

Responsibility to God and Neighbor

This letter of Bishop Kearney, to be read in parish churches of the Rochester Diocese, this Sunday, April 25, asks for generous support of the Rochester and Monroe County Community Chest — Red Cross fund campaign.

My dear People:

As we look about us, we see the world of nature bursting with fresh and vigorous life and God's beautiful creation is once more being renewed. The dark dreariness of Winter death has given way to the bright and warm life of Spring.

In each of us, because of the legacy of Adam, there is a deep-rooted and exaggerated tendency to seek our own comfort and to be unmindful of the real needs of our neighbors. And yet just as it seems to be a fundamental law of nature that some kind of wintry death precede the new life of Spring, so too with us it is by sacrifice and self-denial that we are able to experience in our own lives the joy and the warmth which come to the cheerful and generous giver.

For that reason, may I ask you to be as generous as you possibly can this year in making your annual contribution to the Community Chest-Red Cross Campaign. I need not refer to the manifold Chest activities which we can see going on everyday in the Community. Staffed by men and women who realize their sense of responsibility to God and their neighbor, the Chest gives us a service that is both tireless and dedicated.

The American Red Cross also shares in the benefits of this Campaign. Engaged as it is in a nation-wide, worldwide field of activity, there is no national emergency, whether it be fire, storm, or epidemic, that does not find your Red Cross ready and waiting with assistance.

The effort of our Community Chest to combine so many worthy causes into one major appeal each year becomes increasingly difficult. Therefore if God has been good to us and has blessed us with a material prosperity beyond measure, we should be more than willing to give an extra donation on behalf of those neighbors of ours who are less fortunate than we.

Long ago, the Good Shepherd promised that even a cup of cold water given in His name would not go unrewarded. In God's name then, may I ask a generous gift to this year's Community Chest-Red Cross Campaign. Such a gift on your part will be the "cup of cold water" given in His name. May God bless you.

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,

James E. Kearney
Bishop of Rochester



Bishop Kearney reviews Community Chest campaign plans with Alexander D. Hargrave, Chest president, and Father Donald J. Mulcahy, Catholic Charities director.

The Catholic COURIER

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Journal

76th Year

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Price 15 Cents

Charity for Thousands Costs \$3 Million

Charity is big business.

In the Rochester Diocese it costs \$3,390,566.

And the Rochester and Monroe County Community Chest contributes \$653,022 to ward that cost.

The remaining \$2,737,544 is met from fees, contributions and other sources.

Heading the vast network of charitable programs in the twelve county Diocese is Rev. Donald J. Mulcahy, 43 year old priest with a masters degree in social work.

His comments on the paradox of poverty in the affluent United States are reported in an interview elsewhere on this page.

A statistical breakdown of Rochester Catholic Charities for 1964-1965 shows eight separate agencies ranging in services for thousands of people from homes for children to care for the aged — and most every problem in between.

Besides these eight agencies, all of which share in the local Community Chest program which is about to launch its annual fund campaign, other similar programs in Auburn and

Elmira also come under diocesan Charities coordination.

St. Mary's Hospital, also a Chest beneficiary, is not, however, a part of the Charities "family."

The diocesan agencies and their services include:

Catholic Family Center — counsel for couples with mar-

St. Ann's Home — a residence and infirmary for the aging. Budget, \$1,738,450. Chest allocation, \$65,103.

Genesee Settlement House — a neighborhood center for leisure time activities. Budget, \$89,718. Chest, \$79,001.

Charles Settlement House — a neighborhood center for leisure time activities. Budget, \$55,849. Chest, \$50,764.

Catholic Youth Organization — recreational activities, sports and health programs. Budget, \$191,471. Chest, \$76,904.

DePaul Clinic — psychiatric help for emotionally disturbed children. Budget, \$199,831. Chest, \$27,421.

St. Elizabeth's Guild Home — a residence for young women. Budget, \$51,904. Chest, \$38,359.

