

## Boxing, Barbaric or Safe Sport?



**•** Pope John denounced the "barbarity" of professional boxing as Bloody Monday caused death Sunday morning. The Vatican radio later lifted the gag for the papal press and public statements issued by professional fighters to the upcoming Aquinas Mission Bout fall under these criticisms. This article explains what is at difference.

By WHIT JOHNSON

Professional boxing promoters could learn a great deal about safety in the ring from the students of Aquinas Institute. On April 6 in the War Memorial the school will present the 25th Edition of the annual Mission Bout and in all those years there has never been a serious injury.

An outstanding record like this does not just happen. Missions bout rules are strict and the safety factor is stressed. Boys are never allowed to fight without headgear. The moment the gloves go on the headgear goes on too.

**THE HELMETS** are protective models made of leather and containing a one-inch thick coating of sponge rubber on the inside. The headgear completely covers the ears and vulnerable areas of the head and there's a four inch thick protective covering at the base of the skull.

The gloves are 14-ounces — the type used by professionals only for sparring sessions.

Ring ropes which have been cited as cause of serious injury and even death among professional fighters are covered with foam rubber.

Every precaution is taken to see that each participant is in top physical condition. A doctor's certificate is required before a boy may begin training. At ringside a doctor is in attendance and fights are immediately stopped if they become one-sided.

Aquinas students look upon boxing as a sport requiring considerable skill. Boxers are artists — boys who are adept at feinting, parrying, weaving, jab-

### Friday Club Schedules Noted Jesuit Educator

First Friday Luncheon Club speaker April 5 at Hotel Sheraton will be the Rev. Robert F. Greven, S.J., president and rector of McQuaid Jesuit High School according to Edward J. Schieppati, chairman of the Knights of Columbus spiritual retreats for both clergy and laity of the Diocese of Syracuse.

In 1931, he was transferred to Canisius College, Buffalo.

Any Catholic man who receives Holy Communion on the First Friday is eligible to attend the luncheon. Vice Chairman Donald E. Woerner said. Graduates of Jesuit college are asked to attend.

### Fisher Student Accepted By Peace Corps

A St. John Fisher College senior has been accepted for service with the Peace Corps in the Philippines.

**ROGER J. FISH** of Shortsville, will join 533 American men and women serving as Elementary School Teacher's Aides in over 300 locations in the Philippines.

After graduation in June he will begin an eleven-week training program at a yet undesignated American University, probably located in Hawaii or California.

Fish has majored in Education at St. John Fisher College. He will receive a Bachelor of Science Degree along with his New York State Provisional Secondary Teaching Certificate in June.

He is the second St. John Fisher student to enter the Peace Corps. John G. Schultz, a member of last year's graduating class is already serving in the Philippines.



### Expansion Project Underway

St. Joseph's parish, Penfield began a \$350,000 building expansion project Tuesday, March 29, feast of St. Joseph. Monsignor James C. McAniff, Vicar General of the Rochester Diocese, offered pontifical Mass and then Father John D. McAlley, pastor, turned spadefull of earth to signal start of project. Five classrooms and an auditorium are to be erected for the rapidly growing parish.

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### Groundbreaking For New Church

MONSIGNOR RICHARD K. BURNS gets an assist from first grader Colleen Monahan as ground is broken for the new \$700,000 St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Irondequoit. Ceremonies took place Monday following Solemn Mass on the feast of the Annunciation. Other young ones also helped in the excavation work.

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