

The Diocese and the Five Giants Who Shaped It

(Continued from Page 13A)
program throughout the Diocese to provide jobs for the needy.

In accordance with the wishes of Pope Pius XI for an active laity, Bishop O'Hern fostered and encouraged numerous lay societies in the Diocese and in the parishes.

The Nocturnal Adoration Society was formed at his suggestion. Catholic physicians were invited to participate in organizing a Catholic medical society. He established the Holy Name Union to coordinate the activities of Catholic laymen and organized the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women as an affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women.

Although of obvious Irish descent himself, Bishop O'Hern weeded the people of other nationalities to his heart by his thoughtfulness and kindness. He especially proved himself popular with the thousands of Italian Catholics in the Diocese. He studied for the priesthood at the North American College in Rome and mastered their language. Frequently later in Rochester, Bishop O'Hern would speak in Italian at a con-

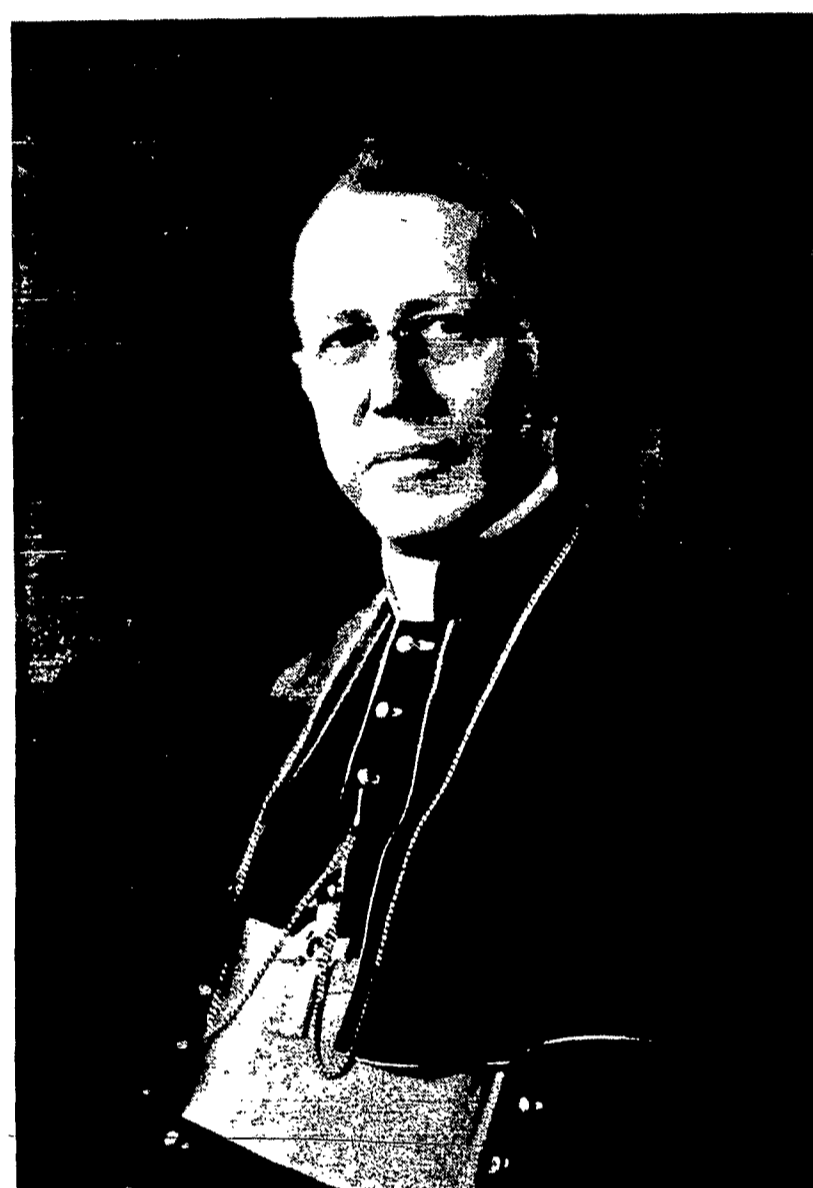
firmation ceremony or whenever he noticed the presence of Italians, urging them to take pride in their heritage and to be loyal to the Catholic traditions of their homeland.

The burdens of his bishopric were never too great for him not to find time to officiate at the wedding of a child he had baptized, conduct the funeral of an old friend, or call at the hospital when he heard a sick person had asked to see him.