St. Joseph's Villa — a home for children. Budget, \$312,310. Chest, \$15,516.

Pictures and articles by staff members of the various agencies are published in this issue of the Courier to give readers a detailed report on the Catholic Charities three million dollar program in the Rochester Diocese.

Interview with the Director

Poverty is no alien in Rochester.

Fifteen thousand families in this area felt his lean grip this year.

Trying to get rid of him is the task of Father Donald J. Mulcahy who aims a double-barreled shot-gun at this common enemy of mankind.

Father Mulcahy's weapon is his two-fold job as head of the Catholic Charities of the Rochester Diocese and of the Action for a Better Community organization.

We asked Father Mulcahy, "Why is there poverty in this affluent area and how are you going to get rid of it?"

Here are the answers to our questions:

1. Is there poverty in Rochester and Monroe County?

Yes, according to the 1960 census, nearly 15,000 families had a gross income of less than \$3,000 per year. Unless constructive measures are taken immediately, this number will increase substantially in the next ten years.

2. What can be done to overcome poverty?

No one has the complete answer. The Federal Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, however, provides many new approaches, such as the Job Corps, and Work-Training Programs. It also provides stimulation and incentive for local communities to mobilize their resources to combat poverty through community action programs.

3. Has Rochester a Community Action Program?

Yes, such a program has been planned by Action for a Better Community, Inc. This is Rochester's private non-profit corporation formed to plan the war against poverty locally. Its membership consists of a cross-section of the entire community: residents of the inner-city, governmental and private welfare leaders, representatives of religion, business and labor. Its program has been approved by the Federal Government and funds totaling \$1,300,000 will be channeled into our community-to-war-against-poverty.

4. What are the main elements of the Community Action Program?

There are now four parts to the program:

- The "Lighted Schoolhouse" offers after-school, eve-

ning, Saturday morning and vacation periods, opportunities to children and adults for additional services such as speech improvement, assistance in reading, tutoring, study skills, counseling, etc. This program is based on the fact that a majority of children from the inner-city come to school with a cultural deficit which is soon translated into an educational lag thus limiting future productivity — and so the cycle of poverty is continued. Programs will be conducted in schools, neighborhood centers, churches, stores, etc. Sister Jamesetta of Nazareth Academy will be the full-time Co-Director.

• A Pre-school and Adult Youth Work-Training Center

—This plan will combine nursery school facilities for educationally deficient children and work-training opportunities for youth and adults. It will attempt to bring 3 and 4 year olds of the inner-city for kindergarten and elementary schools. Experience shows that these deprived children are two years behind the normal. This program seeks to educate at a time when the child is most susceptible to education. It will use professionals and a very large number of adults from the inner-city, trained specifically to work in the program. The City School District will operate this for all children.

• Neighborhood Service Centers — There will be two in Rochester, one in the Jefferson Avenue area, the other in the Joseph Avenue area. These will attempt to bring all sorts of needed services down to the neighborhood level. At the Centers, can be found a saturation of such services as: job finding, health services, counseling, job training, etc.

• Operation Headstart — Sister Joanne of St. Thomas the Apostle School will be the Co-Director of this summer-time program. With federal funds, it is an attempt to prepare the culturally deprived children for school this September. During the summer time, programs will be conducted in all sorts of remedial education in the inner-city.

5. How can other citizens help?

Ultimately our Community Action plan will involve as many agencies and individuals as are interested in the problem of poverty. There will be plenty of room for donations of services and of monies. Our executives in Action For A Better Community will be appealing to the community in the near future.

Where Neighbors Become Friends

It was midnight when a nine year old boy knocked on the

door of a neighbor in the Genesee Settlement House area. He asked the lady if he could come into her house to get warm.

The lady volunteered to drive him home, but the boy apparently was afraid to go home. He did not tell the lady exactly where he lived because the house he took her to was not his own home. The boy told her his father was not at home and that his mother does not live with them.

