

BOOK SHELF

Notre Dame Nuns Mark 50 Years

Omaha, Neb. — (NC) — The golden jubilee celebration of the American foundation of the School Sisters de Notre Dame was featured by the blessing of a new shrine to St. Joseph at their headquarters here.

PRIOR to the blessing, Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan of Omaha offered a Solemn Mass (May 10) at the Notre Dame Academy chapel.

The Notre Dame Sisters arrived in the U. S. in 1910 from Czechoslovakia. They conduct schools in the Archdioceses of Omaha and Dubuque, Iowa, and in the Dioceses of Lincoln, Neb., Rapid City, S. D., Des Moines, Iowa, and Sallina, Kans. In 1917 they started to work at Boys Town in Nebraska.

Saints Make History

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA Nazareth College

Saints Who Made History: The First Five Centuries, by Maizie Ward. Sheed '60. 377 pp. \$4.50. Linda, by M. K. Richardson. Patron Saint Series. Sheed '60. \$2.00.

Discussing a book of Saint Clement on page 35 of her Saints Who Made History, Maizie Ward says, "It is the delightful picture of a delightful man in the ripeness of his age, discursive, crystallizing, profound." A little earlier on she had said, "Clement is attractive for the non-specialist reader, interested in people and their historical setting. . . . Clement seems much more one of ourselves, yet able to lead us into a deeper knowledge and love."

THESE QUALITIES of Clement's writing are Maizie Ward's

own. If you have found history difficult, you will not find it so here. If you have felt that the slowly dying Roman world, the slow shaping Christendom, could only be grasped in toto by way of a novel, or piecemeal by way of a martyr here and an Emperor there, or heretic by hyacinth, or country by country, this book will pleasantly persuade you that history too is a story.

If you are a college student wanting to carry away some bearable little nest-egg of learning after the holocaust of exams, here it is. This is history conversationally proposed, so intimately known, so lightly carried, so rich in detail that you might be hearing it lying under the stars at night like the men of the great O'Neill, or at some fireside with a wonderful grandfather who doted on interruptions and questions and held the world in the palm of his hand.

Mrs. Sheed's plan is to move along through history by persons. "There remain people like myself," she says, "to whom history becomes most alive, not only pictorially but in its depths through the men who made it." And saints made a great deal of it; they have never been yea-men except to God.

So you know you are to meet great persons: Ignatius, Polycarp, Justin, Clement, Irenaeus — people who almost "touched Christ" who were but one or two removes from His Apostles. You expect Athanasius and Basil and John Chrysostom, Ambrose and Jerome and Augustine — and are perhaps surprised and pleased that Patrick and Leo the Great and Cassiodorus get their chance beside Benedict and Boethius.

But nobody could hope for so rich a context: the cities that shaped some of these men and so shaped our Catholicism are here; you see what Alexandria was really like for instance; the turns and twists of manuscript transmission that have kept folk away from so great and loving a soul as Origen are noted; the whimsies of emperors; the saints who were "elected" bishops before they were baptized; the kind of Christians one dealt with in Goth and Visigoth — all these are described. And no paragraph without its lively incident nor a difficult term without its immediate explanation.

What results is neither gossip nor merely scintillating. Maizie Ward has, naturally, enormous odds against her. To mention but three: She is carried "on the shoulders of the giants," as her deep learning and her bibliography show; she has the vision of the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church which has accompanied her into untidy corners and lost labyrinths; and she has a passionate friendliness of style that makes every ancient city "our town."

For those who perhaps think that Linda is not a saint's name, Sheed has just published the prettiest juvenile of the year, rose-colored, rose-adorned, and illustrated throughout — M. K. Richardson's Linda. It is the story of Saint Rose of Lima, and it brings welcome news: The Christ-child is was: Who first called Saint Rose "Linda," or "beautiful."

