

A Progressive School in the Making

By STELLA DeGAETANO

Hornell — In September of 1976, St. Ann's School here will start its 106th year of education with an enrollment of over 250 students comprising grades K-8. With enrollment in many parochial schools on the decline and therefore causing the closing of some of these schools, it is encouraging to see enrollment slowly increasing again.

In 1870, four Sisters of Mercy from the Batavia Motherhouse started a "Select School" in a two-story wooden structure. Young ladies not only learned languages and needlework, but could meet requirements for a teacher's certificate.

Construction of the present school which replaced the earlier structure was started in 1889 by Father James Early, who did not live to see its completion in 1890. The school was remodeled in 1901 by Father Naughton to accommodate its increasing enrollment. During the pastorate of Monsignor Gannon, the school was enlarged and remodeled and renovated throughout.

It now has spacious, colorful classrooms; a music room; a large assembly hall; a science laboratory; medical office and individual learning areas.

A well-stocked library and visual

aid center has made tremendous strides due to the formation of the St. Ann's Library Memorial Gift program. Since February 1975, over 400 books and records have been added.

Much of this very important and tedious work has been made possible through the dedicated efforts of Joseph Mattie who started working in the library on a volunteer basis in the spring of 1975. He was assigned the official duties of part-time librarian in September 1975. He is now working on his Master's Degree in Library Science at Geneseo State. Starting in September, he will be affiliated with the Mt. Morris Central School System in the elementary library but will continue in an advisory capacity with the St. Ann's Library.

Pupils at St. Ann's receive physical education training at the nearby YMCA in Hornell and attend gym classes once a week.

The curriculum is set up by the diocesan Division of General Education.

The school has an award winning band which makes a striking appearance in green and white parade dress. It is backed by an active Band-Parents Organization.

Throughout the years, St. Ann's has been identified with academic excellence. Year after year its

graduates have been among the top 10 students of Hornell High School. Its primary goal, however, is to instill in each student an awareness that he is a child of God, who is expected to serve his neighbor.

St. Ann's Mother's Club, which in 1973 celebrated 50 years of service to our school, is a very strong focal point within the school and parish. The organization was formed originally to offer an opportunity for parents and teachers to cooperate in their mutual efforts to educate children according to Catholic principles. Membership is open to all adults of St. Ann's and St. Ignatius parishes, as students at St. Ann's represent both parishes.

The recently formed St. Ann's Alumni Association has already become a very important and major part of both the parish and the school. Well over 700 St. Ann's Alumni have already become members of the association. The main purpose of the association is to support St. Ann's School and to grant scholarships.

In keeping with private school tradition, the student body wears uniforms to classes. The faculty supervises students during the closed noon hour. Instruction in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades is departmentalized to orient the pupils for high school. There is no tuition. Total parish support enables all who wish to attend.



PAUL W. KENYON



MARY C. ARMSTRONG

College Adds Two to Staff

Paul W. Kenyon and Mary C. Armstrong have joined the Nazareth College staff as admission counselors.

Kenyon holds an associate degree in liberal arts from Jefferson Community College, Watertown, and a bachelor's degree in history from the State University College at Oswego. He also has completed courses toward a master's degree in educational administration at the State University College at Brockport. Before coming to Nazareth, Kenyon served as a veterans outreach counselor at the State University College at Oswego.

Ms. Armstrong, a recent graduate of Nazareth College, holds a bachelor's degree in speech and elementary education. While at Nazareth, she was listed in Who's Who in American Colleges, was

active in student government, and was elected to the college's dean's list.

New Law Benefits Private School Purchasing

According to a recent Religious News Service report, Gov. Hugh Carey has signed a bill allowing non-public and religion-related elementary and high schools to buy supplies through a state purchasing office which obtains goods at bulk contract rates.

Benefitting from the new law are Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and other non-public school groups which do not maintain their own central purchasing agencies.

The Catholic Diocesan school systems which will benefit from this new law are Rochester, Syracuse and Ogdensburg.

School in compliance With Federal Regulations

In July 1976, diocesan schools completed a self-evaluation form examining policies in regard to treatment of students, admissions, and employment practices. It is diocesan policy that the schools do not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made

available to students of those schools.

The diocese is designing grievance procedures for handling student and staff complaints alleging violations of this policy (Title IX). Timothy Leahy, deputy superintendent, has been appointed compliance officer, and will monitor the implementation of this policy.

BOCES PROGRAM
An "early intervention" program for emotionally disturbed pre-school children and their parents will reopen in September at Karlan School, West Irondequoit. The Board of Cooperative Educational Services announced last week. Twenty-four children from eastern Monroe County will be accepted. Details may be obtained from Mary Ann O'Brien at BOCES, 377-4660 ext. 224.

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