

Blanche Thompson

Local Author, Still Going Strong

At an age at which most people have long since retired, Blanche Thompson, probably Rochester's best known author of children's books, is still pursuing a successful writing career that began when she was only twelve. Her 25th title, *St. Frances de Sales*, a biography written for the 9-15 year old group, has just appeared. It's one of several she has done for the "Vision" series published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

As a young girl in Geneseo, Miss Thompson won a prize for a story sent to a Rochester newspaper. "I made up my mind then and there to become a writer," she says, and her decision never faltered.

She writes professionally as Blanche Jennings Thompson, because "when I began writing, three-decker names were the proper thing. Now they sound rather pretentious... but publishers don't like to change."

She is undoubtedly best known for a slim anthology of poetry called *Silver Pennies*. The book has sold over 350,000 copies, and a new edition bound with *More Silver Pennies* is planned for 1966.

After graduating from the old Geneseo Normal School in 1908, Miss Thompson began a teaching career which covered half a century. She taught 42 years in the public schools of Rochester, and then 8 years, part-time, at the University of Rochester. A freak accident in 1956 hospitalized her for months and ended her teaching career. She still needs crutches when she walks today, but her mind is as quicksilver as ever and her book production has been unabated.

Besides books of poetry, Blanche Thompson's name appears on several English textbooks, as well as a prayer book, *All Day With God*, a new revision of which will soon be available. Her stay in the hospital in 1956 opened up a new avenue to her, that of lives of saints for children. "I wrote *St. Elizabeth's Three Crowns*, for the Vision series while I was stranded in the hospital,

and since it was successful, followed it with four others," she says.

Along the journey, she collected her B.S. degree from Teachers College of Columbia University and an M.A. from the University of Rochester. Nazareth College has also awarded her an honorary doctorate in literature.

Blanche Thompson's deep religious convictions have not been relegated to her personal life. They have played an open and unabated role in her writing, as well. Not that all her writing has been about religious subjects, of course—but even in secular textbooks, her spiritual orientation has been noticeable.

"Writing brief introductions for an essay or a poem in a textbook, an editor has to exercise some critical judgment. If there was a moral lesson in the material, I did not hesitate to point it out," she explains.

Miss Thompson leads a life as disciplined and orderly as her clean-cut style of writing. She spends much of her time reading, writing, doing research and writing Braille. She has transcribed 25 books into Braille for the Xavier Society for the Blind.

Like most writers Blanche Thompson is an inveterate reader. She began listing the books she read, when she was about 14, and the list numbers over 5,000 today. "I like biography best, then poetry, essays and short stories," she states. Modern novels have no appeal for her, and she has small regard for most secular magazines—"they're just adult picture books." She does, however, read *The New York Times*, *Commonweal*, *Sign* and the *Saturday Review* to keep up with current events.

Miss Thompson advises aspiring writers to do a great deal of reading. And, she adds: "You don't need 'pull.' You do need an interesting character or idea, effectively presented—and a good bit of luck. My own career has been good luck all the way."

—Father Robert Kunka



Author Indefatigable

BLANCHE THOMPSON, noted writer of books for children, recently saw her 25th title published, a biography of St. Frances de Sales.

AOH Initiation Named For President Kennedy

The "President John F. Kennedy Memorial Initiation" of Division No. 2 Ancient Order of Hibernians will be held at the AOH Clubhouse, 48 Alexander St. at 3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 26.

Paul Hastings, committee chairman reports he has a large number of applicants for membership. He urges all members to attend to extend a welcome to the new members.

President Kennedy joined the Hibernians in Watertown, Mass.

Forty Hours' Son Offers Requiem For Mrs. Kleintjes

Bishop Kearney gave the absolution at the Solemn Funeral Mass for Mrs. Lillian Brill Kleintjes in Guardian Angels Church, Henrietta, Tuesday, Sept. 14. The Mass was offered by her son, the Rev. John B. Kleintjes, pastor of that church.

Mrs. Kleintjes, 83, of Auburn, died at St. Ann's Home, Sept. 11, 1965.

Assisting Father Kleintjes in the Solemn Requiem Mass were the Rev. John Brill, deacon and the Rev. Raymond Wahl, subdeacon.

Also in attendance were the Right Reverend Monsignors Leslie G. Whalen, Richard K. Burns, Dennis W. Hickey, George W. Eckl and William J. Naughton and 45 other priests.

