O'Connor Given Board Seat

John T. O'Connor, an Aquinas Institute graduate, was appointed treasurer and a member of the board of directors of Ward's Natural Science Establishment, 3000 Ridge Road East, the firm announces.

HE JOINED the Ward organization in 1952 and served as purchasing agent, a post he will continue to fill. He is also a graduate of Assumption College, Windsor, Ont.

O'Connor, his wife and two children are parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church.

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Church Ready At St. Lawrence

Members of St. Lawrence parish will go to Mass in their new church this Sunday, Oct. 30, feast of Christ the King. Father Edward Shamon, pastor, will celebrate a solemn Mass at 10 a.m. Other Masses will be at 8:00, 9:00 and 11 a.m. Parishioners have attended Mass for the past year in a shopping center basement. Men of the parish rushed the Greece church to completion this week. Carpenters on Wednesday evening (the night of the 'blizzard') brought the steeple indoors to work on it. They are Jack Ross, Colin Tracey, Stanley Nentarz, Ralph Zanella and Clarence Chauncey.

'God Picks The Choicest'

By SISTER M. CORNELIUS, R.S.M.

"Mother, I want to be a missionary."

His mother looked up from her ironing, into the serious face of her seventh grade son, who had just come in from school. She knew that his enthusiasm had been fired by a talk he had heard that day. Father Michael, a missionary Benedictine from Africa, had really left an impression on one young boy.

The impression proved to be a lasting one. The boy, now himself a Benedictine missionary assigned to Africa, is our own Father Damian Milliken, O.S.B., affectionately known to family and friends as "Jack." He is the son of Mrs. Cornelius J. Milliken of St. Patrick's Parish, Elmira, and the late Mr. Milliken. Many Elmirans remember Mr. Milliken as a prominent Catholic layman and newspaperman; he died in 1956.

The sixth of fourteen children, Father Damian was born on January 8, 1933. He was quite a normal lad, with a boy's love of sports and of the outdoors. He served on the altar and sang with a boys' choir at St. Patrick's, delivered newspapers with his brother, and enjoyed the fun of belonging to a large family. But he answered God's call at the early age of thirteen, when most boys are just beginning to "have a good time" as they grow up. It was hard; he had lonesome days, and his family missed him. But he had made his decision and knew that he belonged first to God.

HE ENTERED the Benedictine Seminary at St. Paul's Abbey in Newton, New Jersey in September, 1946. High school and two years of college were completed at the Abbey; in 1952 he received the habit. He took first vows the following year, and was solemnly professed as a Benedictine monk in 1956. During this time he was studying philosophy and theology at St. Mary's College in Morristown, New Jersey.

Monastic life was not all work and study, however. During his seminary days, Father Damian found time to develop other interests. Handy with a carpenter's tools, he designed and made several beautiful altars, tabernacles, altar rails, crucifixes and candlesticks of polish wood. This talent he says is inherited from his father, whose favorite hobby was carpentry and woodworking.

Ordained on May 31, 1958 in Rochester by Bishop Kearney, Father celebrated his first solemn Mass in St. Patrick's Church the following day. Another year of study at the Abbey and of performing priestly duties in neighboring parishes helped to round out his experience. His next assignment, a year's study at the University of Wurzburg, Germany, was not too far underway when he received word of his appointment to the African Missions. He will leave November 6.

Father Damian's work is already laid out for him at St. Benedict's Seminary at Namupa, in the diocese of Ndanda, Tanganyika. Supervision of construction of a new seminary will utilize his aptitudes along that line. Work in the dispensary (and even an occasional tooth-pulling), learning Swahili, and preparing lessons for the native seminarians, promise him busy days. Since the "real heart of mission work," as Father put it, "is the training of the native clergy," a bush seminary takes on even greater importance. Laurian Cardinal Rugambwa, Tanganyika's reigning prelate and Africa's first prince of the Church, started out in such surroundings.

MISSIONARY WORK is a Benedictine tradition from the beginning. Besides the holy founder St Benedict, who sent his monks into the Roman countryside to evangelize the pagans, missionaries of the order include St. Boniface, Apostle of Germany, St. Augustine of Canterbury, St. Anselm in Scandinavia and Pope St. Gregory the Great, a dynamic mission-minded pontiff of the seventh century.

Father Damian's congregation (one of 15 in the loosely-knit Benedictine order) was founded by Pope Leo XIII in the late nineteenth century to be specifically designed for foreign mission work. It is called the Congregation of St. Ottilien for the Foreign Missions. There are five abbeys in Germany, with the motherhouse in Bavaria. St. Paul's in Newton, New Jersey is the only American abbey of the Ottilien congregation, numbering about 30 priests and 20 brothers.

The whole congregation numbers about 2500. Missions of the congregation are established in Korea, where eighteen Benedictine priests, brothers and Sisters were lost during the war, and where the Benedictine Abbot-bishop of Seoul died of starvation in captivity. Venezuela, Colombia, East and South Africa complete the mission picture at present.

