



From left are: Mrs. Harry Sherman, Philip Brown, Robert Stone, Mrs. Robert Haley, Mrs. Jerry Griffin.

Two Receive Awards

Hornell — Robert Stone and Philip Brown, Jr., students in the St. James Mercy Hospital School of Nursing were recipients of \$100 awards given by St. Ann's Court #194, Catholic Daughters of America, at a recent surprise presentation. The awards are presented to "exceptional, worthy students, contributing to our society, who are making great efforts to become nurses."

Stone will graduate in June. He resides off campus at R.D. #3 with his wife Mary and

children Charity 8 and Robert 2.

Brown, a junior student, lives on Glen Ave. with his wife Magnolia and children, Michael 7, Christopher 6 and Angie 5.

The presentation of checks was made by Miss Loretta Haeefe, director of the school, who also introduced members of the local C.D. of A. attending the ceremony. They were Mrs. Harry Sherman, past grand regent; Mrs. Jerry Griffin, past grand regent and member of the award committee and Mrs. Robert Haley, grand regent.



FR. PAUL J. CUDDY

On The Right Side

For what it's worth, I have long had sympathy for Pontius Pilate when he replied to Our Lord: "What is truth?" I have heard earnest preachers denounce Pilate because he did not recognize Divine Truth standing in front of him. Listening, the thought would come to me: "Well, if the Apostles and disciples had such a hard time understanding the Lord, it does seem a bit much to expect more from Pilate."

"What is truth?" St. Thomas teaches that truth is the conformity between the object considered and the object as comprehended by the intellect. For example, if Eddie Carter, a full-back at Aquinas, walking along the countryside in the fall, cogitating on his all-consuming sport, sees a brownish sphere in the bushes, he might well think: "Ah, a football!" But the sphere is really a pumpkin. Just because he thinks it is a football does not change the truth of the matter. A pumpkin is a pumpkin. When Eddie stoops to pick it up, he changes his judgment and says: "Oh no, it's a pumpkin." Now he has arrived at the truth of the matter. Some reject St. Thomas' definition of truth; but I have never found a better one.

Discovering the truth in simple things is not always simple. Discovering the truth in complex situations is humbling to the humble. These thoughts came to me as I read about the admission of Red China into the UN; and the booting out of Taiwan. Like Pilate I share a great puzzlement. His was Christ. Mine is the Chinese situation. I do not affect to know the answers. And I look askance at the confident opinions expressed by poorly informed Tomis and Janes who in some conceit wish to be regarded seriously.

In 1966 the efficient Father James Marvin was the diocesan director of the Legion of Mary. One day he sent out an SOS to all the Legionnaires in the diocese, saying that he regretted that the SOS notice gave only two days in advance, but by a special Providence Father Aedan McGrath would be at St.

Andrew's School hall to speak on the Legion in China. He asked everyone who possibly could, to come.

The name Father Aedan McGrath drew an absolute blank to most of us. But a group from Clyde parish dutifully drove the 65 miles to St. Andrew's, including myself. It has been my privilege to hear some of the finest speakers in the world, including Better World Movement Father Lombardi, S.J. in Venice, Bishops Sheen and Kearney in Rochester and Everett Dirksen in Washington. Yet none of these stirred my soul and ideals as much as Father McGrath, who is no orator at all.

He was sent to China by the Columban Fathers in 1948 to establish an organization unknown to him, namely the Legion of Mary. In his narration the missionary unfolded the growth and depth of the Chinese Legionaries which compare with the first centuries of Christianity. In 1949 Mao Tse-tung's communists took over the country, with their systematic destruction of religion. In 1951 the Legion was outlawed in China as a "secret counter-revolutionary and evil" society which "worked against the government, the people and Soviet Russia."

In 1951 Father McGrath was imprisoned for three years in solitary confinement. For all the physical and psychological sufferings endured, he told us at St. Andrew's: "In all my life I have never been so happy as the years in prison. I suppose it was because I was stripped of every human comfort and consolation that I was able to give myself utterly to God. The fact is that during these awful years I was completely happy."

Father McGrath is speaking at different places in the diocese these next few weeks. If you want a first hand account of a man who loves the Chinese people, and is knowledgeable about the band of Chinese who are our new colleagues in the UN, do get to hear him. You will leave the meeting not quite the same.

Hornell Area Notes

Dansville — A Used Ski and Winter Sports Equipment Sale will be held by Friends of St. Mary's School (FOSMS), Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3-4 in the school auditorium.

Dansville — St. Mary's Ladies Guild will hold their annual Christmas party Dec. 9.

Wayland — The CYO will hold a bake sale at Rauber's Adway, Dec. 14 and a dance the same evening.

Wayland — A party and dance for parishioners of St. Joseph's parish is slated for Dec. 11, 9 p.m. — 1 a.m.

Hornell — St. James Mercy Hospital will hold a dinner dance party Saturday, Dec. 4.

Knights Honored

Bath—Harold Von Hagn and Paul Bergin have been named Knights of the Year by area Knights of Columbus. The award goes to members who have "accomplished outstanding work in the council."

TWO RETIRE

Hornell — Two housekeepers have recently retired from rectory duties, Julia Madden retired after 29 years of service at St. Joseph's Church, Wayland, Mrs. Elizabeth Miner retired after 12 years of service at St. Mary's Church, Bath.



Varsity Captain

Kevin Cregan, 6 foot 4 forward from Hornell, will captain the varsity basketball team this season at Alfred University. Cregan scored 216 points and had 174 rebounds in 22 games last season when the Saxons closed at 10-12. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cregan of Riverside Place, parishioners of St. Ann's Church.

Tax Exemption Hearing Set

The Citizens' Committee on Tax Exemptions, an official investigating body of the Rochester City Council, will hold a public hearing Thursday, Dec. 9 in the council chambers starting at 4 p.m.

Persons belonging to groups concerned with the tax exemption question are invited to appear before the committee, which is considering exemptions in ten areas, one of which includes "religious groups and clergymen."

The committee, under the chairmanship of Dennis J. Livadas, was started by Mayor Stephen May in June 1971 to make recommendations "for legislative amendments and administrative corrections designed to bring current real property tax exemptions closer in line with the present day attitudes and needs of the city."

The hearing will be for all groups interested in tax exemptions, "whether favorable or opposed to them," according to the committee.

Persons or groups which wish to testify can contact Mrs. Dorothy Brylski, secretary of the committee, at 473-1227.

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Social Security Opens Nursing Complaint Office

The Rochester Social Security Office, along with social security offices in 850 communities around the country, has been appointed by Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Elliot L. Richardson to serve as a local center to receive complaints about substandard conditions in nursing homes.

Persons who have information about instances of poor quality care, neglect, unsanitary, or unsafe conditions in a nursing home may give that information to the nearest social security office in person, or by letter or phone.

If desired, the name of the person making the complaint and the name of the nursing home patient will be kept confidential. Joseph M. Tomaino, Social Security District Manager in Rochester, noted.

The social security office will see that the complaint gets to the proper Federal, State, or local authority for investigation.

The designation of the Nation's social security offices as "nursing home listening posts" is preliminary to a plan announced by Secretary Richardson for the establishment of an ombudsman system in the States.

The ombudsmen would take complaints and suggestions about nursing home care and make sure they get to the right people. They would also find out what nursing home patients think — not only about the fa-

cilities where they live, but also about alternatives to nursing care — ways in which older people may be enabled to stay in familiar surroundings instead of being institutionalized.

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