

**On Dean's List**

Omitted from the Dean's List of Nazareth College, was the name of Miss Kathleen Wagner. Miss Wagner, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Wagner of Bellelaire Drive, graduated last June from Our Lady of Mercy High School. Miss Wagner is registered in the Sociology course, at Nazareth.

**Theatre News**

# Connelly vs. Connelly

By EUPHEMIA WYATT



**CONNELLY VS. CONNELLY** — Mother Cornelia Connelly, foundress of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, suffered a marital martyrdom too strange for fiction. As the very pretty Miss Cornelia Peacock of Philadelphia, she married in 1831 a young Episcopalian clergyman, bore him five children and was living happily in their rectory in Natchez, Miss. One day the Rev. Pierce Connelly announced that he was resigning as rector to become a Catholic and demanded that she follow his example.

Cornelia Connelly insisted that she must follow her own conscience which did bring her into the Church but she was broken hearted when her husband then said it was the will of God that he become a priest. Still obedient, however, she signed separation papers in Rome and was persuaded by Cardinal Wiseman to establish an order of teaching nuns in England when Father Connelly suddenly renounced both Rome and the priesthood and ordered his wife to return to him.

This was the famous case of Connelly vs. Connelly tried in the Archepiscopal Court of Canterbury, England. An ecclesiastical court of the Church of England, no one was present but the judge, the two barristers and Pierce Connelly. Mother Cornelia Connelly refused to appear.

Father Brendan Larnes' play takes place in the court room with four flashbacks. It is written with wit and compassion and is extremely well played especially by Derek Murcott as counsel for the defense; Robert Milton as the judge; Sir Herbert Jenner-Fust, and Adrienne Hazard as Cornelia Connelly. One of Blackfriars' best productions. The Blackfriars Guild, 320 West 37th Street.

**MIDGIE PURVIS** — Just to think of Talullah Bankhead as a baby-sitter conjures up a smile. But, after a brief and glamorous appearance in white with diamonds, there she is as an old, old lady in second hand dingy black bonnet and dress all because her son had hurt her feelings.

Mr. Purvis, senior, could take his wife's jokes but Mr. Purvis, junior, was afraid of shocking

his in-laws from Omaha. So Mrs. Purvis, senior, runs away and has a fine time teaching some little children whose mother is always at P.T.A. meetings how to have fun in a tiny house hung with pictures of Whistler's "MOTHER."

Miss Bankhead and Burgess Meredith, the director, have turned Mary Chase's play into a romp except for a few moments at the end when young Purvis asks his Mother to come home.

**THE OCTAROON** — On Dec. 26, 1859, three days after the execution of John Brown, Dion Boucicault opened in THE OCTAROON, with himself, his wife and Joseph Jefferson in the leading roles. Boucicault was an Irish actor who won his first success when nineteen and who wrote or adapted nearly two hundred plays.

In 1929, THE OCTAROON or Life in Louisiana was burlesqued in a revival which closed immediately. This time THE Phoenix Company, under the direction of Stuart Vaughan, play it straight and the boos and hisses from the too sophisticated few only annoy the majority who are not ashamed to enjoy a very well acted melodrama.

Zoe, the heroine, is the daughter of a white aristocrat and a quadroon but her eighth drop of black blood makes marriage illegal for her and the young planter who loves her so truly. Murder; a near lynching; a river boat burning; a scalping are part of the action. But the slave auction when the old butler exhorts his fellow blacks not to make a fuss and bring more grief to their old mistress who is powerless to help them, was turned out to be one of the most moving scenes on the stage this winter. Miss Juliet Randall's Zoe has dignity and beauty. Hooray for Boucicault!

**KING OF THE DARK CHAMBER** — Sir Rabindranth Tagore, born in 1861 in Bengal, India was universally acclaimed a great man and a great poet. He wrote both in Bengali and English and now for the first time one of his plays is presented under the sponsorship of the Indian Ambassador and an American Committee with the loan of crowns and fabrics from the Indian National Theatre in Bombay and their famous young director, Krishna Shah.

