

Shepherding 41 Diocesans On a Sentimental Journey

October last the Courier Journal offered an eight-day tour of Ireland covering the South Dublin, Kerry, Wexford, Cork, Killarney. Again the CJ offered tour, April 28-May 6, to Northwest Ireland: Sligo, Mayo, Connemara, Connaught, and Donegal, just five miles from Ulster. Both tours were great, at \$585, all expenses paid. The time was long enough to enjoy the trip, short enough to return without too long an absence. We numbered 42 persons:

The group ranged in age from around 23 to 81. Despite the diversity of backgrounds, within four days we formed a real "family." What the Gospel teaches was genuinely practiced. Everyone was considerate and concerned about one another.

The trip was a sentimental journey. Most had parents or grandparents whose roots were in Ireland. We certainly represented the diocese.

From Rochester area came the George Fishers and daughter Mary Derleth; John Fisher and the expansive Francis Dollard and daughter Mary; Marie O'Connell and Dorothy Goethals; the Steve Rileys, who were also on the October tour; the John T. Nothnagles; Mrs. Thomas Jeary and her friend Mrs. Franklyn Spiegel; Jerry O'Brien of St. Monica's; Marguerite Bowman and the St. Ambrose assistant, Claire Connors.

From Elmira came Ann Delaney and Marion Schultz; Mary Burke, Frances Burns, Mary McGill; and the Math teacher and prognosticator, Miss Margaret O'Connor. Auburn sent the banker, Margaret Toomey, the Leo Flanigans, Kathryn Cummings and Dorothy Harte.

Savannah was represented by an old friend Mary McPeak; and Seneca Falls by her friend, Ella Boswell. Hornell sent the world traveller Beatrice Mahoney, along

Clinics to Fight Disease Outbreak

As a result of outbreaks of rubella, measles and whooping cough, the Monroe County Department of Health is undertaking an extensive immunization campaign at Rochester public and parochial elementary schools where most of the cases have occurred. Parents may make arrangements to have pre-school children immunized also by calling any school in their neighborhood.

Dr. Glenn E. Haughie, county health director, said immunizations for diphtheria, mumps, polio and tetanus would be given, in addition to the immunizations for rubella, measles and whooping cough.

About 70 cases of rubella already have been reported among children in the community, three times the number for all of 1973. About 45 cases of measles reported; compare with 13 in 1973. Eleven cases of whooping cough were reported late last year, the first in five years.

"With the presence of some of these diseases in the community," Dr. Haughie said, "all unimmunized children are at risk." He pointed out that any of these diseases can cause disabilities and even death.

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ON THE RIGHT SIDE Father Paul J. Cuddy

with Eleanor Quackenbush, Catherine McNelis and Ruth McInerney, old neighbors of mine.

From Cato came Durwood Killough and his wife Anna Maroney, whom I prepared for marriage in Clyde in 1936. Dansville sent Beatrice Hoffman, who banged her foot the last of the trip but not seriously, and her sister Marguerite Zimmer. Father Lane came from Geneva; Sister Ursula, SSJ from Nazareth. And at the last minute, my old 1st Sgt. Martha Shapley joined the group.

We left Rochester for Kennedy Airport at 3:30 and Kennedy for Dublin at 10 p.m. At the ports the luggage was examined for guns, bombs and dope. None was evident. There is something exciting about friends and relatives milling about seeing loved ones off. The plane was Aer Lingus and in Irish piety, was named "St. Patrick." The stewardesses were trim in deep green uniforms but three inches added to their skirts would make them more graceful.

From the Dublin port we were bussed to the famous Gresham Hotel. While the rooms were being arranged we sat around the genteel lounge, sipping coffee and munching on toast, marmalade and Irish butter. After the noon luncheon, all scattered some to rest, many to shop.

I myself had a definite mission to Ireland: i.e. to introduce Archbishop Sheen's cassette conferences, and hopefully, to Radio Erin. It seemed logical to begin with the Legion of Mary International Headquarters on Brunswick Street. So in mid-afternoon a cab took me there. I had brought a set of the Sheen tapes, hoping to interest the headquarters. In all candor, I left with the impression that headquarters has dedicated persons who are still using the quill pen of yesterday in an age of electric typewriters, duplication machines, electronics. The efficiency which technology can give to proclaiming the Kingdom seems to be hardly used in favor of a plodding, unimaginative fidelity to changelessness in a changing world.

