Tales of the Rochester Diocese

This is another of the special centennial year articles that are being written for the COURIER-JOURNAL by Father McNamara, author of the new diocesan history, THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, 1868-1968.

By FATHER ROBERT McNAMARA

When a person does research on a subject like the Diocese of Rochester, he naturally encounters a number of historic personalities, and of historical anecdotes, both true and apocryphal, which cannot easily be incorporated into a general historical marrative. Some of these persons and some of these tales deserve mention, however. So we shall devote the present column to a few "tales of the Rochester Diocese."

That native American Protestants often took a stand of opposition to immigrant Catholics in the 19th Century is a matter of record. What should not be forgotten, however, is that many Protestant Americans made gestures of genuine friendliness and helpfulness towards Catholic newcomers. Especially in smaller communities in the present Rochester Diocesan area, Protestants frequently made generous contributions towards the building of Catholic

At Watkins, it was a Protestant lawyer, George Edwar Quin, who, in 1845, organized the Catholics and negotiated the purchase of a former Protestant church for their use. Attorney Quin wrote to the coadjutor bishop of New York, John McCloskey, announcing the purchase and asking counsel on further procedure. He referred to himself as a "heretic." but he nevertheless requested that the church be called after the Blessed Virgin. That is how the church of St. Mary of the Lake—the original church, on the Watkins hillside - came into being.

A "heretic," perhaps, Bishop McCloskey called Quin in his letter of thanks, but a heretic with a "Catholic heart." It is true that when he took the step of buying the church, it was Quin's friendly gesture to the Catholic Kernan family of Wayne, N.Y., into which he was about to

It is true also that while Quin's mother was from the old New England Wolcott family, his father was a nonpracticing Catholic, Nonethe less. Quin had been raised outside the faith of his father.

Bishop McCloskey wrote to Quin, "I still pray that God may one day bless you with that faith which was the faith



Retreats Scheduled

Aug. 25 to 31 at the Notre Dame Comey, S.J., and Richard Pratt Retreat House in Canandalgua. -for its week-long closed ses-

A retreat for married couples also is scheduled Aug. 2 to 4.

The Movement for a Better World aims to improve relations in the Church and by seeking between members of the human personal renewal in the light of family through respectful dia Christion community logue and to encourage men to live as brothers because they are sons of God.

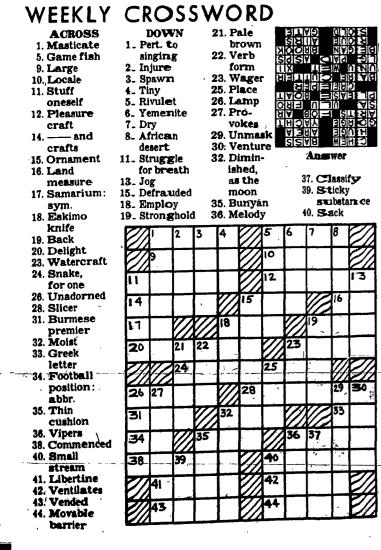
Christian Community," MBW Canandaigua, 14424.

A Movement for at Better usually employs a team — at World Retreat is scheduled Canandaigua, Father John M.

The retreat differs from traditional exercises by bringing together all the vocations with-

Applications for either retreat should be sent to Notre

In giving its "Retreat of the Dame Retreat House, Box 274,



Old St. James Church, Waverly ... was St. Anthony to Blame?

firemen.

church of St. Peter's (as it

was originally called) in 1843.

It literally "doubled in brass"

in the pre-Civil War days, for

it served as the neighborhood

fire bell for the volunteer

The bell ringer of the

church was paid \$1.25 for

each alarm he rang. The first

bell ringer thus engaged was

Peter Renaud. He was assist-

ed by his three sons; and the

Renaud team rang alarms for

nine years. Peter Foss, the

janitor, took over after that.

The old volunteer companies

broke up after 1861 when so

many of the firemen went off

One of the most interesting

churchmen of the Newark Di-

ocese in the last century was

for a while an inhabitant of

Bath. Born in Brooklyn to

Baptist parents, William P.

