



Photo by Martin Toombs
Father Joseph Gaynor, regional coordinator, reviews the paperwork at the Chemung-Schuyler Regional Assembly.

Chemung-Schuyler Assembly Votes Size Reduction

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira Heights—The Chemung-Schuyler Assembly provisionally reduced its size and approved several other constitutional amendments at a constitutional convention Sunday, Nov. 14.

The assembly's action was not final because a quorum was not present. A continuing lack of quorum was the cause of the move to reduce membership; the assembly has had a quorum only once in its last four meetings.

For the action to become final, members in attendance will canvass those not present for their vote on the amendments approved at the meeting. Results are expected soon, as elections for the representatives are due during December.

The assembly's current membership includes four representatives from each parish; the new assembly would have two. Currently three persons represent St. Joseph's Hospital and Notre Dame High School; if the amendments are approved, each will have two members. Other representation, including Mount Saviour's one delegate, will remain the same. Another change will be the inclusion of St. Benedict's, Odessa, as a full assembly member; previously it had been represented through its mother parish, St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen. The combined actions result in a reduction of 22 members on the assembly.

The constitutional review committee, chaired by Robert Rohde of St. Casimir's, also recommended a provision for alternates to attend assemblies when a member is unable to. The recommendations concerning membership, Rohde explained, were designed to increase the active participation on the assembly. The committee felt that a reduction in the number of persons from each parish, he said, would make it easier for parishes to find committed persons to work at the regional level.

The recommendations concerning membership and several other items designed to update and clarify the constitution were approved, most of them unanimously, by the 25 members present. Exact counts were tallied, to be added to those votes obtained from the members not present.

At the conclusion of the three hour meeting, the members present passed a motion to change the previously-scheduled Dec. 4 meeting to a date in January, which, if the amendments are approved, will be the first meeting of the newly-constituted assembly.

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Bishop Hogan joins the Catholic Daughters at the luncheon table, from left to right, Mrs. Ignatius (Mary) Scott, state public relations chairman and co-chairman of the Dresden luncheon; Miss Elizabeth Peircey, state regent; Miss Barbara Hennessey, first vice state regent; and Mrs. Robert (Marian) Chrosniak, district deputy.

CDA Meet Draws 230

Dresden—Bishop Joseph L. Hogan addressed a crowd of 230 Catholic Daughters of America at a Mass and luncheon hosted by the diocesan Past Regents Club.

Mrs. Ignatius (Mary) Scott and Mrs. Robert (Marian) Chrosniak were co-chairmen of the event.

Bishop Hogan was

presented a check for \$2,500 by Miss Elizabeth Peircey, state regent of the group. The CDA this year observes the 30th anniversary of the Marie C. Curry Memorial Seminary Fund. Each year the CDA makes donations from the fund to the eight state bishops. To date, \$600,000 has been disbursed.

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Walkathon, Unemployment Reports Made to CCGEB

Elmira—Discussion of unbudgeted unemployment taxes and procedural matters occupied much of the November meeting of the Chemung County General Education Board Nov. 10.

As of Jan. 1, 1978, the school system will be liable for unemployment taxes, which were not included in this year's budget.

Original estimates were that the cost might be \$10,000, Ronald Silverstein, a delegate from St. Mary's and chairman of the Finance Committee said. But the annual figure is \$4,600. Only one quarterly payment will be due this fiscal year, he noted, and recommended that the funds could be found in the budget.

Concerning unemployment taxes for non-professionals, Silverstein noted that non-professional employees could not draw benefits during school vacations if they had a contract for employment when school resumed. He recommended that all such employees be placed under contract, and that contracts be signed before the end of each school year for the next year. Upon the suggestion of Lawrence Stephens, board president, the issue was referred to the Personnel Committee.

Peter Durocher, a member of the Finance Committee, gave a preliminary report on the annual audit, noting that no large problems were detected, but that the auditor suggested some changes. A complete report will be made at the December meeting, he said.

Barbara Skorczewski reported that more than 700 students participated in the Walkathon, raising more than \$7,000 for the Catholic schools in Chemung County. \$300 was raised by Notre Dame High School, and \$700 by St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads, with the remainder going to the consolidated system. The top sellers again were St. Mary's students, who sold more than 2,300 of the \$1 tickets.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving

Seneca Falls—The annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, sponsored by the Seneca Falls Council of Churches, is scheduled to begin at 7:30 tonight at the First Baptist Church. Rev. Gary Hakes, pastor of the First Methodist Church, will be featured speaker. Music will be provided by the combined choirs of several area churches.

Mrs. Skorczewski also requested a clarification of the purposes to which funds raised by the Ways and Means Committee would be spent. She noted the interest of the committee in building a fund, rather than spending amounts raised each year. The committee also needs a source of funds to undertake projects, she noted.

The status of the funds was unresolved by the discussion that followed, and upon Stephens' recommendation, the issue was referred to the Finance Committee, to establish guidelines for the disposition of the committee's funds.

Procedures concerning the board's minutes also were discussed, resulting from the failure of a secretary, now replaced, to provide adequate minutes. Robert Rohde, a delegate from St. Casimir's, moved that the minutes be taped, and that the tapes be held for six months, as a method of resolving such problems in the future; the motion passed. The membership also approved the system established by Stephens for the mailing of minutes, and

the inclusion of attachments for members not present at meetings.

Toombs

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