

Sts. Peter and Paul Church Suffers \$85,000 Damage

By DICK BAUMBACH

Elmira — The minimum amount of damages to the physical plant of Sts. Peter and Paul Church is more than \$85,000 as a result of flood waters which smashed through the complex five weeks ago.

Father Edward Foy, pastor of the parish, said estimates on the cost of demolishing the rectory and of rebuilding the convent are still not available.

Father Foy said a minimum of \$50,000 would be needed to rebuild the church. The pastor is hopeful, however, that by this

weekend the church can be opened on a limited basis for Mass and the sacraments.

"We've cleaned the floors and the pews came through pretty good because they are solid wood, but there is still a lot of work that must be done to get the church back to normal. The floors will have to be replaced and some walls will have to be reinforced."

Under Father Foy's plan, the sisters who lived in Sts. Peter and Paul convent will be moving to St. Mary's Southside convent. Father Foy and his assistant Father Robert Kanka, will then move into the convent.

"I just feel the rectory is too far gone to think of repairing it. It's a very old building and we really can't be sure of all the damages, but just the external damage is sufficient to warrant its being demolished."

The minimum cost of rebuilding the parish's school, which is part of the Chemung County Catholic School System, has been listed at \$35,000.

"The basement is gone in the school and all the floors on the first floor were wiped out. They will all have to be replaced. We lost textbooks, office equipment, the lunch room facilities, lavatories, the new learning center. You name it, it was damaged or destroyed."

Father Foy said clean up work is continuing at all the structures, with the exception of the rectory, but he has no firm idea of when the parish will return to normal.

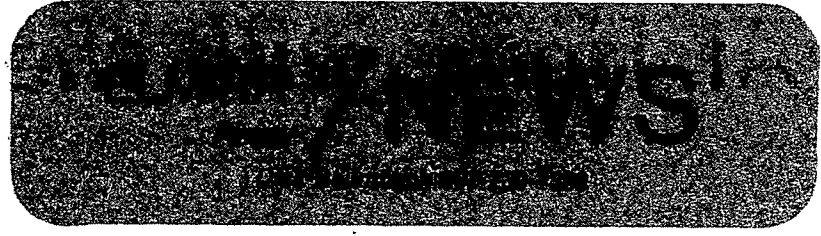
32 Nurses Graduated

Elmira — Thirty-two nurses were graduated recently from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing here. The Rev. Cyril Guise, hospital chaplain, presided at the ceremonies.

Named the top student in the graduating class was Mrs. Phebe Wood of Knoxville, Pa. Mrs. Wood received the Reverend Francis J. Walker Memorial Award for Highest Scholastic Achievement.

The St. Joseph's Hospital Alumni Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice was presented to Miss Ruth Ann Seeney of Elmira, while the District Three New York State Nurses Association Award for Outstanding Leadership in Student Nurses Activities went to Miss Beverly Bush of Elmira.

St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing offers a three year diploma program for future registered nurses. The school has a total enrollment of 100.



Chemung Junior High Graduates First Class

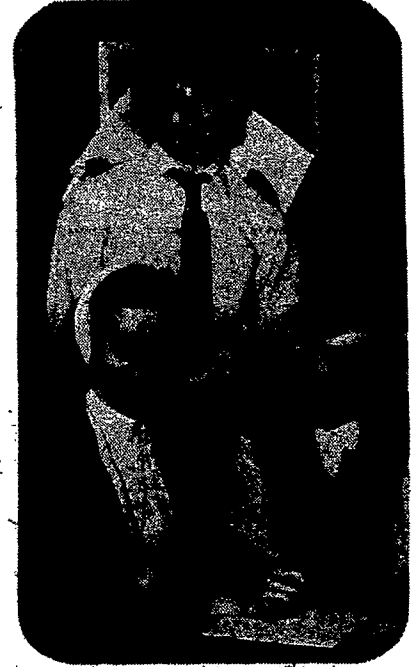
Elmira The first graduation from the Chemung County Catholic Regional Junior High School was held recently at St. Patrick's Church.

A total of 167 students were awarded diplomas in ceremonies marking the end of the first school year for the new junior high school. The school was formed by the Chemung County Catholic School Board in an effort to reduce costs of operating various one through eighth grade schools throughout the county.

Students received their diplomas from their own pastors. Prior to the graduation exercises a special Mass was held in the junior high school auditorium concelebrated by the pastors and priests in the district.

