



SISTER ROSALMA
... question period



Above, Mother Agnes Cecelia Troy speaks from podium to group of more than 45 priests, below.

Nuns Talk, Priests Listen

Sharing the spirit which motivates the Sisters of St. Joseph was the primary thrust of the first two "information days" for priests of the diocese held last week.

About 50 priests attended each day of the special program.

Several sisters spoke on topics which concern the congregation, especially following last Summer's Chapter.

The importance of the congregation to the whole diocese was discussed in an opening statement by Mother Agnes Cecelia Troy, mother general of the group. She said that the day was designed both to tell the priests what the Sisters are doing and thinking and to ask for the priests' help and questions.

Sister Jamesetta Slattery addressed her remarks to the Sisters' affirmation of identity, saying that the religious life is part of the common mission of the Church, but that a difference lies in the public, personal and freely chosen profession of vows in response to the call of Christ.

She described the congregation as offering an alternative Christian form of life, professing a personal commitment to Christ



and sharing goods, life decisions and community support.

She said that the congregation may, at the moment, be at the mid-point of renewal.

Sister Mary David McCall spoke on "Ministry" and said that word means every aspect of the Sisters' lives.

Sister Mary David said that while there is a need to adjust works to life and the times, the congregation still sees education

as a vital way to meet the needs of society today as in the past. She said that 72 per cent of the active Sisters are in education. She also said that the congregation's biggest problem is a shortage of personnel.

Sister Boniface Roeger described the environment necessary for growth in the religious life and said that the unity of the Sisters of St. Joseph did not mean uniformity.

The government of the congregation was described as the "fellowship of adult Christians living in a special way the message of the Gospel," by Sister Mary Jean Smith.

According to Sister Mary John, public relations director for the congregation, the information presented was well received by the priests.

Volunteers Seen Key

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changed so radically he has had to rewrite most of it.

He feels that volunteers, which exemplify community concern, are part of a larger trend toward community-based correctional institutions.

Small, halfway houses with work programs for the inmates are increasingly being favored by penologists, the professor explained.

"Institutions should be located in urban areas, since that is where most law offenders come from. With correctional institutions out in the country the inmates are isolated, and it is almost impossible for their families to visit," he said.

Visiting is very important for the reintegration of the prisoner into society, the priest explained, and so is continued connection with the community through work programs.

Community-based correctional institutions are not being received well by the neighborhoods where halfway houses are proposed, admitted Father MacKinnon.

But he always advises the administrators to go ahead and put the juvenile delinquents or inmates in the house because the pattern is the same every time, he continued.

Recounting California and local instances, where halfway houses have been proposed, Father MacKinnon said, "As soon as word gets out that a halfway house is being proposed a list of opposing names is gotten together, but after the inmates are in, all those opposed

to the idea before, offer their help in the program."

The professor is optimistic for the future of the criminal justice system, though he admits its reform will not be easy or quick.

A systems approach is needed, he says. One that will change the location of correctional institutions, run them efficiently, make the public cooperate in rehabilitative efforts, re-educate law enforcers and reform the court system.

"It's a process and by-jingoes who can say how long it will take," said the Canadian priest.

Business In the Diocese

Robert H. Kalb retired from Lincoln First Bank on March 3. He began working for the bank in 1927, when it was called Lincoln Alliance.

A trustee of Blessed Sacrament Church, Kalb belongs to the Daily Mass League. He has also been an active member of the Laymen's Retreat League since its beginning.

In 1934, after moving to Newark, Kalb joined the Newark Council of the Knights of Columbus. He was named a Grand Knight in 1942. He also helped organize and promote the opening of the Newark Community Center.

His other activities include the Nocturnal Adoration Society and the Holy Name Society, of which he has been a member since their beginnings.

Kalb, who lives on Mulberry Street, is the father of four children.




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