



Grouped around dedication plaque with Father Haffey are Sister Ethel Burge, his sister from Toronto; Hugh Rundle, a Fisher student, a nephew and Alexander McKee of St. Catherine's, Ont., also a nephew.



Father Haffey and a portion of the crowd of hundreds who attended the dedication.

Aquinas Boasts Super-Salesman

By WHIT JOHNSON

Gregory Charles Pritchard, 17, a senior at Aquinas Institute, has an auspicious title: The most successful teen-age salesman in his school — and probably in the entire city.

This is neither a press agent's label nor a promoter's wish, but a fact. It was made official at the close of the recent "dinner club" sales campaign at the Dewey Avenue school.

For several years the Mothers' Club of Aquinas, under the direction of its moderator, Father Michael Biondi, have sold dinner-club books for the express purpose of raising money for a new faculty residence.

Presently, the Basilian Fathers who staff Aquinas Institute live in the old Nazareth College building at 402 Augustine St. Greg became interested in helping the fund-raising project as a sophomore. That year he sold 90 books, valued at \$450.

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GREG PRITCHARD

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LOCAL NEWS SECTION



For its last official time — Bishop Kearney's hand lifts a crucifix to its place in Haffey Hall at St. John Fisher College.

Haffey Hall Dedication Honors Noted Basilian

In his final public act as Shepherd of the Rochester Diocese, Bishop Kearney officiated last Sunday at the formal dedication of Haffey Hall, the new 200-man dormitory at St. John Fisher College.

The new student residence is named in honor of Father Hugh J. Haffey, C.S.B., former Aquinas Institute vice principal and first executive director of St. John Fisher College.

Bishop Kearney and Father Haffey were feted at a luncheon at Oak Hill Country Club prior to the mid-afternoon dedication ceremonies, which took place in the lounge of the new building.

Hundreds of Fisher students as well as members of the Board of Regents, administration, and faculty attended the other Fisher campus buildings dedication. Haffey Hall and were open for public inspection.

Father Haffey, a native of Welland, Ont., and a graduate of St. Michael's College, Toronto, taught English and speech at Aquinas for 10 years. It was he who selected and purchased the original 72 acres to be used for the future Fisher campus on behalf of the Basilian Fa-

thers Corporation Aug. 29, 1947. He also led the drive to build Aquinas Memorial Stadium, organized the Aquinas Men's Club, and was founder and director of the Christian Culture Lecture Series in Rochester. Among the prominent speakers he brought to Rochester at that

time was Bishop (then Monsignor) Sheen, who succeeds Bishop Kearney as Ordinary of the Rochester Diocese.

As executive director of St. John Fisher from 1947 to 1949, Father Haffey helped conduct the first fund drive to build the

Kearney Administration Building on the East Avenue campus. He also was instrumental in selecting the school colors (cardinal red and gold) and in designing the coat of arms of the college. He is now on the faculty of the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Tex.

Chaplain Albert Assigned To SAC

Chaplain (Colonel) John F. Albert, Alaskan Command chaplain and priest of the Rochester Diocese, will be reassigned this month as command chaplain at Strategic Air Command headquarters near Omaha, Neb.

Numerous improvements have been made in the Alaskan Command Chaplains' Program during Chaplain Albert's tenure.

Perhaps the most significant contribution to the program is the annual religious art and photography contest. The contest fosters competition among artists and photographers from both remote sites and large military installations and affords a display opportunity for serious hobbyists and amateurs.

Father Albert was born March 28, 1916, in Rochester. He attended Holy Cross Grammar

School, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries. Father Albert was ordained June 7, 1941, at Sacred Heart Cathedral and became assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in Corning, New York.

He was commissioned in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps in March, 1945, and served in the Philippine Islands until June, 1948. Colonel Albert's travels since entering military service have been extensive, including such places as Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico; Lakenheath Air Force Base, England; Naha Air Force Base, Okinawa; and numerous assignments in the United States.



FATHER ALBERT

Mercy Nuns' Mission

Friendship at a Storefront

By MONICA REEVES

"Mt. Carmel Home Visitation Unit" and "Joseph Avenue Storefront" are two rather long names for a basically simple, but often difficult to achieve thing—friendship.

It is the Sisters of Mercy who are forming two-way friendships to combat the curse of the inner-city of Rochester. As Sister Mary Concepta, of the Storefront quickly and emphatically points out, this friendship is not a project, not a handout, is not a one-way sort of affair at all. "This is the idea—it is a sharing; a neighborhood sort of thing," adds Sister Mary Claude, who, with Sister Concepta, con-

stitute the Storefront's full-time team.

The Storefront's activities are aimed at the youngsters of the area, many of whom live in the Hanover Project and the Chatham Gardens complex.

Monday through Thursday afternoons, from 3:30 to 5, an average of 100 youngsters, ages 4 through 13, invade the building on Joseph Avenue that the Sisters of Mercy have equipped with toys and a great deal of love. There are sewing classes for the older girls, and a boys' group. On Thursdays Sister Mary Majella conducts a singing class. Registration at the center is

on the upswing, with a total of 290 youngster officially on the books, in contrast to the 20 that were enrolled at the center's start 4 years ago.

At the onset, the Mercy Community had no formal plans, no set pattern to follow. They held a series of orientation meetings, moved into the neighborhood, felt their way around, and worked from there.

Volunteers at the Storefront in addition to Sisters of Mercy who come every afternoon, include Mercy High School students, two of whom come in each day, Monday through Thursday. Postulants in the Mercy order man the fort on

Saturdays. Also, suburban parents take a child into their home for a day, and both the child and the adult profit, Sister Claude reports. "There is much for both sides to learn."

It is through the children that contact is made with the adult population of the area. For what youngster could resist asking sister home for a visit. It is through these visits that the sisters try to encourage the people to take advantage of the programs established for them, such as FIGHT and Action for a Better Community (ABC). As a result, neighborhood ties are strengthened, and every one becomes aware that the Sisters are a real part of the community.

Although the problems of the Mt. Carmel parishioners are of a different sort, helping people to help themselves still seems to be the general idea.

Sister Mary Regis, who heads the Home Visitation Unit, works closely with Sister Mary Fidella, principal of Mt. Carmel on Ontario Street, since a child's behavior in the classroom situation is often indicative of his home life. With the assistance of a social worker and psychologist provided for by Federal Aid, Sister Regis attempts to uncover the home situation which literally begs for help. Space to eat and sleep, much less to study is at a premium. And a home with no heat, poor plumbing facilities and no hot water, is hardly conducive to study.

Since those of the area are predominantly of Puerto Rican descent, language barriers and becoming accustomed to the fast pace of the American way of life, constitutes the basis for many of the problems encountered by these people. Sister Regis and her crew are available to translate and provide transportation to welfare offices, clinics and during emergencies.

Although Sister Regis is wary of the handout sort of situation, she and her coworkers have given food and clothing to tide those over who need help until they can become self-sustaining.

Along the lines of volunteers, students of St. Joseph's parish in Penfield, Mercy High students, and two young people from the Neighborhood Youth Corp help out.

A Mass in Spanish on Sunday, complete with the music of native instruments and a final meal afterwards, helps to create a real neighborhood spirit.

Neighborhood spirit seems to be very much a party of the Sisters of Mercy Apostolate in the inner-city of Rochester as they themselves become real neighbors, and friends.



Sister Mary Concepta and friends.



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