

Chestertonian Meet Draws 30

The first meeting in the United States of the recently-formed Chesterton Society took place on Thursday, May 29 (GKC's 101st birthday) at the Nazareth College Learning Resources Center. The host was Charles Higgins, director of the center, and the main speaker was Father Joseph Quinn of Windsor, Ontario, associate editor of the Chesterton Review.

Thirty persons attended, including Sister Marian Hoxter, vice president and dean of Nazareth College; Dean Donald Gratiot of Christ Church Cathedral, and Mrs. Gratiot; Milton Fess, a Chestertonian for 50 years who was involved in the Distributist movement of the 1920s; Dr. John Demerly, professor at Canisius College in Buffalo, and Mrs. Demerly; Father E.J. McCorkell, past president of St. Michael's College in Toronto; and Mrs. Jeanne Sweeney, member of the board of directors of the Rochester Right-to-Life organization.

Father McCorkell told the group briefly of his hearing Chesterton lecture in Toronto in 1921, and he mentioned his continuing research into GKC's visits to Canada. Higgins described the notable special collection of Chesterton's works in the Learning Resources Center. This collection, of 200 volumes, has been accumulated over a period of 50 years. On display in the Chesterton room were several special items from the collection, copies of *GK's Weekly*, and an advance copy of Ian Boyd's new book on *The Novels of Chesterton*, to be published soon. (Father Boyd is editor of the *Chesterton Review*.)

Robert Knille, local representative of the Chesterton Society, reported that there are already about 900 members of the year-old Chesterton Society: 200 in England, 500 in Canada, and 200 in the United States.

Father Quinn played a tape

recording of Chesterton speaking to a group of Canadians in London at a 1933 dinner in honor of Rudyard Kipling.

Father Colman Logan, teacher at McQuaid Jesuit High School, and Father Quinn discussed briefly the impact of Chesterton on high school students. Fess suggested that there should be some specific "action items" deriving from our concern for Chesterton's ideals. John Overlander, a writer and English teacher, mentioned the possibility of the group's starting a local Chesterton newsletter. These and other proposals are under consideration.

Anyone interested in the Chesterton Society may obtain information from: Robert Knille, 102 Lynnwood Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14618.

Vatican Document Discussion Topic At B'rith Kodesh

The Vatican Guidelines on Relations With the Jews will be the topic of a discussion at Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Avenue, at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 23. The public is invited.

On the discussion panel will be Father Joseph Brennan, rector of St. Bernard's Seminary; Elmer Louis, director of the Jewish Community Federation; Father Henry Atwell, Genesee Ecumenical Ministries' consultant for Church and community; and Rabbi Judea B. Miller.

Rabbi Miller noted that some people consider the Guidelines to be "a major step forward out of the bigotry of the past toward better understanding and cooperation between the Church and the Synagogue," while others regard the statement "as too little and too late, and an insulting sham."

"This is what will be discussed," he said. "Perhaps most important will be that we will be talking, even arguing together, with each other."

Business In The Diocese

After more than 45 years of service with the City of Rochester, the County of Monroe, and Marine Midland Bank-Rochester, Edward F. Nier will retire on June 1.

Although he does not have any major plans for retirement activity, Nier does want to take life a little easier now while remaining active in the field of consulting engineering.

Nier joined Marine Midland as its resident engineer in 1965, was elected an assistant vice president in 1967, and vice president in 1973.

A native Rochesterian, Nier graduated from Aquinas Institute in 1928 and received his engineering education at Rochester Institute of Technology. He took additional courses at University of Rochester and the State University of New York.

SVD. Rose was a secretary at the Air Depot near Casablanca in 1956 where I was a chaplain. She used to stop in daily for a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. And she loves St. Joseph. Father Wiltgen is the author of a book you should read to understand the maneuverings during Vatican Council II. It is "The Rhine Flows Into the Tiber." It sold so well it is out of print, but you can get it through libraries, public or priests'. We were to meet at 7:15, which gave me the afternoon to go to St. Peter's to browse at leisure. When it was time to catch a bus a shock struck my soul. I had forgotten the name of the piazza where we were to meet! So with a prayer I moved along the little outdoor cafes on via della Conciliazione, and heard a young woman and older man speaking English. "Well, thank God some one speaks English. Will you help me? I am to meet friends at some piazza but I can't remember the name. However there is a big monument there which the Italians jokingly call 'The Wedding Cake.'" They laughed: "That's the monument to King Victor Emmanuel. The place is Piazza Venezia." The bus ride was exciting, with all kinds of help from bus passengers who directed me excitedly to via Venezia in French, Italian and German. People are at their kindest giving directions. I met Fr. Wiltgen and Rose at a small chapel off via Venezia where there is continuous exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, like our Dominican Chapel in Elmira. Two young Sisters were caring for the sanctuary and for the altar. Many persons were present for adoration. We went to a Roman restaurant which was small, crowded and local. The dinner was excellent. The cost was modest. The atmosphere was homely. **This was genuine Rome.** It was quite different from the commercial Rome which is on the make with the Pilgrim trade.

