

Hospital Notes 85 Years of Service

By PEGGY PEASE
Hornell Area Correspondent
324-3353

Hornell — An Open House, tea and guided tours of St. James Mercy Hospital highlighted the hospital's 85th Anniversary Feb. 16. The actual anniversary of the hospital was Feb. 13 when a birthday party luncheon was attended by students and staff.

Father James M. Early came to

Hornellsville in 1879 and soon became aware of the need for a place to care for the ill and injured in the area. On a cold February day, after he was called to administer spiritual care to a badly injured man being treated by a doctor on the floor of a local tavern, he made his decision.

The next day he bought with his own funds the "cure" building, a large farmhouse, part of which is occupied today as St. James Mercy Hospital.

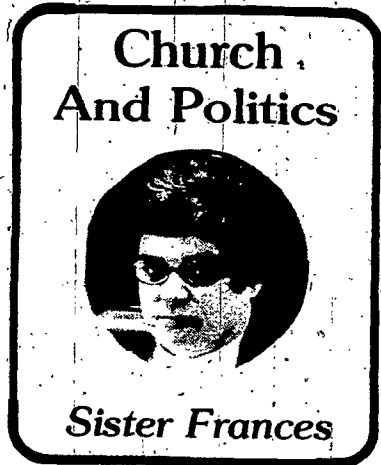
Father Early did not live to see his dream come true for the day following the purchase of the farmhouse, he took to his bed and died several days later entrusting the medical facility to the Sisters of Mercy. Work began immediately to transform the farmhouse into the 15-bed hospital, the rooms "well lighted by a four-jet gas chandelier." On Apr. 23, 1890, the first patient was admitted to the hospital. Shortly after the founding of the institution, the Board of Trustees and the Medical Staff were organized. Dr. J. C. Kelly was the first president of the medical staff and Sister Mary Catherine, the first superintendent.

section and was opened using electronic equipment and a master console to monitor patients twenty-four hours a day.

DeSales Hall, the educational center of the School of Nursing opened the same year. By the end of January, 1969, the physical therapy unit, pharmacy and supply, process and distribution units were operating and to assist patients and their families to handle personal problems resulting from illness or disability, the Social Service Department was added in 1969 and that same year the Meals on Wheels program began.

steadfast way of life, living in a family-type atmosphere.

"Our anniversary Open House was very well attended. People taking the guided tours of the hospital were delighted with the changes and advances in the many departments," said Sister Mary Rene, administrator. "Mercy unto Thousands, the ideal which started with the founding of St. James Mercy Hospital is the ideal we follow today. Our effort is to translate this Spirit of Mercy into the best possible care for our patients and all those who seek our service," she said.



Is Christian politics of the right or of the left? These phrases, "the right" and "the left" are symbols for certain positions not only in politics but also in the Church as a whole. We hear from critics "on the right side" and from those on "the left" both telling us that their point of view is the true Christian perspective. Who really has the true perspective? The answer, like the question, is by no means a simple one. People at both ends of the spectrum are sincere, honest people who feel that they are on target. In fact, they may, perhaps, be the most dedicated of Christians even though they are at opposite ends of the spectrum. They put their beliefs on the line and get involved in day to day political struggles. More often than not these beliefs are translated into action and therefore make an impact on our world.

To get a better perspective on the problem, let's look at a couple of particular issues. The situation in China is one classic example. The left says that with the arrival of Marxism much suffering and misery has disappeared. Life is much better for the great majority. There is no longer starvation and bitter poverty. There is a greater sense of community. Crime is almost non-existent and education has made enormous strides. The right gives us another interpretation of life in China. They tell us that God has been outlawed and that many of man's personal freedoms have been taken away. They say that there is little room for creativity and freedom of expression in this Marxist society. Where is the Christian to stand in this debate? What is the proper Christian political stance?

A similar dilemma confronts us on the abortion question. Every year at election time the "pro-life" supporters come out with a list of recommendations on whom to vote for on the basis of their position on abortion. A closer look at these candidates often reveals that they are not really "pro-life". Many support the death penalty and mandatory life imprisonment for certain drug related crimes. The death penalty is, by its very definition, "anti-life". Mandatory life imprisonment is totally contrary to the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation that runs throughout the gospels. Further, it does little or nothing to get at the root causes of crime and addiction. In situations like this whom are we to support?

The answer to these two questions, as with many others, is by no means easy to figure out. The intense convictions manifested by those of the right and left, while admirable because of the deep sense of commitment from which they spring, often lead to intolerance and

fanaticism. Extremists sometimes lose sight of who the true Messiah is and this brings us to the heart of the problem. A Christian political stance must be centered in Christ and constantly re-evaluated in light of the gospel. It means being tolerant of other views and constantly willing to listen to others and their perception of the Christian message. The Christian should always subject his/her political actions to careful scrutiny. He or she must always ensure that his/her methods suit the situation and are in keeping with the requirements of the gospel, and he/she must test them for effectiveness.

In the final analysis, then, there is just no simple answer to the question, "Is Christian politics of the right or left?" This is not to suggest it is of the middle either. Being in the middle is sometimes an excuse for not knowing the issues and not taking a stand. Not to decide is perhaps the worst form of decision. In the end every person has to take a risk and cast his lot somewhere even if that choice is a less than perfect one. Jesus had strong words for those who played the middle. He warned us against being tepid. Therefore, if we want to take a truly Christian political stance, we must make the best decision we are capable of and follow up that decision with some kind of action.

