prize as the oldest Elmira Council Knight in attendance.

Despite a "threatening" day, the rains held off until the outing closed and those in attendance were especially high in their praise of this year's menu and manner in which the food was prepared.

Cornelius L. Sullivan, was general chairman, Joseph A. Capuzi and Francis J. Drake were co-chairmen.

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