

Oil Painting Completes the Picture

Hornell — The finishing touch was completed last week at DeSales Hall, St. James Mercy Hospital's School of Nursing education building, with the unveiling of an oil portrait of Sister Mary DeSales, for whom the nurse training center was named.

The portrait of the genial Irish nun, who served the hospital for more than 60 years, was presented to the school by the Nursing Alumni Association.

Now in her 88th year, Sister DeSales resides at the Sisters' Hall in the north wing of the hospital. Born in a small town in County Cavan, Ireland, she arrived in the United States in 1898.

In March of 1900, she entered the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Mercy, then in Hornell. Half a year later, after being received in the novitiate, she started her career in nursing at St. James, then a small "farmhouse" hospital which had been founded in 1890 by Father James M. Early.

Serving in a variety of duties, Sister supervised almost all branches of nursing. In 1910, she became director of the then four-year-old school of nursing. She remained in that capacity for about 25 years, and was operating room supervisor until her "gradual" retirement in the early 1960s.

In an article written about her in 1955, the late Dr. William Tracy said: "Through her heroic sacrifices, untiring efforts, and intense desire to train



An oil portrait of Sister Mary DeSales, RSM, 88, was presented to St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing by the Nursing Alumni Association. Admiring portrait are Mrs. Evelyn Lander (left), past president of the Alumni Association, and Sister Theresa Mary, Nursing School faculty member.

efficient nurses, Sister DeSales became a great organizer and a strict disciplinarian. She is a most impartial woman, always just, practical and honest."

In 1968, following the hospital's acquisition of the former Hickey Freeman building, it was renovated to provide a

modern, well equipped educational unit housing classrooms, labs and offices.

The unveiling of the portrait, which will hang in the lobby of the school, took place at a reception for alumni, hospital personnel, faculty, students and friends of Sister DeSales.

Among those attending the party were Mrs. Carolyn Biddle, who was the first student to graduate from the school under Sister DeSales; former students Mrs. Mary Cosgrove and Mrs. Dolores Andrus. Also, Dr. Raymond J. Kelly, with whom Sister has had a long association.

Msgr. George Schmitt, pastor emeritus of Holy Family, remembers Mary-Eunice as an actress in his productions at St. Anne's Church.

She played the lead in "Pilate's Daughter" there 26 years ago this month.

"I'm sure of the time," Monsignor Schmitt remarked because it was during the play's three-night run that the church burned down. We had Mass in the "theater" for the next six months.

Educators Pledge To Campaign for Integrated Schools

Professional educators who constitute the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa have pledged themselves to campaign for racial integration of Monroe County's schools.

"Segregation prevents communication and interaction between races, and tends to increase mutual suspicion, distrust, hostility and violence," their statement says.

In a resolution unanimously adopted March 19, the administrators and teachers declared that they would speak on behalf of integration before school boards, support school board candidates who share their goal and otherwise assume leadership in promoting integration.

"We believe that segregation, prejudice, discrimination damage the personality of all children," the resolution stated.

"Racial integration has been identified as the most important goal of American Society in our times. Its attainment must be of top priority for all schools."

Phi Delta Kappa consists largely of administrators, and some teachers, at elementary, high school and college levels, according to the president, Dr. George Rentsch, who is acting as a student superintendent of schools in charge of instruction. There are approximately 270 members scattered throughout the county, and they expect their action to have considerable influence.

The position statement was written by this special committee: Arnold Cantor, principal of

Charlotte High School; John H. Griffith, director of planning and research for the city School District; Father Leon G. Hart, C.S.B., principal of Aquinas; Benjamin H. Richardson, principal of School 7, and Dr. James P. Walsh, vice president for faculty affairs at Monroe Community College.

Among the reasons the committee presented to support the organization's action were these:

"The non-white child has difficulty establishing a positive self-image in the racially isolated, deprived environment in which he finds himself.

"The white child learns the prejudices of our society in an unrealistic school environment which fails to prepare him adequately to participate in contemporary adult society."

