

Should Old Aquinas Be Forgotten?

By **WHIT JOHNSON**

When young Johnny enters Aquinas Institute in a few years from now chances are things will be considerably different than when his father or older brother was there.

Gone will be the old box-type classroom so familiar to the present generation and gone will be the single homeroom teacher. Instead of just one teacher, a teaching team of six or seven will welcome Johnny each day.

His "homeroom" will be a vast teaching area dotted with such hardware as television sets, teaching machines, tape recorders and overhead projectors. The area will be readily convertible, through movable partitions, from room for 200 to a little corner where five boys can sit down with a teacher from the team. The desks and chairs will be movable, not nailed to the floor as Dad's was.

There may be wall-to-wall carpeting, no windows and no doors to the quiet, air-conditioned "classrooms."

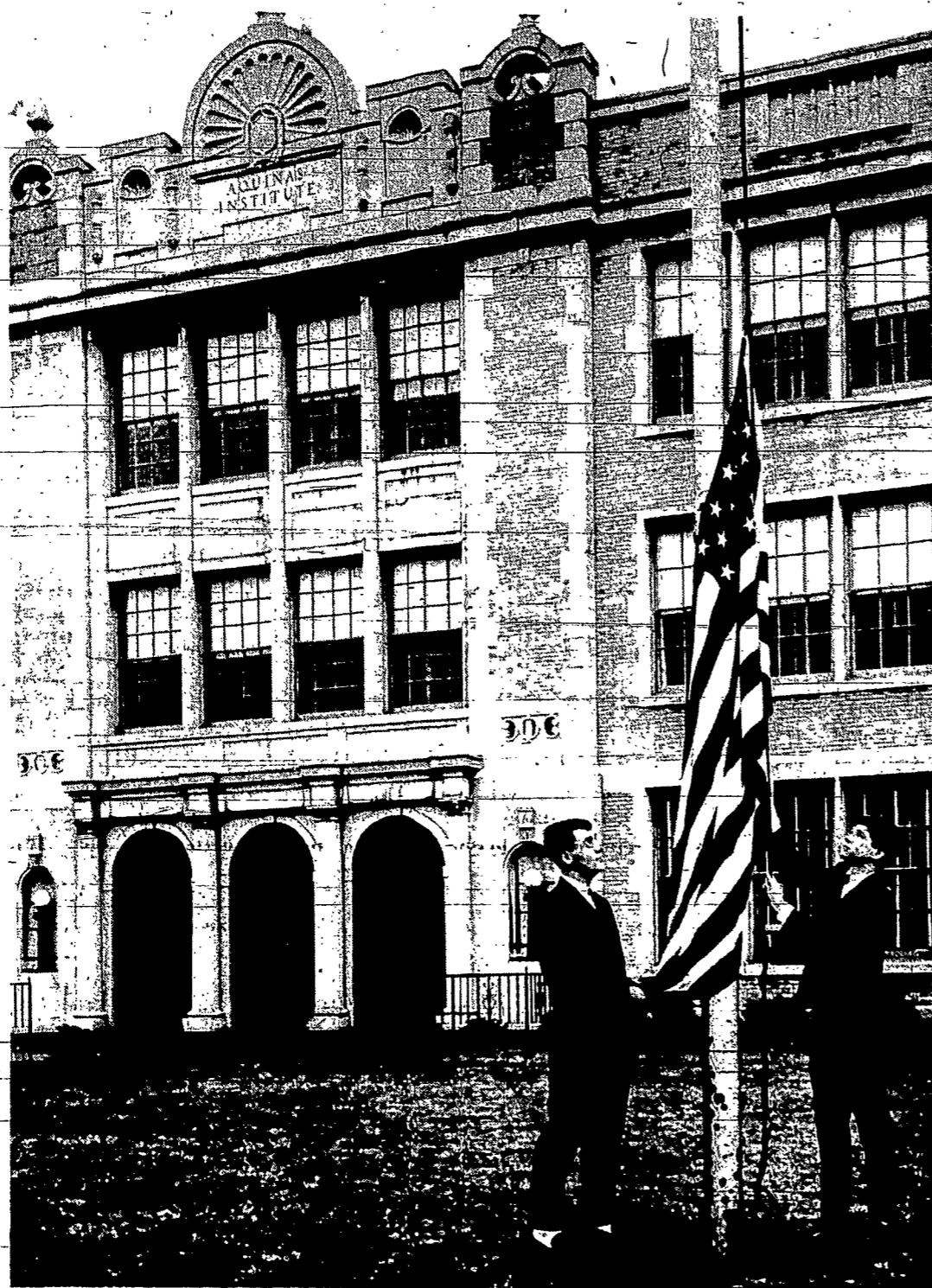
At Aquinas Johnny will be learning in new ways, and he will be learning things that a boy his age never learned in school before.

