

Diocese Has Contributed 15 Bishops to Church

Penn Yan, Corning, Auburn, Lima, Dansville and Geneva Produced Shepherds for Flock

By FATHER ROBERT F. McNAMARA, St. Bernard's Seminary

A diocese as it grows through the years acquires members by baptism and migration, buildings and institutions by sacrificial generosity, religious by vows and ordination, good name and influence by the virtue of its people and clergy.

But it is quite another thing to produce and help shape men who, by the direct choice of the Vicar of Christ, the Pope, are judged worthy to be raised to the position of being a "successor of the Apostles" and appointed to the responsibility of "Shepherd" for other dioceses.

The counties of the Diocese of Rochester have contributed 15 bishops to the hierarchy of the Church.

Eight of these, at the time of their selection as bishops, were priests of the Rochester Diocese.

Thomas F. Hickey served as coadjutor bishop of the Diocese under Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, and then was bishop of

Rochester from 1909 to 1928. John Francis O'Hern succeeded Bishop Hickey, and was head of the Diocese from 1929 to 1933.

Three of the eight were named auxiliary bishops of Rochester. Lawrence B. Casey held that position from 1953 until 1966, when he was promoted to the See of Paterson, N.J., where he continues in the able discharge of his duties.

In 1968, Pope Paul VI elevated to the post of auxiliaries of Rochester, Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty. Their consecration was the first in the series of events which have been marking the Diocese's centennial year. Bishop Hickey came from Dansville and Bishop McCafferty was raised in Geneva.

Three other priests of the Diocese were promoted directly from their Rochester positions to the episcopate of other dioceses. The first Rochester diocesan priest to be made a bishop was Father Augustine Hendrick, a native of Penn Yan and



Bishop Walter A. Foery
A priest of the Rochester Diocese now Bishop of Syracuse

pastor of St. Bridget's Church, Rochester.

Bishop Hendrick was named bishop of Cebu, Philippine Islands, in 1903. At that time the United States had taken over the administration of the Philippines. The bishops, mostly Spaniards, were replaced by American bishops. Father Hendricks was a staunch Republican and a friend of Theodore Roosevelt, and Roosevelt's recommendation played an important part in his selection.

Bishop Hendrick had a hard row to hoe in his missionary see, but he discharged his task with real courage, and did not hesitate to scold the American government for its mistakes in dealing with the religious questions of the Islands. He died in harness on Nov. 30, 1909, on the eve—it was said—of his transfer to an American bishopric.

Edward Joseph Hanna, a native Rochesterian, was a brilliant (Continued on Page 37A)

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ant professor of theology at St. Bernard's Seminary from its opening in 1893 until 1912. In 1908, he was under consideration as coadjutor archbishop of San Francisco, with right of succession; but a fellow member of the St. Bernard's faculty raised a question about Hanna's orthodoxy. Rome was not persuaded by the accusation, but was nevertheless moved, because of the publicity, to bypass the name of Hanna at that time.

Four years later, his name was again presented, as auxiliary bishop of San Francisco and on this occasion the recommendation was accepted. Dr. Hanna was subsequently named archbishop of San Francisco in 1915, and continued in that position until his retirement in 1935. He also served as Episcopal Chairman of the National Catholic Welfare Conference from its inception until 1935.

A third diocesan priest named directly to another diocese was the present Bishop of Syracuse, Walter A. Foery, born in Rochester, was a member of St. Bernard's Class of 1916, served suc-

cessively as pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and Holy Rosary Church, both in Rochester, and was for many years diocesan director of charities. His consecration on Aug. 18, 1937 in Rochester's former cathedral, St. Patrick's, was the last consecration performed in that venerable building.

There were three priests who served within the diocesan counties before the formation of the Diocese of Rochester, who can also be claimed, more or less, as "our men."

