

The Reach Out Cast

'Reach Out' Reaches Out To St. Mary's, Waterloo

Geneva — The most popular theatrical event these days down Geneva way never made Broadway, off-Broadway, or even Rochester.

A musical variety show, "Reach Out" was conceived, produced, and written in part by Father David Simon and the students of DeSales High School.

The play, which takes contemporary songs, including many from the musical "Godspell," and synthesizes them with bits of dialogue into a revue about man's concern for man, recently raised \$4,500 for the high school.

Mrs. William Morgan, a volunteer physical education teacher at St. Mary's School, Waterloo, was so impressed when she saw "Reach Out" that she approached Father Simon and asked him if the students would put on the show for the benefit of St. Mary's, which is presently in financial crisis, and will have to close its seventh and eighth grades for the next school year.

So, on Thursday, and Friday, May 24 and 25, at 7:30 p.m., the

82 members of the cast of "Reach" Out" will go on the road — about seven miles east — to Waterloo Junior High School auditorium, to help raise money for St. Mary's.

In addition to the "Godspell" numbers, the cast will perform "People," "People Gotta Be Free," "You'll Never Walk Alone," "God Bless the Child," and a seemingly impossible medley of the songs "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful?" and "Loving You Has Made Me Bananas.

Father Simon, DeSales chap-lain, produces the show. The music director is Stephen Venuti, choreography is by Jane Gregory and Helen Rupert, and Sister Mary Ann Fackelman is a special

The Geneva Times praised "Reach Out," applying words like professional," "high quality," "exciting," and "well-worth

This is not Father Simon's only brainchild. Last year, his show, "Everything Is Beautiful," achieved similar status, as it raised \$3,300 for the school.

Human Needs Served By CWU, Nun Finds

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

The role of women in the ecumenical movement is tending to human needs as it is turning out here, according to a nun who is a member of the long-time Protestant women's organization, Church Women United.

Sister Marie Haligan, superior general of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle, became involved about 10 years ago with CWU and related projects such as the Bible reading group and ecumenical lecture series.

Last year she was named chairman of the nominating committee, which made her a member of their executive board, because "they are very hungry for Catholic women on the board, she said.

Sister Marie describes CWU's work as "social gospel oriented," and adds that "sometimes I am in excess of admiration for them and think that we (Catholic organizations) are too pokey, but at other times I see they don't have much notion of worship."

"It is just a difference of traditional emphasis," she concluded. "Until Vatican II the Church emphasized prayer and worship. Vatican II documents, however, stressed three missions of Church."

Besides worship, fellowship and service were added. Service traditionally was "looked on as bait for converts," instead of stressing the fact that "anything that makes the human condition better is the teaching of Christ," Sister Marie observed.

She fells people are realizing now they can no longer limit religion to their family, "but to the kinship with all men."

- "Instead of building shrines and temples," she continued, "the



SISTER MARIE

effort should be put into human temples, or as Teilhard de Chardin put it, the glory of God is man fully alive."

That is the aim of work done by members of CWU. Their service programs cover many areas of human concern. There is the "daily hell-o" which provides a brief phone call to house bound persons.

"Literacy volunteers" teaches illiterate adults to read. "American hosts" brings teachers from foreign countries, to America to learn the culture first hand. "Task Force on Courts" is a watch dog on the local courts to insure "justice for all."

"There is such a variety of programs," Sister Marie said, "anyone could find a project to work on and feel they were really doing something."

She suggested parish councils serve as a link between Catholic women and CWU since no organization of Catholic women exists in the diocese. Any women who is a member of a church is automatically a member of CWU, she explained, adding that a link may be necessary since parish, organizations in the past have been so "provincial."

New R.I. Abortion Law Struck Down

Providence, R.I. [RNS] — Rhode Island's new and restrictive abortion statute has been ruled unconstitutional by Chief Judge Raymond J. Pettine of the U.S. District Court in Providence.

The decision came on a challenge to the new law filed, as a class action, by the state chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, on behalf of three pregnant women.

Passed by the state legislature and signed by Gov. Philip Noel on March 13, the Rhode Island law authorized abortion only to save the life of a pregnant women, recognizes the unborn as a 'person,' and defines life as beginning at the moment of conception.

the Rhode Island General Assembly had improperly in-yaded the judicial field when it enacted the new anti-abortion

"The state through the passage of legislation cannot establish a presumption which violates constitutional rights," Judge Pettine said, referring to the "presumption" made by the state legislature that life begins at conception — the major dif-ference between the old and new state abortion law.

The old law was struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling of Jan. 22, which said states could not prohibit abortions in the first three months of pregnancy.

In response, the Rhode Island legislature passed a law giving the unborn fetus and investing the fetus with life from the moment conception,

The state legislature does not "have the power to determine what is a 'person' within the meaning of the 14th Amendment," Judge Pettine ruled, "Such a question is purely a question of law for the courts, independent of any power in the state legislature to create evidentiary presump-

50th REUNION

Graduates of Immaculate Conception School of 1923 will gather for a reunion at Alfredo's estaurant at noon on June 6. eservations may be made by calling Mrs. Eleanor Finn Herrmann 342-0470, or Mrs. Ruth



260 WINTON RD. NORTH (Near Blossom Rd.)

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