

The Inner City . . . Its Problems Overrun Its Borders

(Continued from Page 75A) vealed that over three-fourths of the area's youth were being reached neither by social agencies nor by churches. 1968 saw the inauguration of two distinct projects: VENTURE, a tutoring program geared to high school students, with special emphasis on younger ones, operated out of the Genesee Library; a twelve-room house was leased from the city, staffed by George Hezel and other volunteers, and opened to neighborhood teens.

Contacts made by both endeavors yielded ECM's ongoing involvement with court cases and dropouts, and the formation of a number of smaller programs for teenagers. Projected plans include involving whites as a task force dealing with white problems which perpetuate the ghetto; one on school aid; one on police and the courts; one on education; and one on employment.

Community problems grappled with were those common to the ghetto: lack of recreational areas for children; rat control; garbage on railroad beds; tenant-landowner conflicts, etc. Problems were met as they arose, not theoretically.

Noteworthy ECM influence was felt by the Rochester Housing Authority management at Kennedy Towers housing project for the elderly (when the management handpicked a so-called representative council and ECM helped the residents provide instead for a truly democratic council); by certain places of employment; by the city government itself (when ECM lent its support to the Model Cities controversy for indigenous representation in urban renewal planning and implementation); by the State Liquor Authority (when ECM in cooperation with the citizens, brought the matter of citizen representation on granting neighborhood liquor store licenses before the State Supreme Court, the State Senate Excise Committee, and the State Court of Appeals.)

On the metropolitan level, as in the sectors, the aim of the Joint Ministry Office is never to duplicate the already existing programs; once a project can be placed into other hands for continuance, the Urban Ministry turns to other work.

Some of the programs currently sponsored on the metropolitan level are:



Guitar Mass at Immaculate Conception

Ecumenical lay seminar on urban issues. The Joint Office, together with the committee on race relations for the Jewish Community Council, sponsors seminar meetings two evenings a month to provide for exploration of problems of our urban society. The seminar has expanded to include seventy-five adults (twenty-five each from Protestant, Catholic and Jewish communities) for the 1968-69 year.

RISK Institute. RISK is a loosely organized cooperation in areas of funding, training and strategy of the city's ecumenical youth ministries, and includes persons who have taken on the responsibility of serving the teenage youth of the area, particularly the unchurched.

Calculating that at least 63% of Rochester youth are currently untouched by church efforts at service, RISK, with its thoroughly ecumenical spirit and structure, focuses on those youth as yet unreached by traditional means or agencies. Emphasis is placed on the role of the layman and on the responsibility of

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Anniversary Greetings!

We congratulate you on 100 years of continuous devotion and achievement. May your second hundred years be even more fruitful than your first!

We give you thanks, Almighty God, for all the graces and benefits we have received in these hundred years. Help us be more worthy of them in the years to come.

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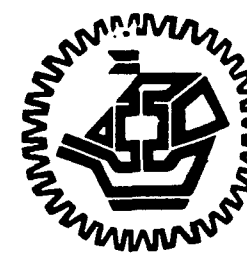
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Centennial congratulations . . . best wishes!

It has been our privilege during the last 15 years to have assisted the Diocese and most of its Parishes in fundraising programs.

We look forward to continuous efforts for the Church and its people during the second century of the Diocese.

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1469 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, New York 14618
716 / 244 - 2313