In short, he will be participating in a full-scale revolution that is already sweeping American schools.

According to Principal Father Leon Hart, C.S.B., Aquinas wants to be prepared for the revolution in education and is at present laying plans that may well require a new structure to replace the forty-year-old building on Dewey Avenue.

The revolt, says Father Hart, "cuts across the very fabric of education—the curriculum and the ways to teach it. English, mathematics, science, economics and foreign languages — almost any subject you can name — are appearing in new clothes, new concepts, new methods."

Realizing that the school curriculum simply will not be up to the space age of tomorrow, the Aquinas faculty sat down to plan it over last Monday in an all-day workshop for teachers. While students enjoyed an extra day of vacation, faculty members explored new school curricular programs and the new ways to teach them.



Experts in the field of education were invited to take part in the discussions. Dean Corrigan of the University of Rochester's College of Education, Rev. Robert Fischette, C.S.B., director of studies for the Basilian Fathers, and Edward Ribson, whose father was the architect for the present Aquinas building, were among the educators and builders who participated.

In sessions that ran late in the day teachers learned that the content of the new curriculum, in almost all subjects, takes into account that as knowledge continues to grow, it is impossible to learn it all.

Thus the new curriculum in physics, biology and chemistry at Aquinas, according to science teacher Father Donald Kuder, stressed less subject matter, less accumulation of facts learned by rote, less reliance on one textbook — but more emphasis on thinking and reasoning. English department head, Rev. Frederick Wajda, pointed out that English courses stress the broad fields of language, literature and composition. And one glance into a foreign language room points up the fact that languages no longer are taught by learning vocabulary lists and verbs, but by listening and speaking.

And Johnny, unwittingly faced with an explosion of knowledge that in science alone, by the year 2000, will present 100 times more than was known in 1900, and will have to learn it all — or at least enough to mold his world.

The pace of change, spurred on by burgeoning school enrollment and the urgency of catching up on major facts discovered as recently as yesterday, has been vastly accelerated.

Innovations such as team teaching and independent study, now going on at Aquinas, along with the need for additional library space, seminar rooms and research areas effecting the very structure of existing school buildings. New teaching and curricular patterns that are tested and adopted at Aquinas Institute in the next few years may necessitate vast changes in the present building or perhaps will require a new building all together.

Retreat League Masses To Be Led by Bishop

Members of the Laymen's Retreat League have scheduled three Masses to be said simultaneously at 8 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 25, at which reports on the League's progress will be made.

Bishop Kearney will say one of the Masses at St. Joseph's Church, Rochester.

Redemptorist Father Michael Downing, rector of the Notre Dame Retreat House, Alexander St., Rochester, will say a Mass at St. Michael's Church, Newark, and Father Raymond Boesch will say the third Mass at St. Mary's Church, Corning.

Father Richard Moran, Retreat League director, said the Masses in Newark and Corning and will give men in those areas the opportunity "to pray in union with our Bishop." He said all men interested in the retreat movement are invited to attend one of the three Masses. "We need the prayerful attendance of all," he said, "or else the harvest in 1966 will be poor for the retreat apostolate."

Help for Lepers

The lepers in mission lands were assisted by some \$17,779 during 1965, according to Father John F. Duffy, Diocesan Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. This figure, representing the amount realized in the Diocese of Rochester after all promotional expenses were paid, was an increase of approximately fifty-five hundred dollars over 1964.

"The proceeds of this special appeal made during the month of December each year, are sent directly to the Office of the National Director, Bishop Fulton Sheen," Father Duffy observed.

The 1965 appeal was marked by an offering of one thousand dollars from one individual. There was a contribution of two hundred dollars from another and also two gifts of one hundred dollars each.

At the height of the appeal in December over four hundred envelopes arrived on a single day at the Office of the Propagation of the Faith at 50 Chestnut St.

"One day last week we received a stock certificate for 21 shares of Rexall Stock for the Leper Fund, and as recently as Monday of this week, Jan. 10, we received seventeen letters containing Leper contributions," the Diocesan Director mentioned.

CIC Meeting Lists Key Housing Leaders

"Responsibility of Community Organizations in Housing" will be the topic of an informational meeting sponsored by the Catholic Interracial Council on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 8 p.m. Open to the public, the meeting is scheduled for the auditorium of the Public Safety Building (2nd floor).

With the cooperation of Mrs. Sophie Divers, Community Relations Advisor, the C.I.C. program will include many key figures in Rochester's urban renewal picture.

