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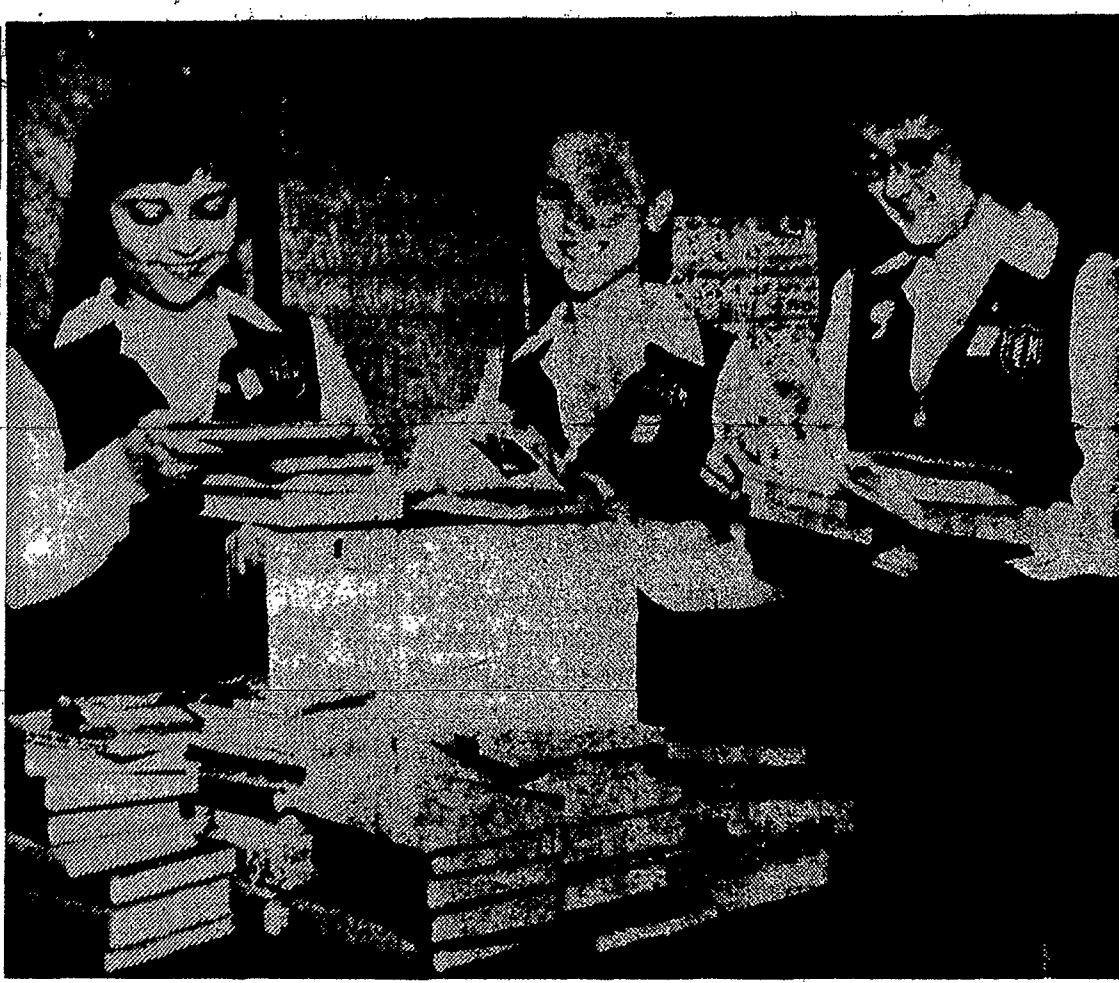
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MERCY STUDENTS Elvira Russo, Jean Hummel and Valerie O'Brien pack books for the missions.

Mercy Students Collect Books For Missions

Over 3,000 books and 600 magazines have been collected by the students of Our Lady of Mercy High School for the missions in Africa, reports Valerie O'Brien, student chairman of the drive which ended Friday, March 10. The drive began during Catholic Press Month as a special feature of Catholic Book Week.

SPONSORED BY the Catholic Students Mission Crusade and the Camillus Library Club, the drive yielded texts, review books, children's books, fiction, non-fiction and Catholic magazines. These will profit the missions of Rev. Charles Erb, S.V.D., and Rev. Charles Roeselein, S.V.D., in Ghana and Father Damian Milliken, O.S.B., in Tanganyika.

About 50 crates have already been packed and sent, according to Bonnoe Trau, mission president.

St. Mary's Student Nurses Name Nancy Hauger

Miss Nancy Hauger, a second year student at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing, was chosen by her classmates this week to represent her school in the annual area Student Nurse Association of New York State.

Miss Hauger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hauger of Onondaga Castle, was one of three nominees competing for the school honor in an assembly program on Monday afternoon, March 6.

OTHER CONTESTANTS were Miss Geraldine Gigliello of Corning and Miss Eleanor Stoll of Rochester. Each presented her autobiography and replied on the subject of professional nursing.

Selection of Miss Hauger, who will compete in the area SNANSY contest in May, was made by the student body. She was presented with a trophy by Sister Maria, director of nursing. In behalf of the Student-Faculty Association of St. Mary's.



