

Chemung-Schuyler Assembly

Constitutional Revisions, Needs of Youth Discussed

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira Heights—The Chemung-Schuyler Regional Assembly conducted a workshop designed to surface project ideas, and passed a resolution calling for a special meeting to discuss amendments to the region's constitution at its assembly Sept. 25.

The constitutional revisions, proposed by a committee headed by Robert Rohde of St. Casimir's, include a suggestion that the current four representatives from

each parish and three from St. Joseph's Hospital and Notre Dame High School be changed to two from each body. The single representative from Mount Saviour Monastery would not change. The committee also suggested that parishes be required to elect one alternate who could attend assemblies in the place of a parish representative. Rohde explained that the reason for the change was that many people thought the body was too large for effective discussion. The proposal to establish alternates is designed to insure participation by

informed representatives from each parish at the assemblies.

To insure full discussion of the constitutional changes involved, Thomas Costello of Our Lady of Lourdes moved that a special meeting be conducted to act on the amendments. The motion carried with one dissenting vote.

Much of the meeting was devoted to the workshop. Those attending were asked to select a segment of church activity, headed according to the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC)

standing committees, and identify specific aims. Appearing most often was concern for Teaching Mission, which was identified by 12 people as a priority. Eleven tagged Worship and Life as most important.

Discussion groups identified specific concerns, and ideas for future action. Several groups emphasized the need for greater efforts in youth ministry. One suggestion was that a Teen Seminar be offered in the region. Also suggested was a special effort to include youth in parish affairs, and the possibility of a regional assembly of youth representatives from the parishes.

Another group noted that "homilies aren't reaching the youth," and that what is needed most is programs that will get youth involved in the Church.

One discussion group suggested the organization of groups of families to meet for prayer, possibly on Sunday evenings. They saw the effort as being a valuable inter-parish project. Another group noted the need for greater inter-parish communication, and said that a solution might be a greater contact between parish councils.

Other problems raised included the difficulty some persons have had adjusting to advances in the Church, and the need for a revitalization of family life.

Hilda Stebbins and Pat Defendorf, of St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads, leaders of the exercise, collected the responses and will study them, looking for possible projects for the region.

During an open discussion period, Father Albert Delmonte, pastor of St. Anthony's, noted that he has found the pre-Cana program in the region to be lacking in support and in sufficient persons to function properly. Edward Pariso, a member of the region's Family Life Committee, noted that the committee is examining ways to improve the situation, and is waiting for members of the diocesan Family Life Office to meet with them to discuss methods to strengthen the program.

Andrew Molloy, DPC member, noted that as regional representatives, he and the other two members from Chemung-Schuyler could represent the region in such matters, and he would appreciate hearing about such problems so that he could become involved on the diocesan level. Hilda Stebbins, another delegate, noted that a proposal on improving the pre-Cana program could be forwarded to the DPC for study.

SOUTHERN TIER

AUBURN-GENEVA

Nursing Students Not All 18 and Female

Elmira—If variety is the spice of life, the new freshmen class of St. Joseph's School of Nursing may well be one of the spiciest. A quick glance at the roster reveals a cross section of ages, experience and backgrounds; 44 cities in four states are represented. Five men are class members, ages range

from the youngest student, 17-year-old Terese O'Brien of Geneseo, to Margaret Tolchin, 50, of 21 Iradell Rd., Ithaca.

Mrs. Tolchin disclaims any special credit for entering the nursing program, stating that the students she really admires are the married ones with small children still at home. Her children are older.

Mrs. Tolchin commutes daily from her Ithaca home and is confident that she has chosen the right profession. Five years as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Tompkins County Hospital prepared her for the realities of nursing.

Medicine seems to run in families. Several students are the daughters of physicians. St. Joseph's has become a family tradition for others. Several girls are following in their mother's footsteps. Richard Von Hagn's mother, Mary Von Hagn is head nurse on surgical three. In one case, the mother-daughter relationship also will be teacher-student. Mrs. Helen Frost, RD 1, Burdett, will be joining the nursing faculty in October, while daughter, Anne Marie, is beginning her freshmen studies.

