

Last Graduation at Three Schools

Final graduations at three Catholic High schools in the diocese occurred Friday, June 19.

They were at King's Prep, Rochester; Mt. Carmel, Auburn, and St. Anthony of Padua Prep, Watkins Glen.

King's Prep, a diocesan high school born in 1967 when the 97-year-old St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary was given a new name and structure, graduated 27 boys and two girls in its third and final commencement exercises. In 1968 there were 32 boys graduating, and in 1969 there were 31 boys and one girl — a total for the three years of 93 graduates.

The school had enrollment of 185 students, including the graduates, this semester. Forty-six of them were girls.

Designed as a school pursuing an "experimental education program," King's Prep closing came about primarily because of a decision of diocesan officials that it did not warrant heavy diocesan subsidy "in the light of many other demand-

ing and necessary diocesan programs."

Mt. Carmel High School was closed after 15 years in Auburn primarily because of a decrease in enrollment during the last two years. There were 171 students in the final graduation class. Nearly 700 boys and girls were enrolled this semester.

St. Anthony Prep School ended a 20-year history in Watkins Glen when the Polish Franciscans who operated it shifted away from secondary education because they were unable to find enough teachers within the Order and could not afford to pay outside teachers. During the last two decades they have graduated approximately 2,000 boys. The school included a minor seminary until two years ago.

There were 28 boys in the final graduation, included among 150 enrolled for the semester.

It was announced two weeks ago that the Franciscans have leased the 350-acre property to

a newly-formed Glen Springs Academy, a non-sectarian school for boys.

The academy will open in September with a full program. Headmaster is Marcell J. Rosno, a member of the Corning Community College faculty. Glen Springs Academy is described as a non-stock corporation organized exclusively for educational purposes and allowing no profits for any individual.

State Aid Predicted For Diocesan Schools

Rochester diocesan schools are in good position to meet State Board of Regents guidelines which implement the new \$28 million annual state grant to non-public schools, according to Father Daniel Brent, diocesan superintendent of schools.

He said the basic regulations of the guidelines are ones the diocesan schools are now following. Despite recent school

closings, diocesan schools might qualify for an estimated \$1.4 million from the state grant.

Specifically, the schools will have to certify that their teachers have a valid certificate or are otherwise qualified to teach, will have to conduct and report on a continuing program of individual pupil testing, and must maintain a register available for inspection.

Missioners Ride the Range

Albany, N.Y. — (NC)—Some 300-acres of suburban Slingerlands have become a cattle range tended by 10 temporary ranch hands who are missionaries by profession.

The cattlemen are Mill Hill Fathers awaiting reassignment as they train at Merrifield Farm, caring for its 100 Aberdeen Angus. Brothers Joseph and Timothy ride quarter horses on the range and Father Anthony Barnicle oversees the entire ranch operation from an airplane.

Father Barnicle, regional su-

pervisor of the Mill Hill Fathers, flew a fighter plane during the Korean war before becoming a missionary.

To him and the others the ranch is a serious business, sustaining the priests and adding to the order's coffers. To keep the black Angus at their average 1,100 pound weight, the missionaries also operate a 100-acre productive farm.

The missionaries waiting at the farm to be assigned to remote missions among the poor are English and Irish priests.

Pa. Schools Get Short End

Harrisburg, — Pa. — (RNS) — Catholic high schools in Pennsylvania received an average of \$31 per pupil, while the much smaller number of independent private schools averaged \$260 per pupil in the first year of Pennsylvania's state aid to non-public schools. Payment is based on cost of instruction in four secular subjects.

A summary released by the State Education Department indicated that the disparity in aid results from the higher costs, including salaries, of the smaller, independent private institutions. Schools having 4 per cent of the pupils received about 25 per cent of the available funds, raised through state taxes on cigarettes and horse racing.

Churches Enter Housing Field

Portland, Me. — (RNS) — Local churches here have formed a private corporation, named for an Old Testament prophet, in an effort to improve Portland's bleak low-income housing picture.

The Micah Corp. was established to "improve the living conditions and neighborhoods of low-moderate income families and to demonstrate that decent housing at reasonable prices can be provided on a

sound business basis by a private, profit-making firm."

It is sponsored by the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Luke; St. Dominic's, Sacred Heart and St. Louis, all Catholic; two Congregational churches and one Baptist Church.

The aim this year is to buy and rehabilitate 12 houses and to sell two. The churches have posted \$20,000 in working capital.

Priest Loses N. Y. Election

New York — (RNS) — A Catholic priest who said he wanted to use a Congressional seat as a springboard to widespread slum cleanup and urban redevelopment was defeated here in a Democratic primary bid.

Father Louis Gigante, assistant pastor at St. Athanasius Parish, South Bronx, who said he entered the primary "because the politicians have abandoned us," came in third in a six-way race.

Probably the first Catholic

priest from New York State to seek a Congressional seat, he once told his supporters that in seeking the nomination "I am only extending the ministry that I am doing in this area. As a Catholic priest I must serve my people this way."

During his eight years at St. Athanasius Parish, he joined many community campaigns and helped start the area's first drug addict rehabilitation center. His district, populated mainly by blacks and Puerto Ricans, includes areas of Harlem and Queens as well as the South Bronx.

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