Salt came with them to Bath

10 years later. He taught

school, read law, and held sev-

eral other employments dur-

ing his late teens and early

Then he went West; then

South. Having become an

Episcopalian in 1859, he en-

tered the seminary in Cam-

den, S.C., in 1861, to study

for the Episcopal clergy. When the Civil War broke

out, he was drafted and

served in the Confederate

army for three years. After

the war, in 1865, he returned

to Bath, and was ordained an

Episcopal deacon in 1865. But

in 1867 he entered the Catho-

lic Church. It was as the cli-

max of long months of study.

The Bishop of Newark,

James Roosevelt Bayley, was

deacon. He accepted William

United Nations, N.Y. -

(RNS) - UNICEF'S role in

Africa is making the most of

limited man (and woman)

power. And the Republic of

Lying in the very heart of

the dark continent, land-

locked, this desert country of

three million people, 700

formidable manpower prob-

lems, especially in the field

Right now, there is only

one doctor for every 73,000

people. Only one of the physicians is a native of Chad.

There is only one qualified

midwife in the entire country -and she is not active in the

field because she is trying

to teach others. Even here there is a problem because

of slow educational progress

— there are still very few

young women available for

training, even in the most

The United Nations Chil-

dren's Fund (UNICEF) and

the World Health Organiza-

tion are helping Chad to im-

plement a long-range program

to improve its existing health

services. These are hard-

pressed because of the many

contagious tropical diseases, described by observers as be-

ing carried principally by too

AUBURN, N.Y.

basic medicine.

of health services.

from the sea, faces

Chad is a good example.

to the Civil War.

of your own kindred who have in the original wooden parish gone before you." The prayer was subsequently granted. Quin later move to Utica. Shortly before his cleath in the summer of 1863, he was received into the Catholic Church.

The second Church of St. James in Waverly was destroyed by fire in 1912. There were several theories on the origin of the fire. But some parishioners advanced the opinion that St. Anthony had engineered the conflagration. His statue had lately been relegated to a less conspicuous place, so he was understan dably huffy.

Even if they had been convinced, however, the police authorities would have hesitated to prosecute for arson. The arrest of saints presents too many problems.

Father Martin Hendricks, pastor of St. Michael's Church in Penn Yan (1899-1915), was widely respected as a man of good judgment and rneasured words. On one occasion when the local citizenry had become all too involved in some private issues, one Penn Yanner exclaimed: "There are only two people in Penn Yan who know how to maind their own business: Martan Hendricks and the soldier on top of the Civil War Moznumerat!"

When the time came to pick a name for the 12th parish established in the city of Rochester (1884), the name "Holy Apostles" at once Sugested itself. And the sugges tion was adopted.

The oldest bell hanging in the bell tower of SS, Peter himself a termer Episcopalianand Paul Church, Rochester, also served as a chrurch bell

Salt as a student for the Catholic priesthood, and sent him to study at the North American College in Rome.

In 1870, when Rome was bsieged by the armies of Vic-. tor Emmanuel, 13 of the students at this College communicated an offer to Pope Pius IX to take up arms to defend him. The Pope though deeply moved, graciously declined, reminding them that they were called to a nobler warfare. William P. Salt, the old "Rebel" veteran, was one of the 13 signatories of the letter.

After his ordination to the Catholic priesthood in 1871, Father Salt was connected during most of his priestly life with Seton Hall Seminary, New Jersey. In 1885 he was named vicar general of the Diocese of Newark. He died in 1891, deeply mourned by all who knew him, as a man of learning, good judgment, and gentle charity. Bath may well be proud of this former resident.

Father Francis Vogt, pastor of St. Bridget's Church, Rochester, has lately given to the diocesan archives a ticket that tells its own story. Here is the inscription:

FESTIVAL and TEA PARTY, EXHIBITION OF WAX WORKS & COSMORAMA AND AN EXTENSIVE DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT PALMER'S HALL

ON THURSDAY EVENING, SEPT. 15TH, 1857 FOR THE BENEFIT OF ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH TICKETS, FIFTY CENTS.

