

Sister Mary Faith Reports

'A Renewed Enthusiasm'

By MARY ANN GINNERTY
Auburn Correspondent

Auburn—Sister Mary Faith, principal of Holy Family School, was among several sisters from the diocese who attended the National Association of Elementary School Principals Conference in Cleveland, Ohio April 17-22.

"The conference focused on the role of the principal, with strong emphasis on the role of the teacher as well," stated Sister Mary Faith.

Sister Mary Faith, of the Sisters of Mercy, has been principal at Holy Family School for the past three years. She also is chairman of the Auburn Association of Catholic School Administrators.

"The experience of attending a national conference of this caliber is professionally stimulating and you can't help but come away with renewed enthusiasm," reflected Sister Mary Faith. "I plan to share these concrete ideas and thoughts on education with my faculty. As we ourselves grow, so does our ability to help our students."

Sister noted, "While you need innovative, creative faculty, it is the role of the principal to suggest ideas, programs, and be aware of new techniques, and



SISTER MARY FAITH

to provide an air of acceptance and support in which the teacher can foster ideas suited to the school and student needs."

Individual sessions in which Sister Mary Faith participated focused on how to establish the innovative school, closing the gaps between goals and practices. Also, considered were how to gain wide support from faculty and parents, and the search for better ways to make creative use of staff.

Sister believes that "to apply new techniques and methods is fine, but we must always tailor them to meet the actual needs of our school so it is not just an imposition of new techniques."

Sister is reassured that the objective of implementing the modular plan of teaching in the middle grades for the 1971-72 year is an appropriate undertaking. A rather involved scheduling plan is necessary, but well worth the initial preparing of teachers, and programing. Modular planning permits more flexible scheduling of time.

Modular planning is an organizational device that helps teachers to individualize instruction and allow more creative use of teachers by making those with special talents available to other classes periodically.

Of special note to Sister was David Brinkley's opening address at the conference which touched upon the operation of government in Washington. Brinkley reflected on the importance teachers play in society through their potential influences in the forming of minds, recalling the teacher who encouraged him to enter journalism. He spoke about the recent turmoil on the campus.

Cotillion to Benefit Hospital

Auburn—"A Stake in America" is the selected theme of the 15th annual Spring Cotillion for Mercy Hospital Saturday, May 15 at the Auburn Golf and Country Club.

Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Smith,

Auxiliary Hears Talk on Social Services

Auburn—The second annual spring luncheon of the Ladies Auxiliary of Mercy Hospital took place recently at Spring-side Inn.

Because volunteers of today are interested in the total aspects of health care, the featured speaker was Mrs. Pauline R. Riemer, director of social services at Mercy Hospital. She spoke on "Discharge Planning—Medicare Style."

Mrs. Riemer, focusing on the laws surrounding medicare and the kind of coverage patients get in the hospital, pointed out some of the discrepancies between what people think coverage includes and the actual coverage under the law. She also noted some of the inequities between insurance carriers who carry medicare in the various localities, and that, seemingly benefits are not standardized throughout the state.

Mrs. Riemer feels that the more people are aware of the gaps in coverage, the more understanding the public will have of the upcoming discussion of alternative plans for the care of our aged ill under consideration at the national level. She feels that the auxiliary volunteer who is knowledgeable about the benefits available, can be an ambassador in the community, helping to inform the interested citizens.

co-chairmen of this year's semi-formal affair, announced a cocktail hour at 7 p.m. will be followed by dinner at 8 p.m. Dancing will be to the music of Joe Cappiello and his band from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Reservations should be made by May 10.

The project, sponsored annually by the hospital auxiliary, earmarks profit for hospital use. The Mercy Hospital Cotillion is one of the more pleasurable ways the community shows support by being on the giving instead of receiving end of hospital services.

The theme, "A Stake in America" ties in with the hos-

pital's expansion to meet community need. Its planned extended care facility is under construction, with the addition going up at the rear of the present hospital building.

Members of this year's cotillion committee include Dr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Graceffo and Mr. and Mrs. Winfield C. Boehler, advisors; Mr. and Mrs. William A. Court and Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. McCarthy, invitations and tickets; Mr. and Mrs. John P. Doyle Jr., publicity; Mr. and Mrs. James H. Lent and Mr. and Mrs. John Bisgrove Jr., decorations; Mr. and Mrs. James G. Cuddy, treasurer; and Mr. and Mrs. John T. Gehérin, music.

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Wednesday, May 5, 1971

SERIES CONTINUES

Ludlowville — The third in the series of the First Penance meetings with parents under the auspices of the Rural Education Center in King Ferry is scheduled for Thursday evening, May 6. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. at All Saints Trailer in Ludlowville.

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With That I'd Be Satisfied

A Broadway musical currently running in New York called **STORY THEATRE** presents a series of fables that have a delightful child-like simplicity while exposing (as fables do) unchanging predicament of being human.

One such fable tells the story of a poor fisherman who catches the Enchanted Prince Flounder, but throws him back at the fish's verbal request. That evening he learns from his wife that the talking flounder has magical powers, and she send him back to the sea to ask the flounder to change their shabby shack into a little white cottage. And it is done... but the fisherman's wife isn't satisfied. Successively she sends her husband back to request a beautiful castle; then to make her King of the land; then to be the Pope and rule over all kings... and it is done. Still not satisfied, her last request is to be Lord of the Universe. This the Enchanted Prince cannot grant, and the fisherman and his wife are changed back to their original poverty.

Most of us would never go as far as the fisherman's wife, but, in lesser degrees, do we not find ourselves often unsatisfied with what we have or who we are? Have we not all seen our names in lights on the marquee of our minds... wished to find an Aladdin's lamp... or dreamed of winning the Grand Sweepstakes!

Not being satisfied, however, is good—it can motivate us to change—it can keep us from being complacent and indifferent. And it can help us see ourselves, the world, and others in a more realistic perspective.

Are we dissatisfied with only our own small (often petty) matters, or are we also concerned about the poverty, disease, and suffering of others deprived of so much more than ourselves? Do we make a genuine personal effort to help change the misery of others, or do we sit back, pass the buck, grumble, and wait for some Enchanted Prince to change things? Are we the selfish "wife" in the fable above or are we Christians?

A poor missionary in Asia recently wrote saying, "My people are so poor... if I only had the money to build them a small chapel and school and someday a medical clinic, I'd be satisfied."

It is for missionaries like this that we turn to you for help, that they may meet the most basic human needs of the mission-poor. The help you give can never exhaust the increasing needs of the missions, but each effort is a step forward in bringing others, not just a better life, but the fullness of life in Christ.

Please help us take another step forward today. Every gift for the missions is important for every gift witnessed to Christ's words, "Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied."

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Send your special sacrifice today!

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