The class of 1980 reflects the trend toward diversity and flexibility that is taking place in American education. Several students are married and have children. Eleven are commuting to classes. For some this is an opportunity to equip themselves with the skills for a fresh start in life; for others, it is the first step toward a career.

T-T Assembly Set Oct. 16

Apalachin—The Tompkins-Tioga Regional Assembly Sunday, Oct. 16 from 2 to 5 p.m. will be a workshop for parish council members. Presented by Sister Jean Rodman, the workshop is titled "What it Means to be Church." All parish councils members and regional delegates are urged to participate.

The assembly will meet at St. Margaret Mary's as part of a new regional program that will ask various parishes in the region to host an assembly, so delegates can become more familiar with other parishes in the region.

Clinics Offered

Elmira—A program on arthritis and two screening clinics are upcoming on the schedule of the Senior Health Services of St. Joseph's Hospital.

On Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 10 a.m., a program on arthritis will be offered, at South Port Towers. That afternoon, beginning at 2:30 p.m., testing for diabetes, blood pressure, cancer and anemia will be available at Friendship Club Senior Citizens, at W. Water Street and Guinnip.

On Thursday, Oct. 13, the same tests will be available from 1 to 3 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, Chambers Road in Catlin.

Pre-Cana

Seneca Falls—The next Pre-Cana Conference for the Seneca-Cayuga Region is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at St. Patrick's School here. Registrations may be made by calling Mr or Mrs. Paul Wenderlich at 315-568-9711. This will be the last Pre-Cana Conference until spring.

Education Series Offered

Catatonk—St. Francis Parish is sponsoring an adult education course on "respect for life" issues during the Fall. The programs will be offered on Mondays through Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the parish hall, located on Route 96. Adults and teenagers are welcome.

Abortion and teenage pregnancy will be the topic Oct. 10; health care for the poor, Oct. 17; growing old, Oct. 24; death and dying, Oct. 31; food—the U. S. responsibility, Nov. 7; and capital punishment, Nov. 14.



Bishop Joseph L. Hogan was chief concelebrant at Mass noting the 75th anniversary of St. Patrick's in Corning.

St. Patrick's Notes 75th

By MARTIN TOOMBS

Corning—Jubilee celebrations are important "to remind all of us of our great history," Bishop Joseph L. Hogan told those attending the special Mass commemorating St. Patrick's 75th anniversary Sept. 25.

Looking at history serves to remind us to be grateful to the people who, with God's help, have "brought us to this day of celebration," he said.

He also challenged St. Patrick's parishioners to make sure that the history they are now writing will be worth reading to those yet to be born.

Bishop Hogan noted that the parish was founded

before his time, but while looking at the parish's history, he found that he knew the parish's five pastors, including the founding pastor, Father Walter Lee.

He also complimented the parish on its recovery from the 1972 Agnes Flood, noting that St. Patrick's Church was more beautiful than he had ever seen it.

Guests at the celebration included many former priests of St. Patrick's, other Corning clergy, and priests who were parishioners of St. Patrick's, as well as many of the sisters who have served the parish. Bishop Hogan concelebrated the Mass with 19 other priests.

One former parishioner

unable to attend was Bishop Francis J. Green, bishop of Tuscon. Father Andrew Teuschel, St. Patrick's pastor, read a letter from Bishop Green expressing his wish that he could attend the celebration, and noting that his "educational foundation" was "well-laid" while he was a student at St. Patrick's School. He said that he would "be joining with you in memory and prayer" during the celebration.

A display of pictures and other articles from the parish's 75-year history were the highlight of the reception which followed the Mass. Especially older parishioners examined the pictures, looking for familiar faces.



Parishioners look at memorabilia from the 75 years of St. Patrick's in Corning during reception following Mass.

SOUTHERN TIER NEWS

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