Of his vocation, Father Damian is often heard to say that he is a priest today because of the high ideals instilled in him by his father, the generous sacrifices of his mother and family, and the prayers of the Sisters, especially the Sisters of Mercy, among whom he numbers many friends and two of his own sisters.

HIS INTEREST in the missions, according to Father, was first sparked by Sister Mary Eileen, R.S.M., who taught him in the third grade at St. Patrick's, and who told the children the story of Father Damien of Molokai. All through his school years, this story continued to be his example and inspiration; he asks the prayers of all of you that he will be able in a small way to emulate that other Father Damien.

Mrs. Milliken likes to recall the words of Father Michael (since returned to Africa) at the time Jack left for the seminary: "God always picks the choicest flowers from His garden for Himself." Truly the long years of nurturing a vocation will now flower in the African vineyard of the Church, for the Rochester Diocese's newest missionary son. God-speed, Father Damian.

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Harriet Dakin Last Rites Held

Funeral Mass for Mrs. Harriet O. Dakin was offered in Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Monday, Oct. 15. Rev. Leo V. Smith celebrated the Requiem Mass. Also present were the Rev. Francis E. Hester and the Rev. John Kleintjes.

Mrs. Dakin, 56, of Winbourne Road died Oct. 19, 1960, in Elmira, the victim of an automobile accident. Her husband, Leonard W. Dakin, head of the Dakin Insurance Agency, 16 James St., suffered injuries in the accident.

BESIDES HER husband Mrs. Dakin is survived by three daughters, Mrs. James (Mary Ann) Beaudry of Ithaca, N.Y., Joan and Judith Dakin, one sister, Mrs. Thomas McCullen and one brother, Ralph Owens, Churchville; eight grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

She was a member of the Altar Society of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery with blessing by the Rev. Leo E. Lynch.

League Lists N.Y. Trip

A week-end trip to New York City on Nov. 18-20 has been planned by the Eucharistic League of Holy Family Church.

The group, which will leave from Holy Family on Friday at 6 p.m., will travel by bus via New York State Thruway enroute to the President Hotel where they will stay for the two nights.

SATURDAY WILL be free to shop or for sight-seeing. Dinner and an evening of entertainment has been planned for them. Sunday, the group will tour Rockefeller Center and then head for home where they will arrive about 11:30 p.m.

Reservations and additional information may be obtained by calling Ruth Friday at FA 2-1083. This trip is open to the League Members, their friends and anyone else interested. As soon as the required bus load is reached, reservations will close.

Forty Hours

Devotions of the Forty Hours will be conducted in the following churches of the Diocese of Rochester:

Friday, Oct. 28 — St. Michael's Mission House, Canesus.

Sunday, Oct. 30 — Christ the King, St. Francis Xavier, Carmelite Monastery, Rochester; St. Vincent de Paul, Churchville; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Painted Post; St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen.

Seton Groups In Action

34TH BRANCH of Seton Workers of St. Mary's Hospital to be entertained by Mrs. Charles H. Gertner of Maywood Ave., at a luncheon, Tuesday, Nov. 1.

13TH BRANCH luncheon meeting and work period to be held at 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 1. Serving as hostesses Mesdames Walter Knapp, Henry Lenhard and Edward Lorscheider.

77TH BRANCH met at the home of Mrs. David Schwardt, 434 Brookwood Dr., Webster. Project for this month was for the Annual Seton Sale, Dec. 2 at the hospital.

67TH BRANCH held an informal dinner at Wishing Well, Chili Ave., Oct. 18.

57TH BRANCH was feted by Mrs. Gerard Gagnier of Pittsford-Mendon Road, Oct. 26.

47TH BRANCH met Oct. 26 at home of Mrs. Robert Zimmer, 168 Fisher Road. Members worked on corded rosaries.

12TH BRANCH to be entertained by Mrs. Louis A. Whalen at her home in Pinecrest Drive, Thursday, Nov. 3.

AUXILIARIES

Business meeting of Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of Columbus, Rochester Council, will be held Thursday, Nov. 3, at 8:30 p.m. Annual Benefit Card party is slated for the Veterans Nov. 15.

Publications Take Top Press Awards

Two Nazareth Academy publications have merited top honors in press competitions, national, state and local.

Both the Lanthorn and the Gabriel won first place plaques in the Scholastic Editors Conference sponsored by the Gannett newspapers at the University of Rochester last Saturday. Announcement of the awards was made by Ira Sapozink, promotion director of the Gannett newspapers.

Editors of the winning publications were Mary Ann Ryan, Lanthorn editor for 1960; and Diane Foreth, Gabriel. Publications were entered into competition at close of school in June.

At the Empire State School Press Association convention in Syracuse, the Gabriel received first place trophy for photography, and second and third place certificates for interview writing. The Lanthorn received an All New York rating in the offset classification. Kathryn Heysack was winner of the photography award.

National awards for the Lanthorn include: Book of Distinction from the Catholic Press Association; A-plus rating from the National School Yearbook Association; All American from the National Scholastic Press Association.

National newspaper awards went to the Gabriel as follows: All Catholic from the Catholic School Press Association and international honor award from Quill and Scroll International Honor Society for High School Journalists.

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