With Mrs. Divers moderating, the panel will consist of: Richard Pine, director of Redevelopment and Relocation; Gilbert Smith, coordinator of the 3rd Ward Urban Renewal Project; Robert Corris, Chief of Relocation and Property Management, and Mrs. Ann Taylor, Director of Planning.



MRS. SOPHIE DIVERS

A model of the 3rd Ward in which community organizations can most effectively involve themselves in the solution.

Religion Course

Something To Be Lived, Not Merely Memorized

Because Religion is something "to be lived," not merely learned, there will be no more formal exams in Religion in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Rochester.

There will be report card marks in Religion, however, based on occasional classroom tests and the teacher's appraisal of the students' response to the course.

"We are more interested in the experience and appreciation of Religion that our students receive, than in getting rote answers back," commented Father Daniel Brent, associate schools in the Diocese.

Religious courses should lead the student to make "a personal response to God," to "make God and the Faith 'real' to the pupil, stressed Sister Mary Ellen, R.S.M., Diocesan Supervisor in the Schools Office in her letter to principals last semester.

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To Make Reparation:

No Alcohol For Pioneers

The Pioneer Association, whose members pledge themselves to lifetime abstinence from alcohol for religious motives has recently been established in the Diocese of Rochester.

The first local chapter has been organized at Our Lady of Victory church, in downtown Rochester with Father Liam Crowley, S.S.C.C., as spiritual director.

The group will hold a "Social" on Saturday, Jan. 15 at the parish hall, 10 Pleasant Street, to which the public is invited. It will include a variety concert, tea and dance, with the program starting at 8 p.m. Tickets available at the door.

Formal name of the group is the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart. The full title, contains both the purpose and motivation of the group. As its booklet states it:

"The aim . . . is to give glory to the Sacred Heart by prayer and self denial, (specifically) to abstain for life from alcoholic drink, in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and to win grace for others."

The members' pledge is meant to be a life-long one, but it does not bind under pain of sin. However, if a member breaks his pledge, he is expected to turn in his membership card and the Pioneer badge which members wear. If he wants to return to full membership status, he must become a probationer for two years again.

Main rules of the association are:

- To abstain for life from all alcoholic drink.
- To recite the "Heroic Offering" (a brief restatement of their pledge to God) twice daily, morning and evening.
- To wear the badge publicly. (Most members wear a lapel-type badge).

The Pioneers are not a group of former alcoholics, although some former alcoholics do join up — after two probation years of total abstinence. It is a group of Catholics motivated, as its booklet says, "by love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the souls whom He died to redeem." They would hope, as their daily Heroic Offering states, to make reparation to the Sacred Heart for sins of intemperance, and

to win the conversion of excessive drinkers.

The "Pioneer" degree of membership is reserved for those over 16 years of age, who have taken no alcoholic drink for two years prior to their admission to this rank.

"Probationers" include those between the ages of 14 and 16, and also those who, although of temperate habits, have taken a drink forbidden by the rules during the two years prior to admission.

There is also a "Temporary Pledge Section" in the movement for those unwilling or incapable of trying the lifetime pledge. Former alcoholics often enter this division, and renew their pledge periodically.

The Pioneer Association was

founded in 1894, in Dublin, Ireland, by a Jesuit priest, Father James Cullen. It now has an international membership of over 500,000 members.

Provisional officers appointed for the new branch are:

President, Gene McGinnity; secretary, Kathleen McSharry; treasurer, Thomas Flannery; Council members, Sean Hanley, Eileen McSharry, Cathleen Tarpey, Peter Tunney and Liam Hogan.

Anyone desirous of knowing more about the Pioneers can contact Father Liam Crowley at Our Lady of Victory Church in downtown Rochester, or the group's secretary, Kathleen McSharry, whose mailing address is 379 Ravenwood Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14619.



Prayer for Unity Week

FATHER ROMAN ZABLOCKI, S.A., local director for the Week of Prayer for Unity, and Father Joachim Brugger, S.A., assistant director, discuss plans for services to be held in the city of Elmira from January 18 to 25. (See story on page one.) The Unity movement is a special apostolate of the Fathers of the Atonement.

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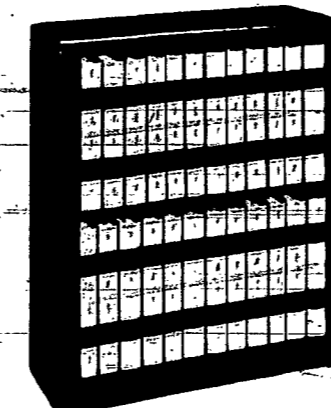
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