The Queen is an exquisite stage and screen star from Madras, Surya Kumari. The mysterious King, Brock Peters of the U.S.A. There is both comedy and drama in the lively action; the music and costumes are fascinating so are the variations of lighting in an enchanted evening. At the Jan Hus House, 351 East 74th St.

**FAUST**, Part I — Goethe's immortal drama has very long speeches in which philosophy overlays the poetry. Many Germans know it almost by heart. There were earphones for the non-German members of the audience but they were not poetic.

Gustaf Grundgens played his celebrated role of Mephistopheles in his popular production from Hamburg. The acting was excellent, the elocution impeccable but the production seemed clumsy to American standards, with what seemed to be two minute walls between each of the 20 scenes although played on a small inner stage before greyish curtains. Only Walpurgis Night (the Witches' Revel) was a blaze of color. Except for Mephisto in traditional black tights and red cloak, the peasant costumes were in dull tones.

**150 Houses** — Karachi — (NC) — Archbishop Joseph Cordero of Karachi has laid the first stone of 150 houses to be built here through a Catholic cooperative housing society.

## Macbeth Set For Opening

Witches and ghosts cavort before the stagelights at the Nazareth College auditorium on Feb. 17, 18 and 19 at 8:30 p.m. when the Catholic Theatre of Rochester presents Shakespeare's Macbeth.

The production is under the direction of Wilford Scott. Some of the leading players include: Joseph Baranowski as Macbeth; Vergeanne Glaser as Lady Macbeth; Ray Williams as Banquo; Bill Baller as Macduff, and Noreen Carey as Lady Macduff.

Also included in the large cast are Bob Bride, Dave Rogers, Jim Mills, Patricia Farrell, Lorraine Smith, John Horton, Dave Nassar, Dick Kirsch, Harold Norbut, John Fredrick, Roy Combs and Nancy Fredrick.

Carl Zollo is in charge of settings and Callista Estergrund is handling costumes. Other members of the technical production crew include: Dave Carlton, Phil Parker, Chet Woodhams, Tony DeCroce and Anna Gay Edgell.

Tickets for the performances may be purchased at Trant's Catholic Supply Store, 96 Clinton Ave. N. or at the auditorium on the night of the play. Prices are \$1.50 for adults, \$1 for students.

## Watching The Screen

### True Or False

By RAY SMITH

A few years ago television viewers had ears that were tuned almost every week to a program in which the expression, "I just want the facts, mam" became famous. Since many of the movies offered this week at our theatre are on the "B" side, you may be interested in hearing the other side of a story to come.

And this story will be presented in a movie called "EXODUS" (A-11). These facts (?) were found in a magazine I'm not in the habit of buying but, being interested in movies, this article intrigued me. You who read the book or have or will see the movie know one version. Here is the other.

**EXODUS** was not a leaky Greek tub but was an American ship, the 1814-ton steamer "President Warfield." In 1946 this ship was purchased by the Zionists and, after sufficient funds were raised, sailed for Europe in February, 1947, under its new name, Exodus 1947. The crew picked up 4,500 refugees. Off Marseille, France, British destroyers began to shadow the Exodus. Near the Palestine coast on July 18, 1947, five destroyers closed in on the unarmed ship. For the next ten hours a pitched battle took place.

The armed British destroyers rammed the Exodus 14 times. At night they turned blinding lights on the bridge, interfering with navigation and turning at right angles across the bow of the Exodus in violation of international regulations. When the Exodus was finally intercepted outside territorial waters, the refugees fought with their only weapons — potatoes and canned goods.

The British used tear gas and swept the decks with machine-gun fire. The boarding party shot down the vessel's helmsman, even though he was offering no resistance. On this ship more than a third of the passengers were orphaned children. The overcrowded vessel, holding 4,500 passengers, had been built to carry 650.