To keep in touch with the problems and heartaches of his people, Bishop O'Hern spent most of his Saturday evenings in a confessional at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Born in Olean, N.Y., June 1874, Bishop O'Hern attended parochial school and public high school there. He studied for the priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries, Rochester, and completed these studies at the North American College in Rome. He was ordained in the Eternal City, Feb. 17, 1901.

He was assigned as an assistant pastor in Auburn and Rochester churches and in 1909 was named rector of St. Patrick's



Archbishop Edward Mooney, 1933 - 1937

Cathedral. In 1922 he became pastor of Corpus Christi Church and vicar general of the Diocese.

When Bishop Hickey resigned as second Bishop of Rochester in the fall of 1928 Bishop O'Hern was selected by Pope Pius XI to succeed him. Early the following year he was consecrated bishop and gave unsparingly of himself until death closed his eyes May 22, 1933.

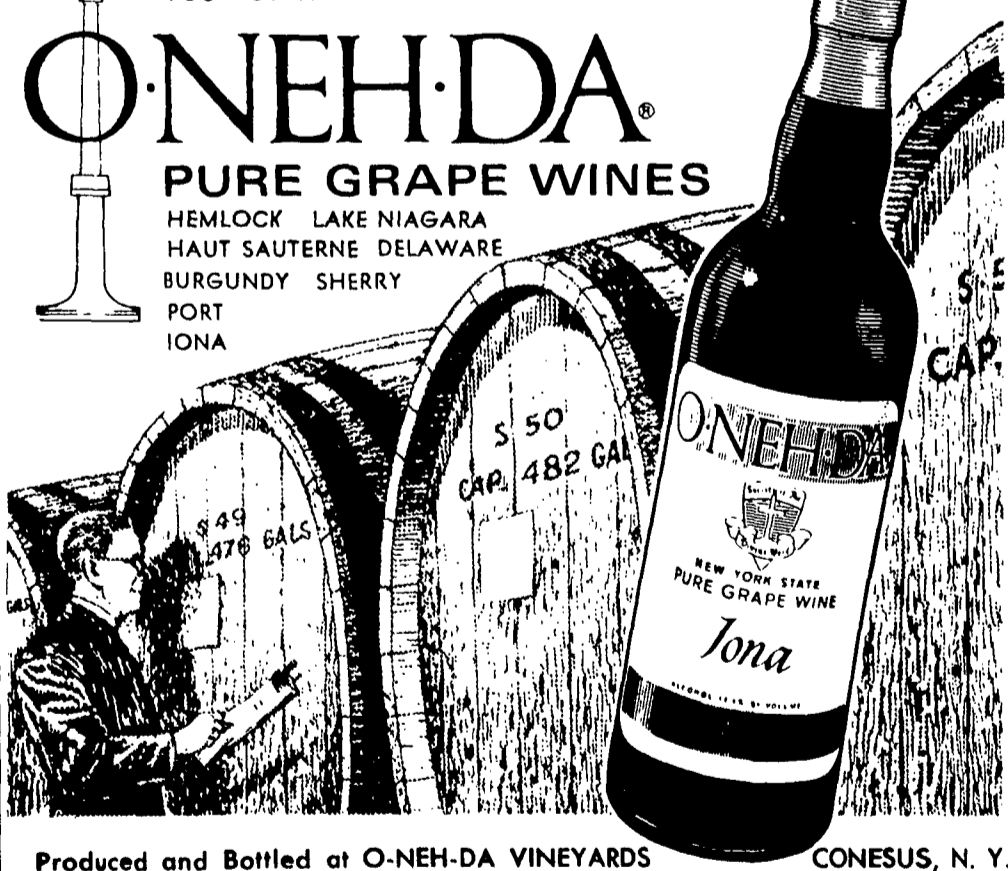
A prelate diplomat, educator and humble priest became Rochester's fourth Bishop.

Edward Mooney had already been an archbishop for over six years when Pope Pius XI asked him to serve as spiritual shepherd of the Rochester Diocese.

His priesthood duties following ordination in Rome in 1909 included teaching at the seminary in his home Diocese of Cleveland, directing the Cathedral Latin School there, serving as pastor in his hometown of Youngstown, Ohio, and then as spiritual adviser for his alma mater, the North American College in Rome.

These mission interests of Monsignor Mooney as well as (Continued on Page 17A)

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