

Settlement House Names Dick Williams Director

After a large scale search for a permanent director of Genesee Settlement House, including advertising in the New York Times and in a national magazine for social workers, the settlement house board of directors selected Richard Williams, the man who has been serving as interim director since Feb. 12. A reception in his honor Sunday, Nov. 25, drew more than 400 people to the settlement house.

Williams, 36, filled in last winter, replacing James Madry. It was understood then that he would serve for only three months. As permanent director, he plans to focus on family service, more programs for teenagers and the elderly.

Before joining Genesee Settlement House, Dick Williams was a social worker for Catholic Family Center and in charge of its Outreach Inner City Office at 187



DICK WILLIAMS

Edinburgh Street. Before he became a social worker he directed a musical group, America's Children, which toured 22 countries.



WORD FOR SUNDAY Fr. Albert Shamon

Sunday Readings: (R1) Zep. 3:14-18. (R2) Phil. 4:4-7. (R3) Lk. 3:10-18.

In this age so concerned with social justice, John's message states clearly that personal repentance expresses itself by right living. Three classes of people came to him and asked three simple questions.

"The crowds asked John, 'What ought we to do?' His answer was not innovative, nor was it radical. He simply repeated Jewish teaching — 'to share your bread with the hungry and shelter the homeless' (Is. 58:7). He presented this, not as a work of charity, but as a work of justice which everyone is bound to do.

"Tax collectors also came and said, 'Teacher, what are we to do?' Again his answer was surprising in its simplicity. They were told not to abandon tax-collecting — taxes are necessary and so an internal revenue service. They were to work with justice, 'exact nothing over and above your fixed amount.'

"Soldiers likewise asked him, 'What about us?' Once more John did not say give up soldiering — the military and the police are also necessary to keep law and order. To those policing Palestine, he said, 'Don't bully anyone. Denounce no one falsely (no extortion). Be content with your pay (no handouts).'

John spoke with such clarity and simplicity that his listeners began to wonder 'whether John might be the Messiah.' John put a

LCWR Meets

A joint session of the bishops of New York State and Region II of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) drew Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, Sister Mary Judith Heberle, RSM and Mother Agnes Cecilia, Troy, SSJ to Brooklyn yesterday, Dec. 11.

Sister Mary Judith, superior general of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy, and Mother Agnes Cecilia, superior general of the Sisters of St. Joseph, are members of LCWR — Region II, which includes the major superiors of women religious in New York State.

"1975 Holy Year — Interior Renewal and Reconciliation" was the theme of the day-long meeting.

Bishop Hogan and Sister Judith currently serve as liaisons between the New York State bishops and LCWR.

quick stop to their questions. "I am simply preparing the way for someone else," John told them; "someone far greater than I. My baptism only prepares for His. My baptism is only a sign of getting ready to receive His. My baptizing is in water; but His will be 'in the Holy Spirit and in fire' which will burn away the dross of sin and inflame hearts with the fire of love."

John then went on to picture the Messiah as a judge coming to separate good from bad, like the farmer striding to the threshing floor with his fan-shaped winnowing shovel in his hands to winnow or separate the good grain from the chaff or bran. The chaff he will burn but the wheat he will gather into his granary.

John's call to repentance had little to do with the abstract or speculative. Boldly and simply he showed that religion had to take form and shape in the conduct of every man and in each day's living.

No matter what one's state of life is, it has its temptations — from the Presidency down to the least laborer. Each personality and each trade or profession has its own pitfall. Repentance is a genuine desire to have done with sin. It finds its first expression in its immediate environment.

It is for man to adapt his life to the requirements of the Gospel, not for the Gospel to adapt itself to man. That was the lesson which those who came to hear John discovered.

Vaudeville Comes To Arts Center

The Inkspots will be featured in an eight-act line-up of singers, dancers, comedians, acrobats and magicians when old-time vaudeville comes to Nazareth Arts Center for performances at 8 and 11 p.m. on Dec. 31, New Year's Eve.

The show, called "Another Night at the Palace," will feature, along with the Inkspots, the Cassidy Girls, a balancing act; Jerry Coyle, musician-comedian; Valdez, a magician; Brenda Byers, a folksinger; McHarris and Dolores, a black dance team; the Cyclonians, daredevil cyclists; and the Cains, a comedy team.

Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the Arts Center box office.

DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting notices to the Courier-Journal of parish events is the Thursday noon preceding publication.

Papal Mass Telecast Live Christmas Eve

Pope Paul VI's Christmas Midnight Mass from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome will be televised live via satellite, Christmas Eve, 6 p.m., on WXXI-TV, Channel 21.

The telecast is produced by Father Patrick Peyton's Family Theater, and will be received in the United States, Canada, and Latin America. Last year, 165 television stations picked up

Family Theater's first broadcast of the pontiff's midnight Mass.

The 90-minute color transmission will be accompanied by commentary.

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