



### K of C Oratorical Winner

Richard E. Keeley of Rochester (right) is winner of the 1968 Rochester Diocese Knights of Columbus Oratorical Contest held March 28 at Cardinal Mooney High School. With him is state contest chairman Paul G. Romhaut, and on the left, alternate Michael Kaufman of Auburn. Keeley has won a \$200.00 U.S. Savings Bond plus a chance to compete in the state finals to be held May 30 at the Concord Hotel in the Catskills.

### Catholic Women

## Seek Homes For Exchange Students

The newest goal for the diocesan Council of Catholic Women (CCW) in the area of hospitality for international students is to find summer homes for Ecuadorian high school students in the Rochester area for ten weeks this summer.

Three CCW members and their families have already volunteered to play host to the visiting Latin teenagers. The families, the Thomas McWhinneys of Greece, the Everett Murphys of Irondequoit and the Donald Perrys of Perinton have a long standing interest in foreign students, have provided students hospitality for several years.

This particular program is being carried out in partnership with the Rochester branch of the Foundation of International Cooperation, which has its main base in Buffalo.

Families interested in inviting a teenager from Ecuador to share their home life this summer can get further information by calling the CCW office at 50 Chestnut St. The office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays; phone number is 325-2724.

Mrs. John O'Brien of Geneseo is the present diocesan chairman of the International Affairs commission, under whose aegis the international students hospitality activity functions.

The O'Briens are another family who have had plenty of experience hosting foreign students who are doing their studies in the U.S. Most of their contacts have come through the

State University College at Geneseo. Sold on the value of such friendly contacts, Mrs. O'Brien has been enthusiastic in encouraging others to open their homes and hearts to students far from their native soil.

The CCW has worked closely in the Rochester area with the International Friendship Council, which coordinates many activities involving foreign students. Mrs. O'Brien recently attended a dinner with five Geneseo students held at Rochester's Masonic Temple. More than 500 international students were guests of the Masonic Service Bureau that evening.

International contacts are but one of the facets of the International Affairs commission, however. It has four other divisions, including international relief and development, participation in international meetings, education for international understanding and peace.

Through these avenues, the Council of Catholic Women aims to awaken in all Christians a sense of their responsibility for the international community.

As Mrs. O'Brien puts it — "we must recognize our responsibility, as the People of God, to our fellow men around the world."

Through this commission, the diocesan CCW provides information about international needs, suggests viable programs and provides speakers to women's organizations to encourage Catholic women to launch out into the world of international concerns.

## Coalition Seeks \$10 Million To Help Poor

New York—(RNS)—A national coalition of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders announced here what was described as a "revolutionary" new program to mobilize white affluence to help build political and economic power among the country's black and white poor.

Operation Connection, according to cochairman Rev. Albert Cleage Jr., pastor of Central United Church of Christ, Detroit, would raise \$10 million for pilot programs in five target cities.

Mr. Cleage said Operation Connection goes beyond the National Advisory Commission Report on Civil Disorders, "in that it confronts the basic issue of black powerlessness, which the Kerner report skirts."

Presiding Bishop John E. Hines of the Episcopal Church, the program's other cochairman, said he was "thoroughly in accord" with Mr. Cleage's basic conclusion — that the real issue is powerlessness — and said he saw "no great problem in raising the money. Bishop Hines said some \$90,000 to finance the program's staff had already been pledged.

The program has funds and staff pledged from Roman Catholic and Jewish resources, as well as from the National Council of Churches and 16 Protestant denominations.

## Date Book

Thomas More Club. Rides for Industry leave St. Andrew's at 7 p.m., tonight, March 29.

Trip for Immaculate Conception children March 31 leaves church at 12:30 p.m.

Pascal Meal April 1, 7 p.m.

Rochester Catholic Adult Club. Day of Recollection, March 31, 3-6 p.m. at Mother of Sorrows Church.

First Friday Luncheon, April 5 at 12:15 at Sheraton Hotel. Father Joseph Dailey, speaker.

Wayne Deane District Council. April 6 luncheon, Turkey Town Restaurant, following 11:30 Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Macedon.

Federation of Catholic Alumnae. First Saturday Mass, April 6, Chapel of St. Mary's Hospital at 9 a.m.

Our Lady of Mercy Alumnae Membership Drive, April 1 thru 30th.

## Bishop Hits Search

Philadelphia — (NC) — The desire of Americans for religion has never been greater than it is now, Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of Rochester said here.

Speaking to the St. Joseph's Prep Alumni Association, Bishop Sheen said the religious Americans desire "is almost a quest for mysticism," he said.

"Why are so many youths using psychedelic drugs today?" he asked. "The psychedelics are looking for instant religion, because everything is instant these days. People are looking for the short trip instead of the long pull. We are afraid of the long pull."

