

Many Consolidations Already Made in Chemung

Chemung County parishioners were recently disturbed by public recommendations for consolidating parishes and schools in the Southern Tier. The suggested changes in parochial structures came from the so-called Donovan Report issued by the diocesan Schools' Office and were based on statistics gathered in the School and Society Survey.

Sister Mary Agnes Zimmer, coordinator of the Southern Tier parochial schools, in the following factual report defends the successful school consolidations which Chemung County parishes established several years before the survey and report.

Sister Mary Agnes Zimmer, R.S.M.

Long before the recommendations of the Donovan Report were so spectacularly released to the press, the people of Chemung County had begun experi-

menting with "visionary innovations."

Other areas in the diocese have had proposals concerning merging and centralization suggested to them but they have so far neglected to adopt any part of them.

In Chemung County, through the combined efforts of pastors, principals, parents and school boards (both county and parish), the people have within the last two years, implemented the following innovations:

CONSOLIDATION of St. Cecilia and SS. Peter and Paul School:

Advantages:
1. Elimination of all double grades.

2. One supervising principal instead of two teaching principals.

3. Ability to establish non-

graded and departmental programs (not possible before).

4. Saving of two lay teachers' salaries and one religious.

MERGING of grades kindergarten through 4 from St. Anthony School with those of St. Casimir:

Advantages:
1. Saving of three lay teachers' salaries at St. Anthony.

2. Saving of personnel since classes at St. Anthony would have averaged 15 pupils.

SUPERVISING PRINCIPALS replaced part-time teaching principals at Lourdes and St. Patrick's; St. Cecilia and SS. Peter and Paul's; three Corning schools (Steuben County):

Advantages:

1. Principals can give full time to administrative duties rather than spend time in addition to these duties, preparing and teaching classes.

2. Instead of seven principals, at a time when administrators are scarce, three principals are ably managing seven schools—therefore a saving of four.

LAY TEACHERS SHARED:
One English and social studies teacher for St. Casimir and St. Anthony Schools.

One science teacher for Lourdes and St. Patrick Schools.

Advantage:
This enables pupils from four schools to have teachers who are specialists in their fields.

RELIGIOUS ORDERS COMBINED, Religious from both congregations are teaching in the same schools:

1. One Sister of St. Joseph and one Sister of Mercy at St. Cecilia.

2. One Sister of St. Joseph and one Sister of Mercy at SS. Peter and Paul.

3. One Sister of Mercy and Sisters of St. Joseph at St. Mary.

Advantage:

Sisters are teaching wherever the need arises, regardless of which religious order staffs the school.

CONSOLIDATION OF CONVENTS:

1. Sisters from St. Patrick and Lourdes live at Lourdes.

2. Sisters from St. Anthony and St. Casimir live at Casimir.

Further implementation of ideas is imperative and must be acted upon in the immediate future. The people of Chemung County recognize this.

However, rather than be criticized for "only adopting part of the proposals," they are to be commended for what has already been successfully accomplished.

Msgr. Craugh, 69, Dies

Several bishops and hundreds of priests and laity were expected to attend a Mass of the Resurrection for Msgr. Wilfred T. Craugh, P.A., 69, at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, in St. Margaret Mary Church, Irondequoit.

Msgr. Craugh, retired rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, died Sunday, Aug. 16, 1970, at St. Mary's Hospital after more than a month's illness.

Ordained in 1924, he had spent most of his 46 years as a priest in aiding young men's education for the priesthood. He had been in retirement since 1966, and had been assisting since then on weekends at St. Margaret Mary's.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Thomas J. Maloney of Cleveland, Ohio; two brothers, Richard F. Craugh of Oklahoma City and Gerald J. Craugh of New York City, and several nieces and nephews.

Msgr. Craugh had been rector of the seminary for 18 years when he officially retired in 1966. At that time he was named by Bishop James E. Kearney to be a vicar general of the diocese. He also for many years was active as a member of the Diocesan Tribunal, the marriage court of the diocese.

He had been professor of philosophy and disciplinarian at St. Bernard's Seminary for 21 years before his appointment as rector in 1948. The late



MSGR. CRAUGH

Pope Pius II elevated him to the rank of Domestic Prelate in 1947 and to Protonotary Apostolic in 1948. The latter rank carries with it the right to celebrate Mass at certain times with ceremonies ordinarily used only by bishops.