The article continues that this incident is more dramatic, more human, and more passionate than anything author Leon Uris could fictionalize or Otto Preminger could dramatize. It is the hidden story of the Exodus as history records. The truth, the story, concludes, doesn't have to worry about book or movie sales in Britain. So, that's one side. The other is in the book and the movie. Take your choice.

The Palace Theatre has very good entertainment this week for adults and adolescents as Tony Curtis plays "THE GREAT IMPOSTER," a story based on the life of Ferdinand Waldo Demara. It is incredible. Using phony aliases, reputations and backgrounds, he pursues over a dozen careers for which he was neither fitted or trained. You will come from seeing this one saying, "Wow, what a man!"

**ELMIRA** — Politics is the dish being served at the Colonial Theatre over the week-end as we see how man fights man in his quest for power and prestige in "A FEVER IN THE BLOOD."

## Sport, Boat Show Listed At Memorial

The Sport and Boat Show sponsored by the Monroe County Sports and Boat Show, Inc. will be held Feb. 18 to 25 at the Rochester War Memorial from 1 to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; and 3 to 10 p.m. daily.

One of the boats to be on display will be Catamaran, others include a 25' cruiser, canoes, dinghies, off shore fishermen boats. Marine accessories also play an important part in this year's displays.

In sporting activities, everything for the indoor sports to the active outdoor person will be on display. For those interested in skin diving, the Rochester Skin Divers Club will perform in a huge tank daily at the show.

## Civil War Film Set At Museum

An Academy Award Winning film, "The True Story of the Civil War," will be presented at Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences on Sunday, Feb. 19, at 2:30 p.m. with a repeat showing at 3:30 p.m.

Brady's original wet plate photographs, newspaper captions and headlines of the war years record the struggle that divided the nation in the 1860's.

## Mercy Glee Club Sings At County Home

Twenty Glee Club members of Our Lady of Mercy High School added the musical zest to the Valentine's party given by the National Council of Catholic Women at the Monroe County Home Monday, Feb. 13. Mercy was among the many groups entertaining that night.

Directed by Sister Mary Margaret, Mercy Glee Club director, the group sang "This Is My Country" and "Eternal Life." The dramatics class, coached by Sister Mary Plus, presented an award-winning speech entitled "I Speak for Democracy."

SEVERAL JUNIOR songsters from Mercy sang a novelty number called "Grandma," while a violin trio, made up of Marcia Wagner, Judy Achter and Elaine Gullito, saved out a Valentine medley.

The National Council of Catholic Women (N.C.C.W.), who gave the party, distributed ice cream, cake and chocolate candy hearts to the Home residents; each resident sported a red valentine.

Senior Mary Ann Schipper accompanied the Mercy singers in a "Sing Along" feature.

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## Queen To Visit Jesuit School

London — (RNS) — Queen Elizabeth II will visit the Jesuit Fathers and boys of Beaumont College on May 15. The visit will mark the centenary of the College, which was founded in 1861, and will take place just before the Queen goes to Rome, where she will be received by Pope John XXIII.

Beaumont College is at Old Windsor, and the boys play rugby on the meadows of Runnymede, where King John signed the Magna Carta in 1215. The Jesuit Fathers are neighbors of the royal family in Windsor Castle.

### Theatre Guide

RIVIERA	
The Alamo	A-1
MONROE	
Swiss Family Robinson	A-1
RALTO—East Rochester	
Cinderella	A-1
Enemy General	A-2
(Unobjectionable for adults and adolescents)	
LITTLE	
Inherit the Wind	A-3
(Unobjectionable for adults)	
FINE ARTS	
Dark at the Top of the Stairs	A-3
LOEW'S	
The Miracles	B
(Objectible)	
PARAMOUNT	
World of Suzie Wong	B
PALACE	
Fever in the Blood	A-3
Flute and the Arrow	A-1
LYELL	
Never on Sunday	C
(Condemned)	

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