

'Verein' Opens 106th National Convention

Two Rochesterians are listed as participants of the 106th National Convention of the Catholic Central Union (Verein) of America to be held in Syracuse, Aug. 25 to 30. In session also will be the 45th National Convention of the National Catholic Women's Union and the 9th National Convention of the Youth Section of both organizations.

William G. Wittman of Rochester, president of the New York State Branch will welcome delegates at the official inauguration of the conventions in Hotel Syracuse ballroom at 9 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 27. Joseph H. Gervais of Rochester is listed to preside at a Civic Forum, that afternoon in the Hotel ballroom.

BISHOP WALTER A. Foery of Syracuse, formerly of the Diocese of Rochester will be celebrant of a Pontifical Mass (dialogue) in Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 11 a.m., Aug. 27. Music will be by

the Knights of Columbus chorus directed by J. Paul McMahon.

A parade of delegates, guests and societies from the hotel to the Cathedral will start at 10:15 a.m. Escort will be Knights of St. John of the 3rd Battalion, Syracuse District, Rochester Regiment, Ladies Auxiliaries and Boy Scout Troop No. 91.

The Youth Section on Saturday, Aug. 26 will hear an address on "Physical Fitness and Human Responsibility," by Carmel Basilio, of Chittenango, N. Y., former boxing champion.

A Mass according to the Slavonic-Byzantine Rite will be offered in Church of the Assumption, 812 N. Salina St., Syracuse at 8 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 29.

Socialists from the Rochester Diocese at New York City Summer School of Catholic Action held at Fordham University.

Daily Mass Calendar

Sunday, August 27 — Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost (green), Gloria, Creed, Trinity Preface, 1940 — Rev. James Fischer, 1957 — Rev. Thomas Stafford.

Monday, August 28 — St. Augustine (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Hermes, 1932 — Rev. Edmund Wirth, 1944 — Rev. William Rafferty.

Tuesday, August 29 — Beheading of St. John the Baptist (red), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Sabina.

Wednesday, August 30 — St. Rose of Lima (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Felix and St. Adactus.

Thursday, August 31 — St. Raymond (white), Gloria.

Friday, Sept. 1 — St. Giles (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of the Holy Martyrs, 1947 — Monsignor John Boppel.

Saturday, Sept. 2 — St. Stephen, king (white), Gloria.

Priests listed above died on the date indicated. Please pray for them.

BOOK SHELF

End of Summer

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA
Nazareth College

Helen MacInnes, *Decision at Delphi*
Mary Ellen Chase, *The Lovely Ambition*
Giuseppe di Lampedusa, *The Leopard*
Edwin O'Connor, *The Edge of Sadness*
Ann Head, *Always in August* (McCall's, Aug. '61)

Last call for summer reading: Now is the time for the generously long adventure of *Decision at Delphi*; or for a nostalgic picture of New England country living as seen by Mary Ellen Chase; or for true stories that walk the edge of sadness like Lampedusa's *Leopard* (death of a caste) or Edwin O'Connor's study of sheer pitiable meanness in the person of old Charlie Carmody. A priest narrates Charlie's story, a priest deliberately made (mildly) subject to human weakness so that his priestly perception may have an extra depth of compassion. O'Connor's power over both words and character has measurably deepened since *The Last Hurrah*.

The mail brought so excellent a contribution by Alice

Rogers, N.C., on *Always in August*, that we share it with you: Coincidentally or otherwise, this novel (*Always in August*) is light entertainment enough for an August day, when shallow, ordinary womenfolk are relaxing from their daily occupations. Shallow, ordinary and average as the best of them, I relaxed languidly with this perfumed concoction, this regulation women's magazine soap opera.

It is done with better taste and more intelligence than a great many, really. It is a current-day fictional portrayal, narrated (first-person style) by a woman of perhaps 35, regarding the years of her childhood, adolescence and young adulthood.

