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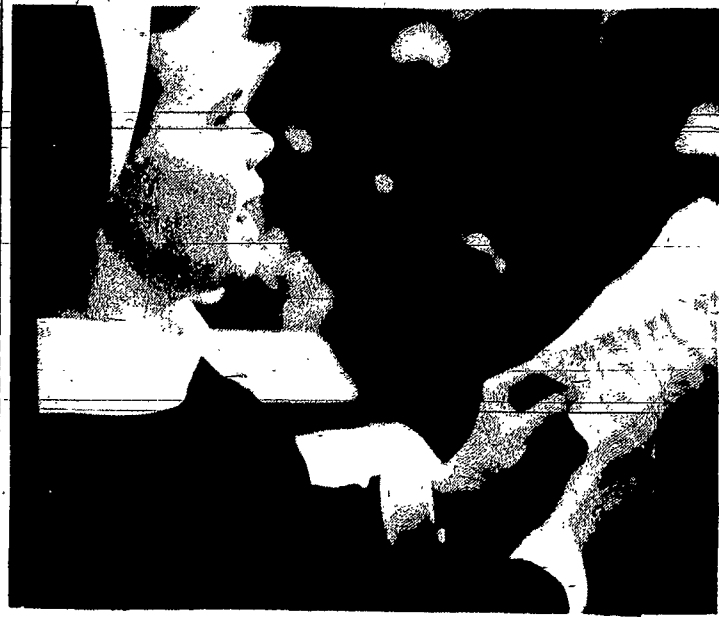
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Mercy Sisters Plan Concert



SISTER MARY EMERIC, a young Junior Professed Sister who is a member of the Chorus of Sisters which practices every Sunday morning for the coming concert. Sister herself is in the process of completing her final credits toward a B.A. degree with a major in English.

MERCY GIRLS prepare solo parts with Miss Betty Stoller, private vocal coach. Seated at piano Miss Stoller and Deborah Leach. Standing, from left to right Patricia Schubert, Judy Panaletta and Kathleen Keating.

SISTER MARY MAJELLA who will direct the chorus of Sisters of Mercy who will sing in an April Concert with the Glee Clubs from Cardinal Mooney High School and Mercy High School.

By SISTER MARY BARBARA, R.S.M.

Remembering the declarations of music-loving English poets, the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester plan this spring to proclaim by song to the people of Rochester a double intention: "We are the music-makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams."

heard" harmonies of the present and future education of their own Sisters.

The purpose of the public concert which the Sisters will give on April 22 and 23 at 8:15 p.m. in the Mercy High School Auditorium, besides the beauty of the music itself, is an explicit appeal for lay assistance in the fulfillment of the requests made upon all actively engaged religious women by the documents of Vatican Council II—requests that the Sisters cannot financially implement without the support of those who will ultimately benefit from more thoroughly educated Sisters.

VI, October 28, 1965, the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester find a two-fold incentive for this large two-day concert to be sponsored by the Mercy Guild in April: first, the Conciliar Decree's insistence on the continuing and higher education of Sisters and secondly, its encouragement of more widespread knowledge among lay people of religious congregations and their work.

Inspired by the desire to adapt to the "changed life of our time," the Sisters under the leadership of Mother Mary Bride and the sponsorship of the Mercy Guild of the Little Flower, have decided to substitute this city-wide concert for their annual spring sale. Mrs. Walter B. D. Hickey is the sponsoring chairman of the concert, and Sister Mary Barbara, R.S.M. will act as general manager.

The concert will feature the glee club from Cardinal Mooney High School (75 boys and girls) under the direction of Sister M. Edwina and the glee club of Our Lady of Mercy High

School (130 girls) under the direction of Sister M. Barbara, as well as a chorus of over 100 Sisters of Mercy, conducted by Sister M. Majella. Selections of music will include patriotic classical and folk songs, and songs from Broadway shows.

There will be two choices of tickets: Patron tickets at \$25.00 which will entitle the donor to two reserved tickets for either performance; and Regular Reserved tickets at \$2.50 each. Tickets will be available at any convent of Mercy. Patrons are invited to signify this intention by March 25.

Trained Teachers, Necessary But Costly

(Editor's Note: As a comment on the Mercy Sisters' proposed concert this Spring, aimed at raising funds for the training of their teachers, the president of McAuley College, Sister M. Petrus composed the following article.)

education for enrichment, special institutes, and degree programs.

In the summer of 1965, 22 Sisters received national or collegiate grants which completely financed their summer's academic work. According to Sister Mary Bonaventure, Director of Studies, the expenses of a summer of education at an out-of-town college or university normally total between \$300-\$400 per person. Many areas of studies necessary for all-round teacher training for the elementary and secondary schools the Sisters staff, are not covered by scholarship or grants which Sisters might earn.

The preliminary education of the young women who intend to profess vows as Sisters of Mercy is obtained at Catherine McAuley College, a non-terminal college where a two or three year program of liberal arts with some teaching methodology is now offered. Although the student body of Catherine McAuley College is small, it is important that the quality of the

education given to these prospective teachers, nurses, and social workers be of the highest caliber.

Upon the education of each Sister depends the future gift of "awakening" to knowledge and to value which she hopes personally to effect in all those whom she will contact, particularly in the schools where her "student family," by the time of her retirement, will number well into the thousands.

The proper and complete education of the potential of each religious woman is, then, one of the gravest duties facing religious Congregations today. In a society where professional standards and official documents are demanded, religious superiors must somehow find the financial means to educate the educators whom that society expects to find standing in front of its classrooms, even though the salary a Congregation receives for each classroom Sister does no more than cover the basic living costs (food, clothing and regular household expenses) of the convent.

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SISTER MARY BONAVENTURE, Director of Studies, plans possible future education for the Sisters of Mercy, who staff 29 elementary schools, three high schools, one 3-year college and one nursing school in the Diocese of Rochester. In addition they have a catechetical center in Rochester's inner-city, a foreign mission in Santiago, Chile, and staff St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell.

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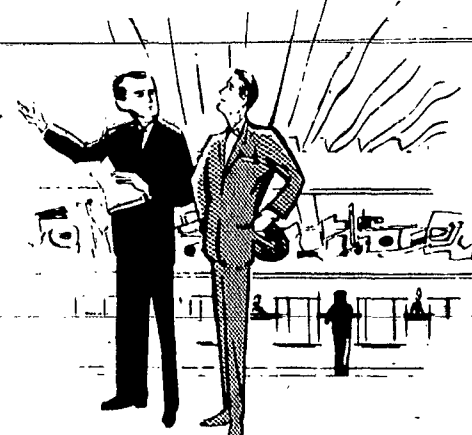
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