



JUST A STORE FRONT — but the new Pax Center in Geneva's central district draws the neighborhood kids like a magnet to its "people-oriented" program.



DOLLS ON DISPLAY. Susan Simeone, left, and Susan Klestinec, show Jerome O'Hanlon the marionette and stuffed doll that have taken shape in a craft class at Pax Center.



"—BLOWING BUBBLES!" might be the theme song of Karen Tracy, who produced this giant in a contest held during an Open House at Geneva's Pax Center.

The Church in the Inner City

Pax Center

Non-Profit Store, But Business is Good

Some stores don't want to make a profit.

That's because they are store fronts that have been converted to some other purpose like store front churches or information centers.

Geneva's new "Pax Center" is a fresh arrival on the non-profit scene. Located at 179 Exchange St., just off the downtown business section, this "people-oriented" venture has been active since June 1.

Lawyers' Mass, September 18

Bishop Sheen will celebrate the annual Lawyers' Red Mass in St. Joseph Church, Monday, Sept. 18 at 9 a.m. to mark the opening of the courts in the Rochester diocese area.

Judges, attorneys and public officials will attend the Mass. The public is invited according to Supreme Court Justice Daniel J. O'Mara, general chairman. Detailed plans will be announced next week.

Its business is people, young and old, and at the moment it offers 11 varied programs held at various times of the week.

There has been a strong emphasis on youngsters during the summer while so many youthful Genevans were on vacation. While the children's programs will continue, the fall season is expected to bring more adult-oriented programs into action.

A temporary board of directors, headed by Jerome O'Hanlon, who is the F.B.I. resident agent for the Geneva area, oversees the operation.

24 volunteers, including eight Hobart College students, have handled the summer programs which have taken care of nearly 200 neighborhood youngsters.

A civic operation, the Pax Center has no formal affiliation with any parish structure or religious affiliation. It was brought into being, however, by a group of people who are ac-

tive in apostolic work, including Third Order Franciscans and members of the Legion of Mary.

"The community has accepted the center with open arms," O'Hanlon stated last week. "We may still fall flat on our faces," he conceded cheerfully, "but we don't expect to."

Rent for one year has been donated by one of Geneva's religious groups and a score of volunteer workers have converted the former store into a serviceable all-purpose room, with kitchen and toilet facilities available.

Children's programs during the summer included two arts and craft sessions, water and oil painting, a story telling hour and two films a week, with an informal discussion on the movies following.

Language classes in Spanish and English are being taught, too, and there's a social hour for adults one night a week.

A "clothes bank" provides a

selection of usable wearing apparel sold at very modest prices.

Fortnightly picnics, with buses taking up to 100 kids out to some neighboring park or beach, were a big item during the vacation period.

The center got a splash of publicity recently, when a float engineered by Pax Center volunteers and youngsters took first place at the Seneca Falls Aqua Festival.

The festival theme was "A Tribute to Walt Disney." The Pax Center's float was a depiction of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." What with a lovely young Snow White, and seven dwarfs in high, colorful paper-mache heads cawing alongside her, the Pax entry was a shoo-in.

Yes, the Pax Center is in (non-profit) business.

—Faber Robert Kanka

Departure Rite For the Smetts

Former Courier-Journal news editor Robert Smett and his wife, bound for a mission school teaching assignment in American Samoa, will be lifted on their way with a departure ceremony next Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. at Nazareth Motherhouse (Sept. 7).

Father Paul Chaisson, a priest of the Society of Mary, who is stationed at the Samoan mission where the Smetts will be, will offer the departure Mass in the Motherhouse chapel.

A few hours later, the South Pacific bound couple will emplane for San Francisco, thence to Honolulu, finally to Pago Pago in American Samoa — a distance of some 8,000 miles from Rochester.

Class of '47 Plans Picnic

The graduating class of 1947 from St. Augustine's School will hold a family picnic at Churchville Park, September 10.

Class members interest in attending should contact Shirley Shu Hays 288-2003 or William Diesel 889-9759.

Former Sisters Keep on Teaching

Teaching sisters who are leaving the convent are not making the move because they feel that their work is irrelevant, Monsignor William M. Roche asserted this week.

On the contrary, "the overwhelming majority" of those sisters who leave religious life continue to be teachers—either in Catholic or public schools, the diocesan superintendent of schools noted.

Speaking to the annual Principals Workshop at Nazareth College last Monday, Monsignor Roche suggested that a more accurate cause for sisters leaving their convent was the "rule which congregations follow."

He added that many helpful changes in community rules have already been made. "I am sure that an answer will be found," he continued, "to provide adequate means for personal sanctification, while allowing sufficient freedom for the 'varieties of highly professional work' which religious do today."

Noting that the New York State Constitutional Convention

had voted overwhelmingly to eliminate the controversial provision in the forthcoming constitution, Monsignor Roche added:

"If the delegates . . . reflect the mind of the citizens of our state, one of the last vestiges of educational discrimination is about to end."

He stressed that the final elimination of the Blaine Amendment must be carried out by public mandate at the polls this fall.

The Catholic Schools superintendent warned that public indifference might well allow educational discrimination to continue, if voters failed to exercise their choice in the elections.

The three day workshop drew principals from every part of the diocese to Nazareth College. Their agenda included talks on sex education in the schools, state testing programs and the role of lay teachers. Time was allocated for several group dialogues to talk over the presentations and also a "question box" hor conducted by Monsignor Roche.

Missionary 34 Years

Jesuit Father Thibault Greets Many Kin in Area

Father Merlin A. Thibault, S.J. who has served in the Jesuit missions for 34 years was on his third trip home, this past week, and visited with relatives in the Rochester area.