Hornell Area News

TEACHER WORKSHOP

Naples — There will be a Religious Education Workshop tomorrow evening, Feb. 27 at St. Januarius. The time is 8 p.m. when Sister Joan McAteer and Mr. Martin Palumbos of the diocesan education office will meet with all of the religious education teachers in the hall to discuss their needs and to set up a workshop for the teachers.

ESSAY WINNERS

Hornell — Among the winners in the recent Steuben County Firemen's Essay Contest are Joseph Montemarano, Larry Criss, Shawn McNellis, Michael Prior, Elizabeth Diehl, Katherine Nasca and Carol Noonan, all of St. Ann's School and parish.

At that time, surgeons and their assistants wore bluejeans and denim sleeve protectors while operating. The instruments were sterilized in carbolic acid solution and held in two pie tins on a wooden stand.

Sister Mary DeSales, who served the hospital for more than 60 years, came to St. James in 1900. The first volunteer group, the Women's Board of Managers was organized in 1904 and they in their first year of operation founded the first maternity cottage, a small building outside the regular hospital. Sister Mary Aquinas joined the other Sisters to begin her nursing career in 1905.

Between the years of 1906 and 1908 other trained nurses of the city were employed by the hospital. During those three years, 1,215 patients were admitted. In 1909, Sister Mary Aquinas was assigned to the maternity ward and headed the department for the next 29 years. During these years, 5,000 babies, affectionately known as "Aquinas babies" were born. Sister was associated with the hospital for more than 50 years, serving as administrator from 1934 until her retirement in 1956.

The North Wing opened in 1910 and in 1912 the hospital opened a School of Nursing with a class of eight students. Mrs. Edith Chafee of Philadelphia was the first director of the school. To meet the community's growing needs, work started on the South Wing which open in 1923. Included in the facility were an enlarged operating and sterilizing unit. Also, an X-ray department, laboratory, kitchen and cafeteria, business office and patient accommodations.

Ground was broken in Oct., 1949 for the "new million dollar wing." Dedication ceremonies in July of 1951 climaxed five years of planning and two years of actual construction for the facility called the East Wing. In the late '50s the Mercy Guild and the St. Gerard Guild were organized and during 1960, the Candy Stripper Guild was formed. The year 1961 saw the opening of the Intensive Care Unit, staffed with highly trained personnel to care for critically ill patients. The hospital's diamond anniversary was celebrated in 1965 and December of that year, ground was broken for a West Wing. The Coronary Care Unit was opened in 1968, a four bed section that adjoined the older intensive care

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By Dorothy Rose

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Also, in 1969, a new facet of medical and health care became available to residents of the community with the opening of the Hornell Medical Center, containing physicians' offices and a pharmacy. To serve local and area mothers, the Well Child Care Center opened in the Medical Building during 1970.

The Psychiatric Care Unit was approved by the State Department of Mental Hygiene in 1972 and was established on the second floor of the East Wing. During 1973, the department of Religion was changed to the Pastoral Care Department. Sister Visitors joined the staff to assist patients while hospitalized and after discharge. Early in 1974, members of the Protestant clergy joined the Pastoral Care team, with area clergy serving on a rotating basis of three months each as Protestant Hospital Chaplain. Father William J. Cosgrove is presently chaplain of St. James Mercy Hospital.

Mercy Home, operated by the hospital, opened its doors in December of 1974. The facility provides opportunities for young adults, who have been discharged from the hospital, to revitalize a

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LEGAL NOTICE

SUMMONS AND NOTICE
STATE OF NEW YORK — SUPREME COURT — COUNTY OF MONROE. North Country Savings Bank (formerly St. Lawrence County Savings Bank), Plaintiff, vs. Michael C. Koban, Elizabeth Koban, Samuel Tramontana, Gloria Tramontana, Avis T. Koban, Defendants.
INDEX NO. 1926-74

To the Above Named Defendants:
You Are Hereby Summoned to answer the complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the state, or within thirty days after completion of where service is made in any other manner. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Trial to be held in the County of Monroe.
The basis of the venue is the location of real property which is the subject of this action. Plaintiff's principal office and place of business is within the County of St. Lawrence, New York.

Dated: December 10, 1974
LOVE, BALDUCCI & SCACCIA
Attorneys for Plaintiff
300 Wilson Building
306 South Salina Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
Tel. No. (315) 474-4603

To: Elizabeth Koban and Avis T. Koban
The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of Hon. Donald H. Mead, a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated the 3rd day of February, 1975, and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Monroe at Rochester, New York.

The object of this action is for foreclosure of a mortgage of the premises described in the complaint and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

All That Certain Lot, piece of parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Rochester, County of Monroe and State of New York owned and described as follows: Lot 168 on the Monroe Co-operative Building Lot Association Tract on file in Monroe County Clerk's Office in Liber 2 of Maps at page 30. Said lot 168 fronting on the north side of Bevan Avenue about 48 feet and 48 feet wide in rear and 121 feet deep.

Dated: February 13, 1975
LOVE, BALDUCCI & SCACCIA
Attorneys for Plaintiff
300 Wilson Building
306 South Salina Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
Tel. No. (315) 474-4603
2-19-26; 3-5-12-41

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