I had brought a set of ABP. Sheen tapes for Rose, whose devotion to the Blessed Sacrament will be exhilarated especially by his conference on The Holy Hour. And the next day I sent a set to my host, Father Wiltgen, with the message: "Thank you for a fine evening. You spoke of making your retreat privately. I think you will find the Sheen conferences' ideal. Many priests in our diocese have used them for their own retreats, and also just for spiritual edification. Please keep the tapes circulating. One of my favorite Bible passages is from the incident of the miracle of the loaves and fishes: "Collect the fragments, lest they be wasted."

ON THE RIGHT SIDE



Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

Today, June 2, a beautiful letter came from one of our pilgrim group.

"This note is to thank you for the wonderful trip to Rome and Ireland. I certainly have many wonderful memories to cherish. In spite of our moanings and groanings about the hotel and other little inconveniences, I can remember only the many wonderful places we saw during our stay in Rome. The highlight for me was seeing the Pope.

"I seem to remember only the people whom we encountered in Rome who were so gracious and showed us courtesy. 'Chico', the young man at the bar at the hotel; the heavy set man who was at the desk each morning; our guides, especially the young man at Assisi; the conductor on 'wrong-way bus #4' who had such a nice smile and left his little box to help me off the bus; the women whom Harriet Riley and I met and asked directions of as we walked from the hotel in search of a mail box. They could not speak English but by showing them my stamped cards they directed us to the mail box and were so pleased to help us. And 'The Barn' in Assisi, where the women who prepared and served our dinner were so delightful.

"No need to mention Ireland. I think it is such a beautiful country and the Irish people are delightful. I could go there every year.

Printed on the front of the orange colored note card which she sent was this significant legend: "True happiness consists not in the multitude of friends of but in their worth and choice."

Four groups have certain advantages over individual travel. Organized tours are prepared by experts. The matter of lodging, food and program are set for the benefit of the group. The groups tend to form a kind of family, and often make for lasting friendships among people who before were strangers. But tours also leave time for individual interests. In our Roman Pilgrimage, some went to Tivoli fountains; some to Capri; some to meet friends stationed or teaching in Rome. Nearly everyone shopped.

My own special interest was to meet an old friend, Miss Rose Brown and her American employer, Father Ralph Wiltgen,

Auxiliary Lists New Officers

Mrs. John Bronson, president of MCHAUX, The Monroe Community Hospital Auxiliary, has announced her slate of officers for 1975-76. They are: First Vice President, Mrs. William S. Raithel; Second Vice President, Mrs. Robert C. Ross; Recording Secretary, Clarence Mueller; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Mildred Cramer; and Treasurer, Richard Sennett.

New directors are: Scott Alexander, Mark Forget, William E. Hart, Padriac Hobbs, Douglas Johnson, Mrs. Richard Lee, and Mrs. Vera Glennon. Directors continuing are John Baum, M.D., Mrs. Leta B. Belgard, Mrs. Sibert Douglas, Mrs. Randall Satterwhite, David Wormuth, Mrs. Robert R. Cramer, and Mrs. John A. Stanwix.

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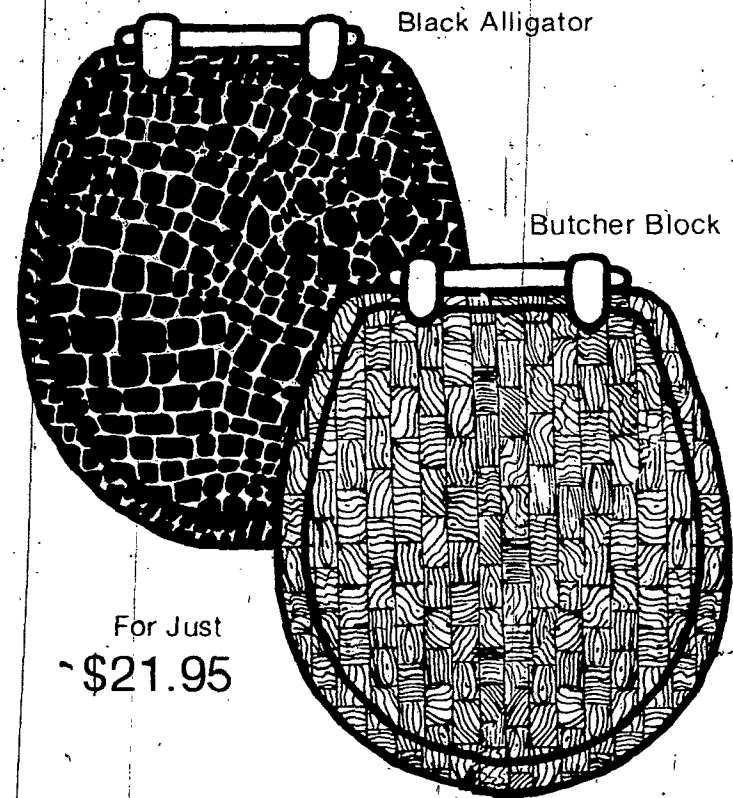
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