The veteran missionary has served as a parish priest, leper colony chaplain, teacher and construction administrator. During World War II, he shepherded a "parish on the run" for four years in the Mindanao mountains.

He is a native of Clayton, N.Y. and spent much of the past three months visiting his hundreds of relatives hereabouts. Over the past week end he was at the home of his cousin (Mrs. William Glasgow, 404 Carfer St. Occasion was the 25th anniversary of the profession of her vows by their daughter, Sister M. Annunziata, a Sister of Mercy assigned this year to St. Louis, Pittsford School, Pittsford.

Two months ago, while visiting another cousin Norbert

Thibault and Mrs. Thibault, 674 Portland Ave., he attended a family reunion of 243 relatives at Powder Mill Park, June 2.

During the war, the Japanese put a price on his head as he continued his spiritual guidance, hidden by Filipino guerrillas. It was a harrowing experience, he recalled. He moved throughout a wide parish sometimes awakened by warnings in the middle of the night. He crawled through tall grass away from the roads and frequently existed on bananas and coconuts.

Father Thibault has directed the building of colleges, seminaries, churches and a retreat house. He completed supervision of the erection of Davao University just before his return to this country in May.

He will leave for Europe, next month. After stops in Paris and Rome, he will in October begin construction of a four-story residence for a Jesuit provincial in Manila.

Urban Issues Seminar

Now Accepting Applicants

A unique opportunity for 45 laymen who want to find out how to do something about urban problems will be offered in Rochester starting in October.

Ecumenical in its framework, the "Lay Seminar on Urban Issues" will be limited to a total of 45 enrollees, 15 from each major faith group. Thus, Catholic participants will be limited to 15.

Face to face dialogue with practitioners in the fields of government, education, community organization, poverty and urban planning is the basic component. Selected readings and theological discussion round out the content.

Seminar members will meet two nights each month, on the third Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of the month from October through June, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Perfect attendance, except for emergencies, will be expected of all participants.

Applicants may call Mrs. Marvin Wurth at 381-5157 for registration forms.

The seminar is being sponsored jointly by the Catholic Diocesan Office for Urban Ministry, the Race Relations Committee of the Jewish Community Council, and the Rochester Area Council of Churches' Board for Urban Ministry.

First Pre-Seminary Event Termed 'Happy Success'

The first event in a new diocesan "pre-seminary" program was termed "a very happy success" by its chief architect, Father Louis J. Hohman, diocesan director of vocations.

Thirty-eight high school students from more than 25 parishes attended a three day vocation seminar at Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua, early this week, Sunday through Tuesday.

The young men who are considering the possibility of entering the priesthood came from such parishes as those in Brockport, Elmira, Geneva, Horseheads, Hornell, Scottsville, Spencerport and Rochester.

Auburn had the largest representation—eight. Father Hohman said other events will be scheduled during the school year.

His Gift of Tongues Will Be Used Next Week

The linguistic talents of a Rochester-born Redemptorist priest will be put to good use next week in Rome.

Father Clement Englert, C.S.S.R., 57, will be an interpreter for the Redemptorist General Chapter which opens on Friday, Sept. 8.

Of the more than 100 Redemptorist delegates to the chapter, some 35 speak English, but the majority speak other languages.

Father Englert, a graduate of Holy Redeemer school in Rochester, is presently on the faculty of Fordham University. An

authority on the Eastern Rites of the Church, he is conversant with a baker's dozen of languages, including Russian and Old Slavonic—although he probably won't need those particular tongues for the chapter.

Father Englert has a brother in the Redemptorist order, Brother Liguori, presently stationed at New York City's Immaculate Conception Church.

Another Englert brother, Carl, now lives in North Carolina, while Sylvester, Joseph, Robert and John, and a sister, Genevieve, reside in the Rochester area.

Rochester Telephone Names Henner to Board

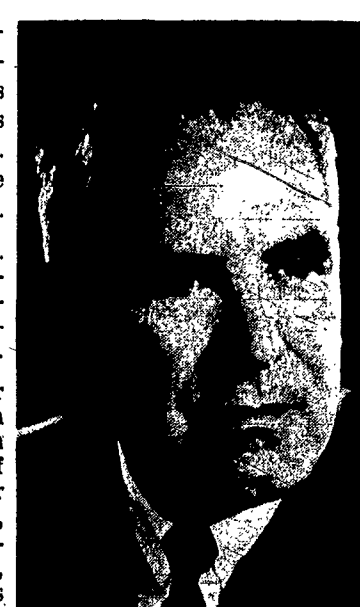
Gilbert A. Henner, vice president and treasurer of Rochester Telephone Corporation, has been elected to the company's board of directors, George S. Beinetti, Rochester Telephone president, announced this week.

Henner replaces Jarvis M. Wilson on the board. Mr. Wilson, who was vice president-operations for Rochester Telephone, died earlier this month.

Henner joined Rochester Telephone in 1931 as a clerk in the statistical section. He then served as staff accountant, staff statistician, internal auditor and general accountant. In 1959, he was named assistant controller and assistant secretary, and in 1960 controller. He was elected vice president in 1962 and vice president and treasurer a year later.

Henner, a native of Rochester, was graduated from Cathedral High School and attended the University of Rochester before graduating from Rochester Business Institute in accounting.

Henner is president of the Rochester chapter of the National Association of Accountants; vice president of the Rochester chapter of the Financial Executives Institute; past president of Geneva Chapter, Telephone Pioneers of America; a member of the Roches-



GILBERT A. HENNER

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