Born in Hornell, Mrs. Kleintjes was the widow of John J. Kleintjes who died in 1958.

She was a member of the Altar-Rosary Society of St. Alphonsus Church, Auburn.

Besides her priest-son, surviving are another son, Paul L. Kleintjes of Garden Grove, California; four granddaughters, one grandson, several nieces and nephews.

Father Brill gave the blessing at the grave in St. Ann's Church, Hornell. Arrangements by N. J. Miller's Son Funeral Home, Mt. Hope Ave., Rochester.

In Monroe County

New District Councils Of DCCW Now In Action

Four newly-established Monroe County districts of the Council of Catholic Women will swing into action this week with their first fall meetings.

Southeast District will meet at St. Boniface Church hall on Monday, Sept. 20 at 8:30 p.m. The Community Action committee, headed by Mrs. James Dobson will present Sister Jamesetta, S.S.J., speaking on the Lighted Schoolhouse program of which she is co-director. Mrs. Robert Taylor is president of this district.

Northeast District under the presidency of Mrs. Anthony Voelkl, will meet at St. Stanislaus hall on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Community Action committee will feature a talk on the Monroe County Infirmary by Miss Mary Elizabeth Conway, director of Nursing Service. Mrs. Bernice Bromka, chairman of this committee will indicate other community agencies in need of volunteers. A skit on parliamentary procedure by the Organization and Development committee, and a short talk by Mrs. Joseph Palo will conclude the meeting.

Southwest District is also meeting on Sept. 21, at the Bishop Kearney Education Building at St. Mary's Hospital at 8 p.m. President Mrs. Donald J. Lerch will present moderator Father Emmett Halloran, who will give an explanatory talk on the D.C.C.W. organization. Reports from affiliation presidents on their programs will also be made.

On Wednesday, Sept. 22, the Northwest District will meet at St. Lawrence parish at 8 p.m. An orientation meeting is planned by Mrs. Elmer Hildebrand, president, with Mrs. William Merkel, chairman of Organization and Development offering helpful ideas on parish societies.

Men's College Accepts Bid

Acting in behalf of the St. John Fisher College Board of Regents, Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, C.S.B., president of the college yesterday (Thursday, Sept. 9) accepted a bid by the LeCesse Corp., 1515 Lyell Ave., to be general contractor for the construction of a second campus dormitory.

The bid was for \$887,000. Construction will begin immediately.

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ROCHESTER, NEW YORK OFFICIAL 'RELEASED TIME' CALENDAR

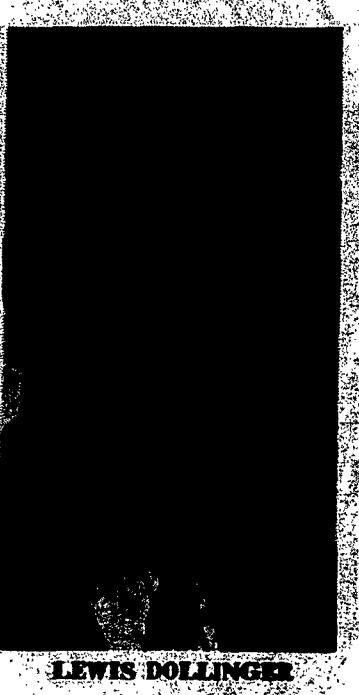
(For Classes in the CITY of Rochester) 1965-66

September:	Week of 27—ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Released Time Classes begin
	Monday 27—HIGH SCHOOL Released Time Classes begin
October:	Tuesday 12—Columbus Day—Holiday
	Friday 22—State Teachers' Regional Conference
	Monday 25—Deadline for registration of students for HIGH SCHOOL Released Time Classes
November:	Thursday 11—Veterans Day
	Thursday 25—Thanksgiving Day Recess & Friday 26
December:	Wednesday 22—½ day session (morning) of school
	Thursday 23—Christmas Recess Begins
January:	Monday 3—School reopens
	Monday 17—Mid-term examinations for HIGH SCHOOL Released Time Classes
February:	Monday to 21—February Recess
	Friday 25
April:	Friday 8—Easter Recess begins
	Monday 18—School reopens
May:	Monday 2—Final examination for HIGH SCHOOL Released Time Classes
	Monday 9—Last class of year HIGH SCHOOL Released Time Classes
	Week of 16—ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Released Time Classes close
June:	Monday 6—Deadline for returning Credit Report Lists for HIGH SCHOOL pupils to CCD office

TWO HOLYDAYS on School Days:
Monday, November 1—All Saints Day
Wednesday, December 8—Immaculate Conception

THREE HOLYDAYS on Monday:
December 27—Christmas Recess
April 11—Easter Recess
February 21—February Recess

NOTE: For the Credit Report Lists Total No. of High School Classes 31.