P.S. - The dictionary defines a "cosmorama" as an exhibition of scenes from many different parts of the

Some of the old German pastors developed a brand of English that was not quite English and yet not quite German. When the priest told his young servers to "outen candles," it was at least sufficiently clear what he meant. But he could scarcely avoid bringing smiles to the lips of his younger parishioners when he read the passage from Matthe w, 4:5: "Then the devil took him up into the holy city, and set him upon the pinochle of the temple."

This, they say, was the pronunciation used by German-Bantist German Church, Elmira, from 1903 to 1943.

Do you have any "tales of the Rochester, Diocese", that should be preserved? Please let me know.

CHAD: 1 Doctor for 73,000

Education

Notre Dame Seen As Center Of Complex of Universities

Notre Dame, Ind.—(RNS)— Dr. Shuster revealed that stitutions, Dr. Shuster, former A high administration official Notre Dame recently was appresident of Hunter College in envisions the University of preached by a secular private New York, said such a develop-Notre Dame as the center of a college interested in associating ment is encouraged by two concluster of satellite colleges, with the university. He did not temporary trends: The explosion both Catholic and non-Catholic, identify the college.

in the not too distant future.

The view would involve Notre

Dame's becoming "one of the the potential nucleus of a broad of the day which are really great private universities of the complex of higher education in moral issues. United States and possibly of

This view was sketched by Dr. George N. Shuster, assistant to the president of Notice P. to the president of Notre Darme, in an address to a class in educational administration.

Of Catholic Education

Dr. Shuster discussed the futionship between the two be in the next decade. schools. A joint St. Mary's Notre

He also said that Barat Col Eclucation.

Wins 3 Awards

Three national awards were given to the "Greater Rochester Commerce Magazine," published for the Rochester Chamber of Commerce by the Christopher Press, at the 20th annual meeting of the American Association of Commerce Publications

The Courier-Journal also published by the Christopher Press at 35 Scio St., Rochester.

"Greater Rochester" won the top award, Cover Design; award of merit, Cover Design; and award of merit, Typography.

The American Association of Commerce Publications is a national organization of editors born Father John B. Stemm- and advertising managers of ler, pastor of St. John the more than 50 Chamber of Com merce publications, dealing with common problems, exchanging ideas for keeping abreast 0 technical know-how, and main taining publications as mccess ful, stable business operations

of knowledge which can be con-

ture relationship between Notre Bostom—(NC)—Richard Car- The second, or study phase Dame and its nearby sister-in disnal Cushing has commissioned of the project will involve seekstitution, St. Mary's College for are indepth study of existing ing the opinions of parents and Women, saying "a common co-nditions in Boston archdiocother interested persons in the sense of purpose and mission" es an schools, along with a promakes inevitable a close relation of what conditions will and possible future plans.

Simultaneously, the study will Dame faculty and administra The study will be conducted interview religious teaching tion committee is exploring the by the New England Catholic communities and officials of relationship.

the New England Catholic communities and officials of state and municipal agencies to the Boston College School of find a way of organizing educalege for Women, in Chicago, continues to be interested in moving its campus near Notre pected to end in October, the moving its campus near Notre pected to end in October, the gious congregations, of team

standy will line up areas to be gious congregations, of team teaching and exchange of lecsurveyed, possibly including teaching and exchange of lec-surch questions as educational along with sharing of facilities problems in the inner city and along with sharing of facilities. sumburbs, the effects of popula-Chamber Magazine iton shifts on the schools, and hase feasibility of maintaining to come up with answers to Eurch-run schools in view of some of the pressing financial rissing costs.

The study team will also try problems of Catholic education.

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There has been considerable headway in the fight against leprosy. Families of sidered as outcasts. Yaws, leprosy, trachoma and

the victims are no longer con-

other diseases gain a foothold during the long period of heavy rains, floods and high humidity. Environmental sani tation projects are the answer and UNICEF has spent \$500, 000 for water pumps, sewer systems, storage tanks, and latrines.

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