

Fund to Send Doctors to Biafra

The Biafra relief people here are promoting a new idea — brand new; a Rochester "first".

Send a Doctor to Biafra.

This Sunday, outside many area



Frank E. McElrath, left, shows Norm Beach, Kodak Park general manager, the type of plastics molding P. A. Plastics will do.

New Plastics Business Set Up in Inner City

By CARMEN VIGLUCCI

Ever wonder how a new business chooses its name?

P. A. Plastics, Inc., being set up with the business and technical assistance of Eastman Kodak Co., is named after Patricia Ann, the 10-year-old daughter of its president, Frank E. McElrath.

The new firm will make vacuum form thermoplastic parts for industry and is at 350 Whitney St. in the former Delco Parts plant. The building also houses Camura, Inc., a camera business established to provide inner city jobs through the cooperation of Kodak, Rochester Business Opportunities Corp. (RBOC), the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Urban League.

All except the Urban League also played roles in P. A. Plastics. RBOC provided a loan of \$20,000 and SBA approved a \$75,000 loan from Central Trust Co. McElrath's personal investment of \$5,000 provided the remainder of the \$100,000 to get the firm going.

The main piece of machinery for the plant, a \$20,000 vacuum former, is due this week and with it, the business will go into action. McElrath plans to hold the cost for machinery to something under \$50,000.

Kodak is the first customer, giving a two-year order for plastic components to be used in developing processing. McElrath also is seeking orders from other industries.

The firm's president and manager expects to start with four employees and eventually build to a staff of 12.

Asked if he would hire exclusively from the inner city, McElrath said: "I'll hire whoever has the skill, within my payroll budget, of course."

A chemist who has been with Kodak for the last 15 years, McElrath got the opportunity for his own business when he heard last year that Kodak and RBOC were planning to establish small businesses in the inner city. A plastics firm was one business decided upon and McElrath put in his bid with RBOC.

He and Mack Charles Kendrick, his first employee and future foreman, took training courses at Kodak's Plastic Development Shop. They will train future workers.

Spencerport Survey

Offertory Processions, Sermons Commended

Spencerport — The people of St. John the Evangelist parish here are "pleased with the Sunday sermons" (only 10 per cent disagreed), strongly favor the Offertory Procession as "meaningful", but seem to want no part of suggesting "better ways for financing the parish" (only 18 people out of 411 offered money-raising ideas).

These are a few of the results of a parish survey involving some 50 questions distributed in September by Father Francis Hester, pastor of St. John's. Nearly 500 responses have been received and tabulated to provide democratic direction for future parochial progress, according to Father Hester.

Only 54 parishioners out of 458 who answered the question said they did not participate in nor enjoy singing at the Sunday Masses. Perhaps it is due to the kind of music used because almost the same ratio of dissent came on the question "Do you like the choice of hymns?" One person out of eight said "No."

churches, they will be collecting contributions toward the \$2,300 it takes to get one man to and from the war-starvation area and to support him for three months.

The doctors are signed up, ready

to go. The agencies on the scene — Red Cross, CARITAS, Protestant World Service, etc. — are prepared to accept them.

Already, the local organization has \$700 earmarked for Operation Medicorp, according to Barbara Goux, one of the project coordinators.

The Aquinas Institute mission fund gave \$100 and the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation gave a \$600 Sunday collection, she reported.

Dr. Michael Rees of Boston, who heads a physician recruiting committee, termed the Rochester project a "breakthrough that may set the pace for other cities across the country."

"As far as we know, no other relief organization has attacked the financial obstacle to short-term tours of duty," Rees told the local group last week. "Our hope is that other communities will follow Rochester's lead."

Dr. Rees, who visited Emergency Relief for Biafrans at 402 South Ave., explained that agencies operating in war-torn Nigeria and refugee areas have found they cannot afford transportation and maintenance costs for doctors who stay less than six months. But many more doctors can be found to serve for shorter periods, Dr. Rees said. One function of his Medical Support Committee for Nigeria/Biafra is to persuade hospitals to credit such relief work in their post-graduate medical programs.

