

The Havens family, John, Betty, Susan, Veronica and Johanna (in stroller) prepare to leave to take the census of their parish which covers a two county area.



Visiting one of the permanent Mexican families in the parish, John encourages them to take active part in some of the many parish activities.

Ithacans Find Mission Life 'Honor, Privilege'

John and Betty Havens are "ordinary" people from Ithaca. John coached the basketball and baseball teams at Immaculate Conception School and Betty took care of the pamphlet racks in the Church and occasionally played the organ.

One Sunday three years ago a Jesuit priest gave a sermon in Ithaca and John and Betty learned about the Extension Society Volunteer program. A year later they were lay missionaries.

They left Cayuga's water for Oklahoma City in August 1962 for a week of orientation at St. Francis de Sales Seminary. A volunteer gives a year of his life to the home missions. A volunteer receives room and board and fifty dollars a month plus medical insurance. Some volunteers remain with the program a year or two, others, like John and Betty consider it a vocation and stay indefinitely. Today there are almost 300 young men and women and eight married couples in the program. From Oklahoma City, the Havens' and their three children went on to Mangum, Oklahoma, where they began their work with Father Joseph

W. Burger. Unlike most Volunteers, who have separate quarters, the Havens family shares the rectory with the pastor.

FATHER BURGER is the only priest in a two county area that covers many thousands of square miles. Almost half of the families in Mangum are of Mexican extraction and speak Spanish. An agricultural area, the main crop is cotton. During the working season as many as thirty people live in a one room barracks. There is no running water, no indoor plumbing.

Many of the families are transient, so maintaining a school and catechism classes is difficult. The Volunteers have a used clothing center for the permanent residents which provides the children with books and clothes if they want to go to the public school.

Betty takes care of the household, the meals, does the washing and other household chores. She and John share teaching the catechism classes for the various age groups, running Bible Study Groups, keeping the parish societies active. Then there is instruction for the altar boys, training the choir, playing the organ, taking the parish census.

The Havens have no television set and rarely take a day off. Despite the hardships, Betty and John consider their work an "honor and a privilege for which we thank God every day."

Ithaca CDA Vocation Day

Ithaca — Count Santa Maria No. 240, Catholic Daughters of America, will sponsor a Vocation Day on Sunday, March 1, 1964, at the Women's Community Building, from 2 to 5 p.m.

FEATURED SPEAKER will be Sister Anne Mary, Vocation Director of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Sister Marguerite of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart will show slides of the work of the Mission Helpers.

There will be many interesting and instructive displays of the various Orders of Sisters working in the Rochester Diocese, as well as Missionary Orders.

While girls in grades 7 through 12 and their parents are especially invited, an invitation is extended to everyone in the Tompkins-Hoggs Deanery.

Co-chairmen of the affair are Mrs. Thomas Perry and Mrs. George Bessack, assisted by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Immaculate Conception Convent, Ithaca and members of the Catholic Daughters.

Forty Hours

Sunday, Feb. 22 — Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Ambrose, Rochester; St. Stephen, Geneva; St. Michael, Newark.

Ask someone down Elmira way, and his answer would likely be a quick, "You'd better believe it!" For Notre Dame's Crusaders, currently showing a 13-1 record, figure to put in their strongest bid yet to take the first place trophy back home on March 15.

The Crusaders bowed to Aquinas in last year's final and also lost out to McQuaid in the 1961 championship game. Both the Little Irish and Knights will field strong clubs again this year, as their 11-5 and 12-4 records would indicate. But whichever of the two reaches the finals may find itself running into an Elmira invader that's taken dead aim at the top spot and isn't the least bit concerned with "history." (The past five tournaments have gone to Aquinas 4 times and McQuaid twice.)

Before getting into the finale at RIT, however, Notre Dame will have to get past Mt. Carmel at Auburn on March 8 and then defeat the winner of the Padua-DuSalle of Geneva game. The Crusaders will be favored to do just that, but they and their coach, Jim Flynn, remember only too well their upset at the hands of Mt. Carmel two years ago. That year, they didn't even make it to Rochester. This year

Sisters of Mercy Consider Modern Habit

The Sisters of Mercy are contemplating a change in their religious habit, in accordance with the Church's present spirit of adaptation to modern needs and in response to the expressed wish of the Holy See.

The Rochester Sisters of Mercy staff Catherine McAuley, College, Our Lady of Mercy High School and the girls' division of Cardinal Mooney High School in Rochester. They have charge of Notre Dame High School, Elmira and St. James Mercy Hospital, and School of Nursing, Hornell. The Sisters also teach in 29 parochial schools of the Diocese.