1,700 Nuns From Council San Antonio, Texas—(RNS)—Representatives of 1,700 nuns in 43 congregations of the San Antonio Catholic diocese have formed a Council of Religious Women to help implement Vatican II reforms.

## Village Burns with Devotion On Every St. Joseph's Feast

Itri, Italy—(NC)—Every St. Joseph's day this small city in central Italy runs the risk of being burned to the ground out of devotion to the saint.

Itri is an old town of about 6,000 persons. It depends on the cork harvest for most of its income and is anything but remarkable except on March 19. On that night its 12th-century belltowers, the walls of a medieval castle and other ancient buildings seem to be enveloped in flames.

Dozens of bonfires blaze in every quarter of the town while men and boys feed the fires. Villagers compete in keeping their bonfires blazing for the longest possible time.

No one seems to be quite sure how this curious form of fun and piety began. Some think it can be traced to pagan times. Others link it to the hero-bandit, Fra Diavolo (Brother Devil), who battled against French troops when they occupied the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. Fra Diavolo lived in Itri and the French set numbers of fires as reprisals.

Whether the custom is of antiquity or of more recent origin, it is one that endures. Preparations for the feast day begin in early January when the villagers form teams of woodcutters and set up secret hiding places for the newly cut wood.

Secrecy is required because the unwritten rules allow rival teams to plunder wood supplies. Special watchers are on guard night and day.

The fun and games are not entirely blessed by Italian authorities, since one source of

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## Self Government At Notre Dame Under Study

Notre Dame, Ind.—(NC)—A committee of the University of Notre Dame board of trustees will meet with faculty, administrative and student groups April 27 to discuss student self-government and other measures passed by students in early February.

Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., university president, in a letter to the student body and faculty, said other questions discussed will include whether women should be permitted in students' dormitory rooms.

These matters involve "philosophical questions that go to the heart of the university's organization, character and governance," Father Hesburgh wrote.

## Pornography Cause Of Concern in Brazil

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil—(NC)—Catholic leaders' concern over government laxity on pornography has erupted here.

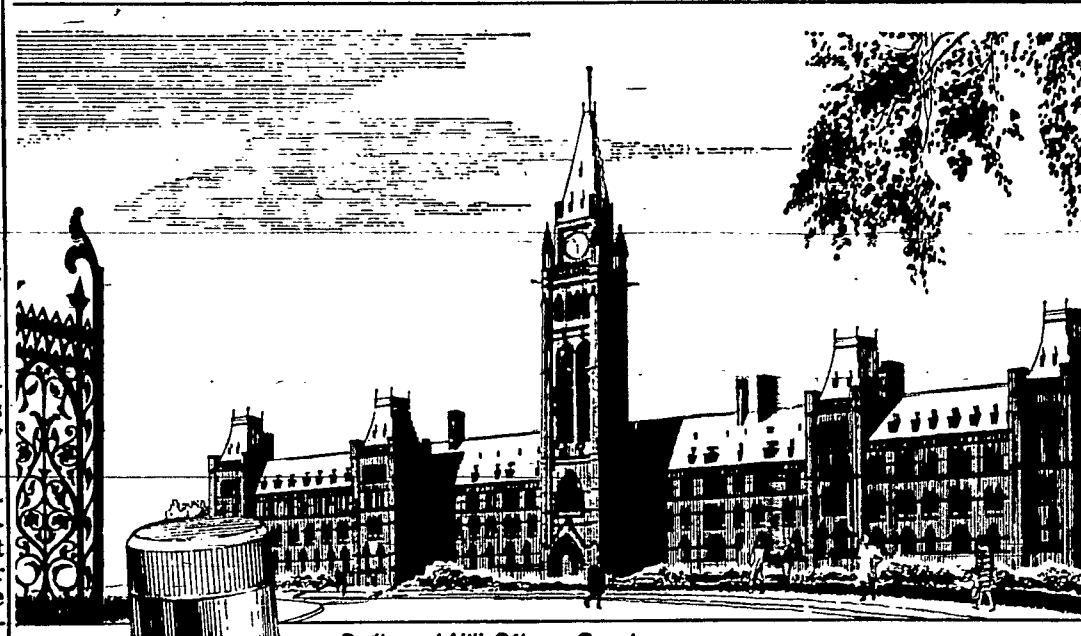
Archbishop Vicente Scherer of Porto Alegre publicly condemned what he called "a vile deviation from human instincts" in radio, television, screen and stage presentations.

Educators and sociologists have proven, he said, the ill effects of detailed murder and sex scenes "on the development of a young personality" or "on weak character."

## School Money Sought

Toronto, Ont.—(NC)—Ontario's Catholic parents will launch a campaign this year to have the provincial government support Catholic high schools for the full five years instead of the present two.

There are more than 3 million Catholics in Ontario's 6.5 million population.



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