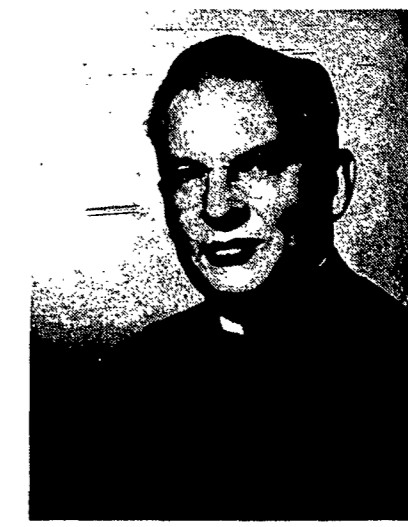
Outstanding in the U. S. Church was Blessed John N. Neumann, C.S.S.R., who subsequently became fourth bishop of Philadelphia, and has been beatified. He spent only one week ministering in Rochester in 1836, but it was the first week of his priesthood, and this, plus the fact of who he was, enhances the importance of that one pastoral week.

Bernard O'Reilly (1803-1856), born in Ireland, served in Rochester much longer. He was pastor of St. Patrick's church during most of the period 1832-1847; and proved notable as both priest and citizen. In 1847, when the Diocese of Buffalo was established, he was called to Buffalo to serve as vicar general. But when he was named Bishop of Hartford three years later, he chose to be consecrated in his former parish church, St. Patrick's, Rochester.

Unfortunately, Bishop O'Reilly shepherded the Diocese of Hartford only a bare five years. During a return trip home from England in 1856, his ship,



Bishop John E. McCafferty
Auxiliary for the Southern Tier from Geneva



Bishop Francis J. Green
of Tucson, Arizona, from Corning

the "Pacific", was lost at sea, and all aboard perished.

Father Francis X. Krautbauer was of Bavarian birth. His first priestly assignment in the present Rochester Diocese was the pastorate of St. Peter's (now SS. Peter and Paul's), Rochester, from 1851 to 1859. In 1859 he became superior and director of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, with residence in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. From 1875 to 1885 he was Bishop of Green Bay.

Three more bishops deserve mention because they were educated in the Diocese of Rochester, even though they never served here as priests. One was James Edward Quigley, educated as a child in Lima and subsequently a priest and bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo (1896-1903); and finally, archbishop of Chicago (1903-1915).

A second one was Patrick James Byrne (1888-1950), the heroic Maryknoller who died at the hands of Korean Communists. He received his early education in Auburn.

The third was the present Bishop of Tucson, Most Rev. Francis Joseph Green.

Bishop Green, when named coadjutor bishop of Tucson in 1953 (he succeeded to the see in 1960) was a priest of the Diocese of Tucson. But he was born in Corning on July 7, 1906, and received his elementary education in Corning's St. Patrick's School.

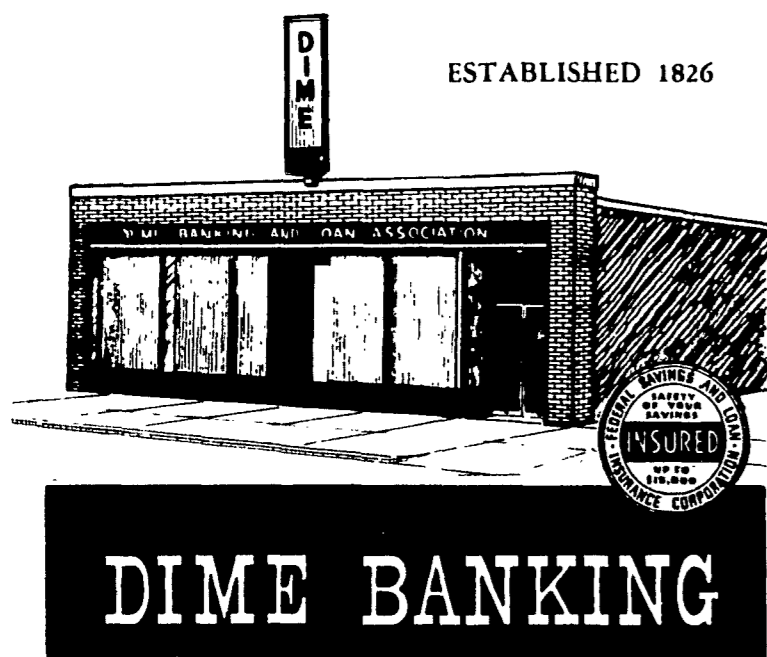
Fifteen bishops, therefore. Not a bad record!



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