The lady returned to her own home with the boy and she called the Director of the Genesee Settlement House. The Director suggested that the lady should telephone the police and let them handle it. While they waited for the police the boy was given hot chocolate and cup-cakes.

When the police arrived the boy cried and he was frightened but again he took the police

to the wrong home. The boy was taken to the Shelter (SPCC) and then placed in a temporary foster home.

It was morning when the Genesee Settlement House worker tried to locate the boy's father. He was working. The worker was told he would be home for lunch so she waited in front of the house until he came. The father said he was home all night and that he had

In Your Will

Generous Catholics are invited to include Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester or any of the different agencies as beneficiaries in their wills.

Charities officials suggest that lawyers be consulted in order to specify according to correct legal title the organization you wish to receive a portion of your estate.

not seen his son since noon the previous day.

The worker asked him if he wasn't worried about his son and he said, "Sure, I was out on the street and to all his friends' homes but I could not find him — he stayed out late before, but never all night."

The Settlement worker wrote a note to the father's employer to have him excused at 2:30 p.m. for personal business. The settlement worker also reminded the father that it is best to contact the authorities in cases like this. The worker volunteered to take him to pick up his son. The father welcomed this help from the Settlement House.

The role of the Settlement House with this family will be to counsel the father and do what is possible in having the mother return to her family.

Counsel and activities will also be offered to the boy.



Dr. Julian Brower learns the pent-up emotions of a child from the pictures she draws at DePaul Clinic.

tal difficulties, foster homes for children, adoptions. Total budget, \$838,323. Contributed from Community Chest, \$317,977.

A Child in Turmoil finds Help

Halm G. Ginott, a child psychologist, wrote that "children learn what they live."

The following is an excerpt from one of Ginott's publications:

If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn;

If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith in himself;

If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight;

If a child lives with acceptance, he learns to love;

If a child lives with fear, he learns to be apprehensive;

If a child lives with recognition, he learns to have a goal;

If a child lives with pity, he learns to be sorry for himself;

If a child lives with approval, he learns to like himself;

If a child lives with jealousy, he learns to feel guilty;

If a child lives with friendliness, he learns that the world is a nice place to live in.

Most of the above qualities and emotions are learned by children in their own homes, within their own family circle. However, sometimes things go wrong in families and some of the "disturbing" attitudes become more important to children, such as self-condemnation, over-aggression, apprehension and self-guilt.

When this occurs both parents and children need help in re-evaluating their relationships with one another and in establishing more "healthy" attitudes within the family. Other important events happen to a child beside that which occurs in the home.

When he reaches school age he begins to go out into the world and measure himself against its many requirements. Now, for much of his day, he is asked to become one of

many. The time when a child was the center of a small universe, shielded by his parents and living largely within the security of his own home is gone.

Some children are more ready for this transition than others, depending upon the sense of security they received from parents. What of those who are not emotionally prepared for their venture into the "outside" world? These are the children who have difficulty in school, who need help in overcoming these difficulties and help in becoming better students and school citizens.

Parents and teachers who decide to turn to professional sources for advice about a child's development should look for someone who is not only wise and understanding but who has had extensive training in the special problems of children's emotional growth.

The need for a "team" of people with these qualifications has led to the establishment of child guidance clinics throughout the country in the past three decades. The Rochester Catholic school system is fortunate in having just such a clinic to turn to in understanding children experiencing emotional problems at home and in school.

The DePaul Clinic is a division of Catholic Charities and a Community Chest agency; it is licensed as a psychiatric clinic by the State of New York, Department of Mental Hygiene. Mental health services are provided for school age children, usually between the ages of 5 and 18; psychiatric social service is provided for the parents of these children. From April, 1964 through March, 1965, the staff saw approximately 349 children and their parents.

Referrals to the Clinic are made by the parochial schools, in cooperation with parents, who must desire such service.

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