The scene is laid in the American South — a South with memories of occupation by the Yankees in Civil War days, but a South, apparently, which now accepts the conquering resident... Northerner as social and cultural equal, while it looks down on what seems to be a marital union of unpedigreed Irish and unlettered poor white as the lower classes, riven with dreams, dissipation, envy, and ruthless ambition. (Cf. *The Philadelphia*.)

It ignores the Negro completely. This is not, in my opinion, necessarily censurable: It may merely be the honest clarity of perspective of the true dramatist, as compared to the uncertain perambulations of sociologists and political philosophers merely pretending to be novelists and playwrights.

I don't mean that all novels or all plays are better per se for ignoring the racial issue. I don't mean, either, that the racial issue is not important, and quite possibly more important than a soap opera like "Always in August," but that doesn't mean that it is an essential part of drama per se, or of a novel of manners per se.

The narrator is the good woman, and she plays against a bad woman who is unerringly and unobtainably intent on gaining money, manners, social status, and men, married or not.

Unbeatably, that is, until she rouses the tigress in the good woman.

"I had simply discovered the tigress that lies dormant in all women who are deeply in love. The tigress was dormant no longer. I knew now what it was Mrs. Bartow had hoped to unleash when she'd scratched the surface of my trust in Stark, these many years ago. Poor Mrs. Bartow, I had indeed failed her."

"The only way to fight fire is with fire."

The author and narrator places this dramatic crux in the context of "a woman deeply in love." This is true from

Priest Killers, His Parishioners

Father Gilbert DeRitis, Maryknoll priest from Rochester, wrote the following article for September's Maryknoll magazine. He traces the change in 25 years in people in Peru who killed a missionary in 1935 but now kneel devoutly to honor the Blessed Sacrament. Father DeRitis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent DeRitis, 301 Rugby Ave., in St. Augustine parish.

Place: Huancane, Peru. Time: Sacrament in a golden moon June 1, 1961. Feast of Corpus Christi. The Indians of Huancane, known throughout the altiplano as "matacuras," kneel in the plaza this morning, as a priest bearing the Blessed

vinces, lies some 13,000 feet above sea level, in a valley surrounded by the high, barren Andes. Here, shimmering beneath the brilliant, azure sky, is Lake Titicaca, the same majestic Titicaca that was a mute witness to the day of conspiracy and blood instigated by the matacuras—the priest killers.

Peruvian Sisters from Cusco have established a convent in the pueblo, and the seminary in Puno is preparing Huancane youths for the priesthood. Now, when the Padre walks the streets of the pueblo, he is greeted with smiles and requests for prayers.

Gone are the days of the matacuras. On the Feast of Corpus Christi, they kneel, with heads bowed, in the same plaza where once they stood with stones held high. They kneel now to receive the blessing of the Sacred Host from a steps of their victim. They priest who walks in the footsteps of the Padre, confident that they again belong to God.

The three hundred-year-old adobe church was repaired. Marriages were validated; the sick received the sacraments; children studied the catechism and received their First Communion. A grateful people returned to the religious heritage of their ancestors.

Today, in Huancane, there are sixty Indian catechists; laymen who have volunteered to teach doctrine in remote, far-flung villages of the altiplano. There is a parish credit union — a cooperative enterprise whereby the Indians may borrow money at the amazingly low interest rate of one per cent, in contrast to the forty per cent demanded by professional money-lenders.

Burmese Premier U Nu, however, has given his solemn pledge that it will not result in discrimination against religious minorities.

Pontiff Scores One Sided Peace

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII, speaking to a large group of pilgrims from the United States and other western countries, sharply criticized those national leaders who while preaching the necessity for peace actually are engaged in dividing countries by sowing hatred.

"Unfortunately in the world today," the pontiff said in his address which was widely broadcast by the Vatican Radio, "he who talks of peace too often means peace in favor of his own country, a peace based on the supremacy of his own ideology or his own race at the expense of others."