Born March 7, 1901, in Penn Yan, he was the son of Martin J. and Anne O'Keefe Craugh. He attended St. Michael's School and Penn Yan Academy, and studied for the priesthood at St. Charles College, Balti-

more, Md., and at St. Bernard's Seminary.

He was ordained June 7, 1924, in old St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rochester, by Bishop Daniel J. Curley of Syracuse. He then attended Gregorian University in Rome, where he earned a master's degree in philosophy in 1927. On his return he joined the faculty of St. Bernard's.

He was named secretary of the Matrimonial Tribunal in 1932, and in 1950 was appointed pro-synodal judge and vice official of the tribunal.

More than 500 alumni of St. Bernard's honored Msgr. Craugh on his 40th anniversary of priesthood at the biennial alumni reunion in October, 1964.

Bishop Kearney was expected to preach the eulogy at the funeral Mass.

A Correction

The Courier-Journal apologizes for an error of omission in the story about the Auburn Carmelite Fathers accepting duties which appeared on page one last week.

The appointment of Father David Kearns, O.Carm., to the faculty of Bishop Kearney High School was accidentally omitted from the listing of the assignments of five Carmelite Fathers to Rochester high school posts and one to teaching at Nazareth College.



All Dolled Up

Guys and dolls waiting for the fairgrounds to open at St. Pius X are, left to right, up and down and sideways, Raggedy Andy, Raggedy Ann, Raggedy Andy, Raggedy Ann, etc. News reports that these popular rag dolls were being made up with dangerous metal pins prompted the women of the parish to improve on the commercial product and possibly corner the market. Their handiwork will be available at the church grounds on Chill Avenue August 29 and 30.

Sister Mary Bride Leaving Mercy Post

Sister Mary Bride Claire, superior general of the Sisters of Mercy of the Rochester Diocese has resigned her position due to poor health, the congregation was informed in an official letter on Saturday, Aug. 15.

On the recommendation of her physician, and in consultation with her four councilors, Sister Mary Bride will step down as head of the 413-member order, effective Aug. 31.

According to Sister Mary Judith Heberle, assistant superior general, recurring illness forced Sister Mary Bride's decision. Sister Mary Bride has been superior of the Rochester congregation since 1961. She would have continued in office for three more years.

In her letter to the Sisters, Sister Mary Bride explained that the decision had been difficult because of her great love for each Sister individually as

well as for the congregation. "I leave this office with a grateful heart for the support and concern that you have shown me through the years of my administration in our congregation."

Sister Mary Judith and the other councilors — Sister Mary Peter Schueter, Sister Teresa Richardson and Sister Mary dePazzi Connor—will carry on the government of the congregation until they and the Sisters' Senate have set up an election.

Sister Mary Bonaventure Hall is the recently elected president of the Sisters of Mercy Senate.

Born in Ireland, Sister Mary Bride, 59, came to Rochester as a young girl, attended RBI and worked as a secretary before joining the Sisters of Mercy in 1933. She continued her education in business at Nazareth College, and taught in that field

at Mercy High School for 12 years.

She was appointed to head the community's formation program in 1949, guiding the development of all Sisters in the congregation not yet committed to perpetual vows. After six years, she was elected assistant to the superior general. In 1961, she became the superior general.

Sister Mary Bride's temporary successor, Sister Mary Judith, said of the retiring superior: "She has been a prayerful, progressive and competent religious administrator. She has always been courageous to initiate new works where needed, and equally courageous in curtailing that which was no longer relevant or effective."

"She has spent herself for her Sisters and the Church; and while we can accept the need for this decision, we shall suffer the deep loss of a great leader."

During her years in office, Sister Mary Bride worked steadily to update and to renew. Under her leadership, the Sisters of Mercy sent seven sisters into fulltime inner-city work, and dozens of others into part-time or summer programs, notably a store-front apostolate on Joseph Avenue in Rochester in 1965.

She spent several weeks in Mexico—again in 1965—with other superiors of orders in the United States to learn the needs of Latin America. The following summer, she personally established the order's first foreign mission in Santiago, Chile.

In December of that same year, the entire Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy, with Sister Mary Bride, donned for the first time a modern street-length habit.

Two years later, under her guidance, 45 elected sisters convened to begin a two-year study of every aspect of the Sisters'



SISTER MARY BRIDE

lives with a view toward renewal. An evaluation and further implementation of that study will be undertaken next summer with a second "Chapter of Affairs."

St. James Hospital in Hornell, owned by the Sisters of Mercy, added a new west wing, an education building and a medical building to their west complex during Sister Mary Bride's tenure in office.