CYO Member Campaign Underway

Lewis L. Dollinger, General Chairman of the Catholic Youth Association Membership Campaign has announced that the goal for 1965-66 is an increase from the present figure of 4,200 to 4,300 members.

The CYO, in operation since 1931, was instituted for the benefit of all races and creeds as a social and recreational program for boys, girls, men and women. Many memberships go to underprivileged boys and girls, providing access to facilities and activities for character and body building.

The special gifts committee met September 15 to kick-off this year's campaign.

GENERAL kick-off dinner meeting took place at the Columbus Civic Center last night, September 16. Closing report day will be held on September 30, and Bishop Kearney will give an address at this meeting.

Other members of the planning group with General Chairman Dollinger are: Co-Chairman, Andrew P. Donovan; Industrial Chairman, Robert J. Scott; Industrial Co-Chairman, Joseph A. Ioele; Special Gifts Chairman, James P. Spillane; Special Gifts Co-Chairman, William L. Bennett; General Men Chairman, Anthony V. Savine; General Men Co-Chairman, John F. Fischette; General Women Chairman, Miss Josephine C. Lombardo; General Women Co-Chairman, Mrs. Robert E. Parker.

Fisher Students To Be Housed At Manger

Approximately 50 out-of-town students attending St. John Fisher College this year will be housed at the Manger Hotel, it was announced today by Herbert Wilshire, dean of student affairs at the college. The group includes both freshmen and upperclassmen.

Ward Hall, the campus dormitory, was booked full several months ago, according to Wilshire. Bids for the construction of a second dormitory on the East Avenue campus were accepted by officials of the college yesterday. The new dormitory is scheduled to be ready for occupancy by next September.

The Manger-based students will depend on public transportation to commute to and from the St. John Fisher campus. They will take their meals in the Ward Hall dining room and will be integrated with campus residents insofar as is possible.



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20 1/2 oz. tin 2 for 67¢

DOLE CRUSHED PINEAPPLE
20 1/2 oz. tin 29¢

ALLSWEET OLEO
1# pkg. 29¢

MALTEX CEREAL
20 oz. pkg. 39¢

FRENCH GRADE BLACK PEPPER
4 oz. tin 37¢

RIVER RICE
1# pkg. 2 for 35¢

ANGLO CORNED BEEF
12 oz. tin 49¢

SCOT TISSUE
White or Colors
8 roll 1# pkg. 49¢

SCOT PLACEMATS
pkg. 35¢

HILLS BROS., COFFEE
4¢ off 1# tin .75¢
10¢ off 2# tin 1.45

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school day favorites

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FILM LIFE C.C.D. offices in his

In his 18 year of the Confraternal Doctrine (in the Diocese Father Albert seen the program infancy to adult

"Back in 1947 15,000 public school children enrolled in programs. This fall about 62,000 are taught by priests, sisters, lay catechists," the Catholic Co

The C.C.D. is only been in its quality, its to point out.

"When I was to this work, I considered a sacrifice, intense take care of our were not in C. The classes were by priests, with helps, and the usually makeshift adequate," he r

Teac

More than 1, the area are ex the Annual Tea ence of Roch Schools to be h Tuesday, Sept. 14, Rochester, War Keynote addi on Monday will Rt. Rev. Misgr ley, Assistant S of the Nationa

MONSIGNO

For Ne

Brea At M

Ground brea Mother of Sor Greece will tak day, Sept. 19 ceremony will parish picnic 77th birthday of B. O'Rourke of Our Mother of

Participants O'Rourke who first shovelful, Wood who is town and cotn Knights of St. tees and audi and Boy Scout and members The above m will assemble a rows School a proceed to th Mother of Sor will provide a for the program

New A For Fr

Here is the l Father Freder priest of the l ester serving-i of the Army-

CH (Capt.) Straub, Office of the Hq 5th Spec AFPO San 96240.