The Pope said he was "particularly pained" by those countries which are expelling Catholic priests and nuns who have given "years of generous devotion to their apostolate and to education, charitable work and care of the sick."

Such countries, he said, "are forgetting that they have received a wealth of civilization and a sense of values from these ousted priests and nuns." While he did not mention Cuba by name, his statements obviously applied to the Castro regime which has expelled many religious and nationalized church schools.

Pope John also told the pilgrims that he felt a sense of satisfaction in seeing so many different nationalities, speaking different languages, together in harmony.

"The Church alone," he said, "is truly universal, truly above all national divisions and all distinctions of tradition and race. Only the Church, therefore, is in a position to invoke and seek a true universal peace."

her point of view, yet the other woman is also, according to the story, in love. Not honorably or admirably so, but nevertheless genuinely.

That she is the wife and mother is not what the narrator appeals to, although it is the relationship she is fighting to preserve, and to preserve in integrity, not just in perfunctory appearance.

I still think that Mary J. Holmes did a more craftsmanlike and more feminine novel than Miss Hand, just as I place Dorothy Dix a notch above Ann Landers.

Burma Adopts Buddhism

Bangkok — (NC) — Burma's Parliament has approved a constitutional amendment making Buddhism the state religion of this southeast Asian nation by a vote of 220 to 15.

The nation's Catholic Bishops had warned against such a step, saying it would hamper efforts for national unity and expressed fears that it would lead to discrimination against Christians. Protestants and Moslems had also opposed the amendment, which was adopted August 18.

Burmese Premier U Nu, however, has given his solemn pledge that it will not result in discrimination against religious minorities.

Family Camping

Woodgate — (NC) — Family camping will be introduced at the Syracuse Diocesan camp, Nazareth, on August 27.

A week-long program will give all members of the family a chance to vacation together. The daily program includes Mass, benediction and family rosary; breakfast, lunch and dinner; swimming, boating and handicraft instructions. A baby sitting service will be provided.

Police Ban Miller Book

Dallas — (NC) — Dallas police have ordered bookstores here to stop selling the controversial Henry Miller novel "Tropic of Cancer" or face action under Texas' three-month-old anti-obscenity law. Detectives of the Special Service Bureau visited bookstores to issue the warning with the approval of Police Chief Jesse E. Curry.

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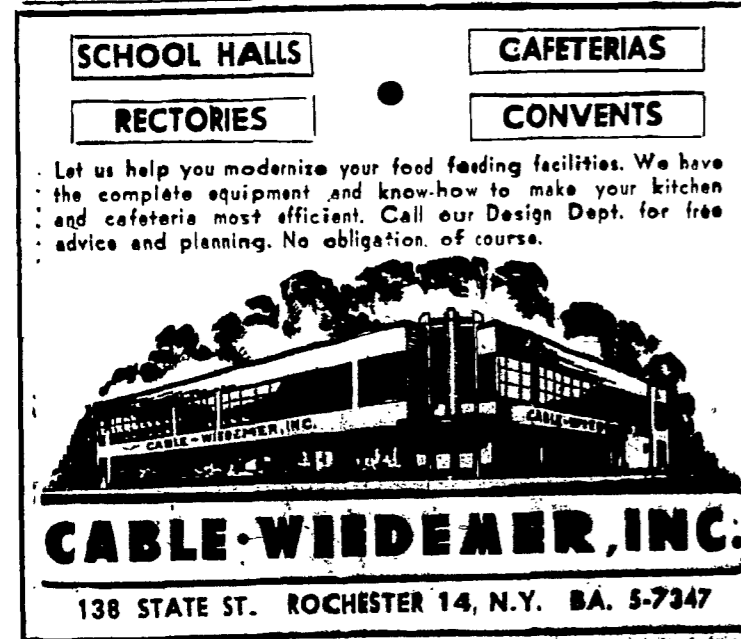
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