NANCY HAUGER

Bishop's Mass Set To Open Mercy Drive

Bishop Kearney will celebrate Mass in the Mercy Motherhouse Chapel on Saturday, March 25 at 9:15 a.m. for Sisters of Mercy and members of the Mercy Guild of the Little Flower, marking the closing of the Guild's annual membership drive.

A BREAKFAST for all members who assist at the Mass will be served in Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Mrs. Justin Williams, guild president, has appointed the following committee for the breakfast: Mrs. Elmer O'Brien, general chairman; Mrs. Louis Prinzing, decorations; Mrs. John Hamm Jr., tickets; Mrs. Francis Kalb, hostesses; Mrs. Joseph Crowley, publicity.

Reservations will be closed on March 21. Tickets may be obtained by calling: Mrs. John Hamm, BU 8-3027; Mrs. Elmer O'Brien, BU 8-9275; Mrs. Harold Wintish, BE 5-9172; Mrs. Ross Marinaro, MO 7-7329; Mrs. Foster DiFiore, BU 8-3540.

Hostesses include Mesdames Leonard Barry; Joseph Graghy; Howard Lyboldt; Walter Scholand; Edward Hoy; Cyril Hamilton; Stephen Danes; Albert Held; Donald Weeks.

Miss Merkel Ends Training

Geneva—Miss Linda Merkel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Merkel of Geneva has completed three years of training for registered nurse at Albany Medical Center Hospital. She plans to specialize in surgical nursing at the Albany Hospital.

Formal graduation will be in June. Miss Merkel is a 1957 graduate of De Sales High School.

Family Rosary Radio Program

Friday, March 17 — Father John E. Roach, Holy Apostles accompanied by Girl Scout Troops.

Saturday, March 18 — Paul Atvel, St. Cecilia.

Sunday, March 19 — Father Joseph Berton, C.S.S.R., rector accompanied by parishioners of St. Joseph's Church.

Monday, March 20 — A representative of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus.

Tuesday, March 21 — A representative of Holy Cross College Alumni Association.

Wednesday, March 22 — James Gefell, St. Andrew's accompanied by Holy Name Society.

Thursday, March 23 — John Bedford, Our Lady of Good Counsel accompanied by employees of Rochester Products Division.

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Card of Thanks
THE FAMILY of William C. DeVaney 22 John St., Geneva, N.Y., wish to thank Father Sebastian Dr. A. J. Brown, relatives, friends, neighbors, for their kindness during the illness and death of our dear father, William C. DeVaney, who passed away peacefully on March 17, 1957. Rites were held at St. Mary's Church, Geneva, N.Y., on March 19, 1957.

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At Our House . . .

Top O' The Mornin'

By MARY TINLEY DALY

"St. Patrick's Day in the morning!" The phrase brings a smile to the lips, a lift to the heart of everybody even remotely connected with Ireland.

On the 17th of March, the O'Reillys, the O'Shaughnessys, the Kellys, the Burkes and the Sheas, and the Dalys—even the Cohens and the Shapiros, the Schmidts and the Gallotts, join in a "Top o' the mornin'!"

Although those who really know Ireland say that green is not worn as a symbol on the Emerald Isle, the U.S.A. is rife with green on that day. O.K., it's not authentic, but it is traditional here.

Let's just call it "St. Patrick's Day," fleeing but lovely.

"Hyphenated-Americans," like "hyphenated-Catholics" have long since lost their once recognized place in our American way of life.

PERHAPS WARS unified our people, when regiments were made up of German-Americans, Italian-Americans, Irish-Americans, French-Americans and the others, all fighting for a common cause.

More probably it is the maturing of the peoples of this nation, the living with one another and finding common interests.

All are Americans.

The same blending is noticeable within the framework of the Catholic Church in the United States. "The German Church," once an integral part of many communities, and "The Irish Church," "The French Church," or whatever—these have lost their distinct identity. People seek a Catholic church.

With this blending of culture with culture, "Americanizing" as it were, influences of the Old World tend to diminish and almost fade out completely in certain sectors of our country.

Take a group of Americans anywhere: desultory conversation has as its dominant theme the state of the locality, the region, the country, the world. National backgrounds are forgotten, or overlooked.

It is only occasionally—such as St. Patrick's Day for the Irish, Bastille Day for the French, Columbus Day for the Italians, High Holidays for the Jews—that backgrounds are remembered.

A bit of statistical study shows that, had your forebears been with Columbus in 1492, you would be about 23rd generation American; had they come with the Jamestown Expedition in 1607, first permanent English settlement, you would be 17th generation; if you count forebears as recent as the American Revolution, 1776, you would be but the 9th generation. (This is counting a generation as the traditional 20 years.)

Goodness knows, nobody but the American Indians are natives.

In an amalgamated society such as ours, a "melting pot," certainly we must maintain our unity and grow together, whatever our backgrounds. America is our country, no matter whence we sprang.

Now and then, though, seems to me, it is a healthful idea to go back, perhaps fancifully and even nostalgically, and recall those backgrounds.

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