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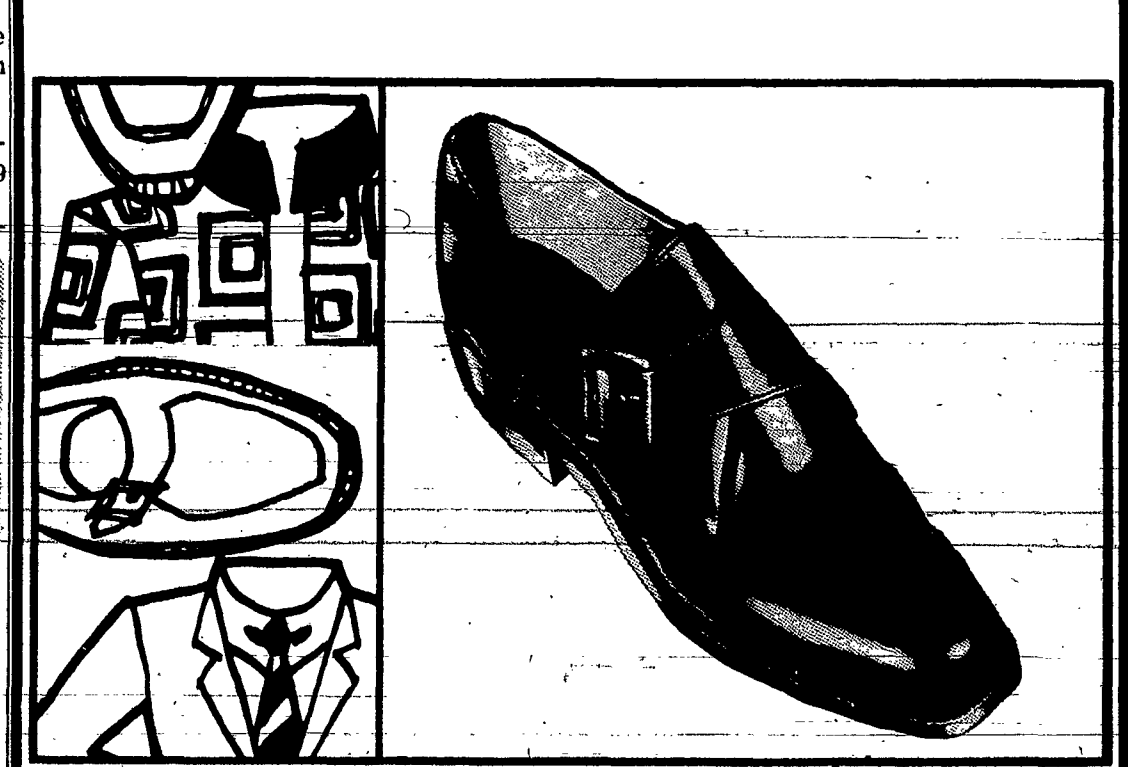
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Her Art: Religion and Patriotism

An actress and script writer who entered her field through the Rochester Blackfriars Guild, she has made her way into the Catholic church.

Mary-Eunice Spagnola of Belford, N.J., a charter member of the local theatrical company, now does a flourishing, non-profit business in royalty-free plays carrying a religious message.

She and her husband, Joe Spagnola, who works with her in "Mary Productions," featured in the March 16 "Sunday Visitor."

They conduct speech and acting classes, take their own actors on the road in short religious plays, and publish a small, family magazine that includes information on the services they offer, the article says. They have done short radio programs and videotapes for closed circuit television.

Their purpose: "to spread religion and patriotism," they told the interviewer.

And, "We perform anywhere, anytime."

Mrs. Spagnola, looking back a quarter of a century, told about the awakening of her religious faith during her earliest theatrical work here, with Gertrude Furlong and in the Blackfriars Guild.

"There I was surrounded by many good Catholics," she said. "When I went to New York to further my career, I decided I needed to become a Catholic."

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tor emeritus of Holy Family, remembers Mary-Eunice as an actress in his productions at St. Anne's Church.

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Aquinas Orator Wins \$1,000 Scholarship

Michael Cavagrotti, a senior honor student at Aquinas Institute, won a \$1,000 college scholarship March 22 by finishing second in the American Legion Oratorical state finals at Poughkeepsie.

Cavagrotti, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cavagrotti, 1161 Sunset Drive, Irondequoit, was chosen this area's representative to the finals after defeating 15 speakers in city, county and regional competition.

The subject of his winning

speech, "Free?" was the trial of John Peter Zenger, 18th century editor of the New York Journal who was charged with libel against the king of England.

Accompanying Cavagrotti to the finals were his speech coach, Father Thomas Miller, C.S.B., of the Aquinas faculty, and Paul Stuewe of the Monroe County American Legion.

Cavagrotti plans to major in political science as an undergraduate and then enter law school.

'Mary Sunshine' Set at Nazareth

The Nazareth-St. John-Fisher College Drama Group has selected the off-Broadway musical of a few seasons ago, Little Mary Sunshine, as its final production of the season.

The comedy is a spoof of the Jeanette MacDonald-Nelson Eddy film era.

It is scheduled at the Nazareth Arts Center, March 28, 29 and 30, 8:15 p.m.

TOPICS

Dear Friends,
HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

DID YOU GET THE MESSAGE THAT MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE WE BROUGHT YOU LAST WEEK? THE POP PROGRAM IS COMING TO A CLOSE WITH WE HASTEN TO ADD, A NICE BONUS FOR ALL OF YOU. NOT A BONUS IN POINTS OR MONEY, BUT AN EQUALLY VALUABLE BONUS—EXTRA TIME. YES, WE'RE GIVING YOU ANOTHER WHOLE MONTH IN WHICH TO SHOP POP AND SAVE POP LABELS. INSTEAD OF CLOSING ON THE DATE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED, MARCH 31, THIS GAME WILL BE EXTENDED THROUGH APRIL 30.

Meanwhile, you can be thinking about the Courier's new program of Fund-Raising, Money Labels, which will take the place of POP. Already we've had several inquiries from POP registrants who are anxious to learn about this brand-new concept of collecting profits.

If your group is affiliated with a Catholic parish, perhaps it has already registered for Money Labels. One way to find out is to contact the president of your Rosary Society, Home-School Association or other church society. They'll be delighted to welcome you as a participant. Of course if your whole parish is registered (and many are), you'll be hearing all about it through regular church announcements, etc. In Money Labels, though you must join through a group, you also join as an individual. That's because you the individual will profit personally as well as your church or other organization.

As in POP, however, membership in Money Labels is by no means limited to Catholic parish groups—any non-profit group may join. If your particular parish, etc. is not yet registered and you think it should be, this is your first step: Call or write Mrs. Ennis, Courier-Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Telephone: 548-5140 or 865-1554. She'll be glad to give you the necessary information or send it to you.

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