After explaining the Sheen cassette conferences - I asked: "Does the Legion have any contacts with Radio Erin? If you can get Bishop Sheen on the radio, consider the extent of the spreading of the Word." Headquarters picked up a quill (figuratively) and seemed puzzled.

"The Bishops have a Communications Center for training priests to talk on TV and radio. But I do not know anyone there."

Well, I should like the privilege of donating a set of Bishop Sheen tapes to the Legion. Will you do what you can with it? Cassettes, radio, TV, the press, etc., all the media St. Paul would be using were he around seemed like an uncharted world to the headquarters.

That night, eight of our group went to the Legion Assumpta House for meetings. Among us we covered three of five meetings going on. We were edified by the workers and the work. In the manner of Jehovah's Witnesses they knock on doors to interest Catholics and non-Catholics in the Church and in church going, in rosary devotions, in pilgrimages to Lourdes and Knock, in reclaiming girls engaged in a shady vocation, in the sick, deprived, and in children. The members are mostly between their 30s and 40s, from a wide spectrum of vocations: clerks, housewives, administrators, laborers, secretaries. Their dedication reflects that zealous grace which does convert souls. After my dejection from Headquarters I was happy about these members, and informed them: "Conferences by Bishop Sheen are available at Brunswick Street." Alert-eyed President and Vice-President Claire O'Brien and Con Rigney were obviously interested. "We certainly will follow this through."

We returned to the Gresham about 11 p.m. Some had retired. Many were in the lounge, sipping coffee, Irish and otherwise, and recounting their day. It was a relaxed, contented group. But more next week on: "Religion in Ireland."

SPRING CONCERT AT MERCY HIGH
The annual Spring Concert presented by Our Lady of Mercy High School will be held at 8 tomorrow night, May 16, in the school auditorium, 1437 Blossom Rd. The public is welcome. A second performance for the student body is scheduled for May 17.

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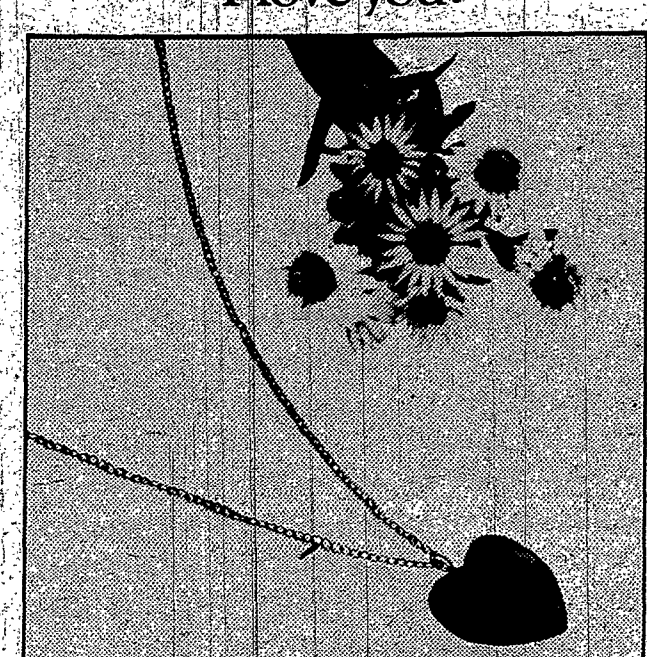
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BARN DANCE
Montezuma - Fifth Annual Barn Dance at the Paul Vitale farm to benefit St. Michael's will be held on Friday, May 24, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Music by Reubin Everidge and the San Antonios featuring B. Hitchcock. Admission \$2 per person. Refreshments.

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Wednesday, June 5, 8:00 pm
Gershwin Piano Concerto in F Jeffrey Siegel, piano
Cole Porter Medley/Works by Rossini & Gounod

Saturday, June 8, 8:30 pm
Frankie Laine

Wednesday, June 12, 8:00 pm
Mendelssohn Violin Concerto Kishiko Suzumi, violin
Richard Rodgers Medley/Works by Bizet & Rimsky-Korsakov

Saturday, June 15, 8:30 pm & Sunday, June 16, 8:30 pm
Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto #2 Daniel Epstein, piano
Alec Wilder Medley/Prokofiev Classical Symphony

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