Motherhouse and novitiate of the community is located on Blossom Road, Rochester, where the Mother General, Mother Mary Bride, resides.

Pope Pius XII in his address to the International Congress of Religious Teachers, 1951, said with reference to religious garb: "Choose it in such a way that it becomes the expression of inward naturalness, of simplicity, and spiritual modesty. Thus it will edify everyone, even modern young people."

Cardinal Leon Suñeris, one of the four-member moderating committee representing the presbyterial function of the Ecumenical Council, has postulated in his book, *The New in the World*, that the habit inhibits the nun's apostolate, acting in non-Christian circles as counter-propaganda, giving the impression that Christianity is archaic.

that the nun is not only apart from the world, but a complete stranger to its modern progress.

CARDINAL SUÑERIS advises the elimination in religious habits of any useless ornamentation or complication, anything contrived, unpractical or unhygienic.

Since there are over 35,000 Sisters of Mercy spread across the world, many of whom are independent communities, the problem of pleasing all and preserving consistency has delayed action on the revision, but the Mercy Sisters of the United States have recently initiated concerted effort.

The major superiors of the independent communities of Sisters of Mercy, representing over 6,000 Sisters, and the Mother General and nine provincial superiors of the Mercy Generalate, representing another 6,000 Sisters, met in Philadelphia Jan. 14 to see habits created for the Sisters of Mercy by Sybil Connolly, internationally known fashion designer.

The Mothers General brought pictures back to the Sisters and invited suggestions to be forwarded to the designer. Miss Connolly and her models will return to the United States in April for a second consultation with the superiors.

THE HABIT of the Sisters of Mercy has been fundamentally unchanged since the foundation of the order by Catherine Mc-

Auley in 1831, except for the loss of flowing sleeves and a train.

Commenting on the proposed adaptation, Mother Mary Bride said, "The Mother General of the various communities of the Sisters of Mercy are most anxious to preserve religious dignity, and conformity to the virtue of poverty while at the same time be suitably adapted to external work and local circumstances."

Notre Dame Takes Aim At Top Spot

Will the Aquinas-McQuaid monopoly of the Rochester Diocesan Basketball Tournament be broken in this, the tournament's sixth year? That's the interesting question that presents itself as the six entries swing into their final two weeks of regular season play before the March 7 tournament opens at the War Memorial.

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Hornell CDA To Sponsor Steuben Deanery Meeting

Hornell — Court St. Ann No. 194, Catholic Daughters of America, will sponsor the Steuben Deanery Council meeting Feb. 27. Mrs. Ida Solo, regent, announced Monday evening at a meeting in the Knights of Columbus hall that the session will be held at 8 p.m. in the K of C home on River St.

PLANS WERE discussed to hold a white elephant sale during a dinner meeting Feb. 24. Mrs. Mary Fucci and Mrs. Adele Boccia will serve as co-chairmen for the social meeting.

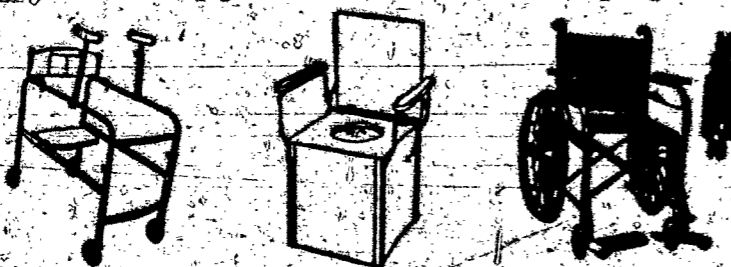
Members of their committee: Moogan, Mrs. Elizabeth Clancy,

Also Miss Margorie Green, Miss Leona Deszcan, Miss Mary Elizabeth Green, Mrs. Josephine Siskle, Miss Marcella Snyder, Mrs. Mary Mastrianni, Mrs. Mary DeLaney, Mrs. Sara Schell, Mrs. Van McDavid, Mrs. Rose Mazella, Mrs. Helen Gargerni, Mrs. Felle Hodges, Mrs. Josephine Mattie and Mrs. Margaret Brown.

Mrs. Tsbulsky was named general chairman for a special fund raising project which the Court will sponsor.

Mrs. FitzGerald was appointed chairman for the annual Mission Tea, which will be held April 5 at the K of C. Mrs. Jenny Tsbulsky will serve as co-chairman. Their committee aides will be announced at a later date.

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