CCD Plea

Volunteers are needed for the CCD programs in both St. Mary Our Mother Church, Horseheads and St. Margaret Mary, Apalachin. Persons interested should call Father Bartholomew O'Brien, pastor of St. Mary's, or Gene Marasco, Apalachin's CCD principal.



Sister Clare Francis, SSJ, (l), principal of St. Patrick's Junior High School in Elmira, Kevin Seaman and Fiona O'Connor discuss the students remarks which were delivered at graduation at St. Patrick's Church.

School Board Elections Held

West Elmira — Donald Seaman and Mrs. Joseph Montanarella have been elected from a field of five candidates to sit on the Our Lady of Lourdes Regional School Board. The school board is a part of the Chemung County Catholic School District.

Board members on the regional organization who are retiring are Mrs. Edward Dick and Dr. Thomas Curran. Dr. Curran also retired as a member of the Chemung County Catholic School Board. He was one of the original founders of the Chemung County Catholic School System.

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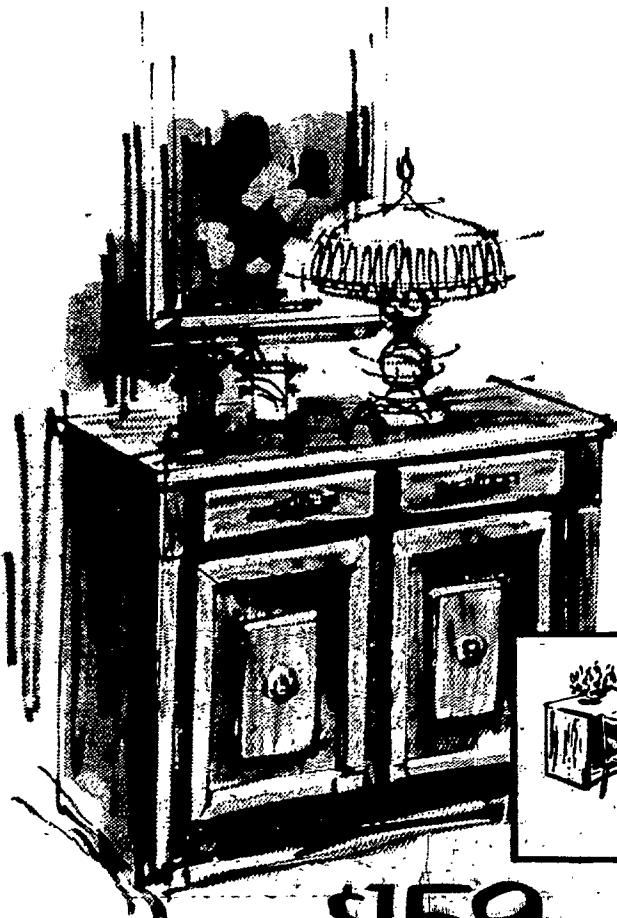
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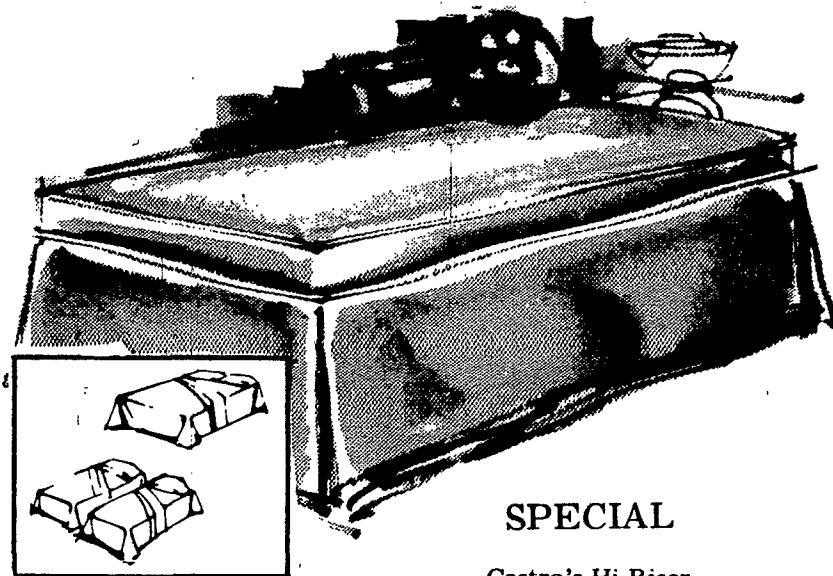
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