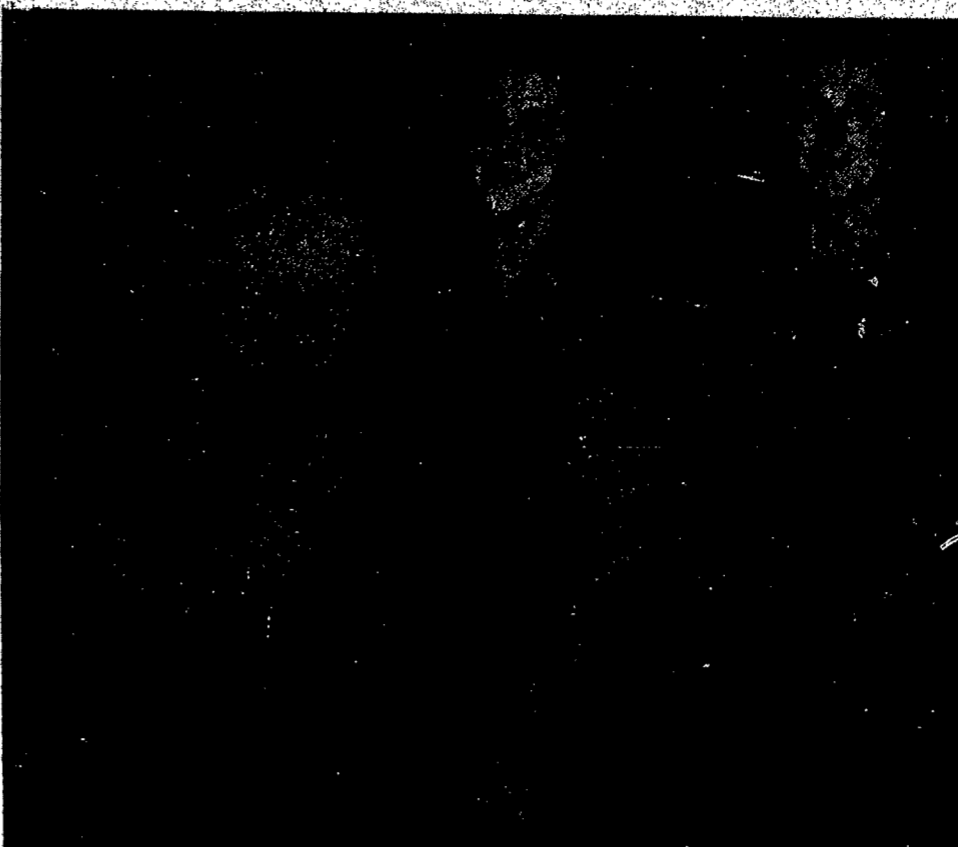
Hospitality, surely! Image of people at a table with bottles.

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NEW OFFICERS of the Mothers Club of Sacred Heart Academy shown above are from left; seated, Mrs. George Green, president; Mrs. Francis Dowling, vice president; and standing, Mrs. Jacob Holler, recording secretary; Mrs. Albert Farley, treasurer; and Mrs. Phillip Brandmeier, corresponding secretary.



May Queen At The College

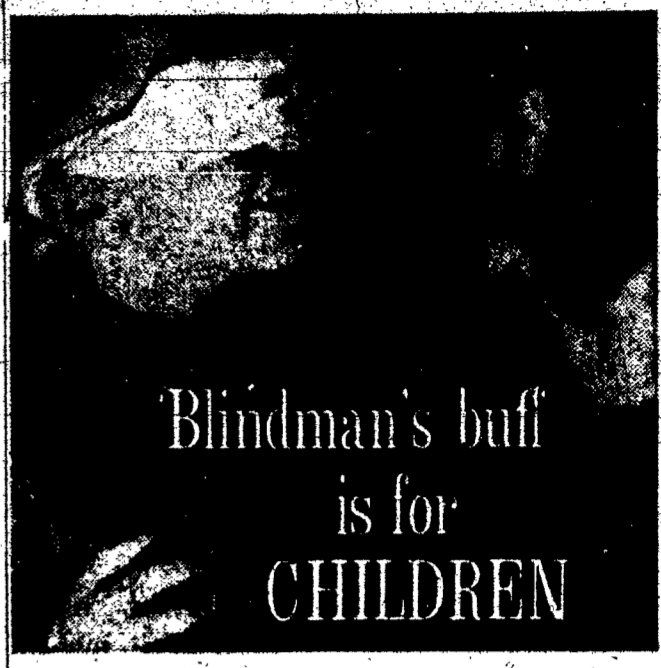
AN AREA STUDENT, first in several years to be named May Queen at Nazareth College, Anne Lortscher, 21, senior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lortscher, 182 Main St., Victor in crowning ceremony. This climaxed annual May Day program.

Red Mob Kills Two In Vietnam Church

Sedgwick — (RNS) — Latest in a series of attacks on Catholic churches by the Viet Cong, North Vietnamese Communist underground organization, was reported from La Ma, in Kien Hoa province. An armed gang from the Hung Gia forest about ten miles away invaded the grounds of the Catholic compound, shouting and brandishing machine-guns. Unable to force the doors of the church, they threw a hand grenade through a hole in the roof, killing two persons inside. The La Ma church, located in the Vicariate Apostolic of Vinh-Long, was built between 1934 and 1937 in what was once a Communist stronghold. It houses a statue of the Virgin which was discovered in a marsh in 1950 and has attracted many pilgrims, including foreigners.

New Statue Of Newman

Washington — (NC) — The National Newman Club Federation here has started a fund-raising drive to commission a statue of its patron, Cardinal Newman.



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