Ronald Baynes, project chairman for the local group, said the local committee consulted not only with Dr. Rees but also with Dr. Michael Latham of Cornell, an authority on African nutrition problems. The committee decided that this "relatively small fund-raising effort" could accomplish a great deal, he said.

About 140 churches have been asked to permit and announce the collection.

Adult Confirmation

Set at St. Louis

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen will be principal celebrant of the Sacrament of Confirmation for about 80 adults at St. Louis Church, Pittsford, at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24. Fr. John Phillips, chairman of arrangements, announced that the adults will represent 29 parishes and 3 counties in the Rochester Diocese.

'Autonomous Organization'

Meeting to Discuss Laymen's Association

Formation of a Rochester Association of Catholic Laymen will be discussed at an informational meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, in McQuaid Jesuit High School.

The proposed association, according to its sponsors, will be "an autonomous organization of Catholic lay people speaking to the Church from within the Church."

Designed to "provide the membership with a forum where all matters of Christian concern can be discussed, evaluated and acted upon," the group will focus "on the layman's right and responsibility to speak out on all vital issues to fellow laymen, to the hierarchy, and to the whole Church."

Among objectives outlined were:

To redefine continually the position of the layman in our changing Church; to stimulate an authentic, free and responsible lay voice in the Church; to establish democratic lay participation in parochial and diocesan administration; to accelerate liturgical renewal.

Also to promote religious education based on the needs and priorities of all the people of God; to assist in the growth of genuine ecumenism; to stimulate the individual layman and the institutional Church to honor the human rights of all individuals; to stimulate the individual layman and the institutional Church to work for peace among men and nations.

Temporary officers of the group proposing the association are: Ernest

J. Curran, president; J. Raymond Hesler, vice-president; Mrs. Paul W. Brayer, secretary; Paul W. Brayer, treasurer; Gerald Sasse and Herman Walz, board of directors.

Temporary commissions have been formed for communications, constitution, finance, meetings, membership and public relations.

Curran said approximately 200 persons to date have expressed an interest to attend next week's informational meeting. He added that a meeting on the proposed constitution is tentatively slated for November, with nomination of officers to serve the association until the first projected annual meeting in May.

150 Priests To Say Mass At Cathedral

Priests of the diocese will gather at the altar of Sacred Heart Cathedral Friday, Oct. 25, for a unique co-celebrated Mass, as a further participation in the jubilee of the diocese and St. Bernard's Seminary.

Intending to "renew their priestly spirit, offer thanks for the blessings of their own lives and beg God for an increase of vocations in the diocese," about 150 priests will celebrate with Bishop Sheen and Bishop Hickey on the anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral where most of them were ordained.

The Mass at 11:30 a.m. will be open to the public.

Aquinas Scholars Hear Ex-Priest

Father John F. Murphy, C.S.B., formerly chancellor of the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Tex., and first president of St. John Fisher College in Rochester, told a gathering of over 1300 Aquinas Institute students last week that the young people of today must assume the great challenges being presented to them by present day society if the world is to survive.

A general question requesting suggestions for improving Sunday worship at St. John's drew the most surprising unanimity: 47 replied that there should be a rule that noisy children and crying babies be taken out of the church. Parents removing a restless child would be showing proper consideration for the rest of the congregation, they said.

Where the question was asked about the sermon-topics, as many respondents criticized the occasional moral-type sermons as requested that the preaching should deal with real problems rather than be homilies on the Scriptures.

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NEWS OF THE DIOCESE



Students Aid Biafrans

The Catholic Students Mission Crusade Unit of Cardinal Mooney High School held its annual paper drive Saturday, Oct. 12 with each class participating. The drive — biggest ever in the yearly event — hopes to realize gross profits of \$1,000. This year's profits will go to Biafran Relief. Sister M. Virginia Wilson directed the project. More than five trailer vans were filled by the four classes.

SPECIAL FEATURE

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THRU

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25th

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