

THE FRONTIER

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From Ashes of Disaster

St. Mary's academy, truly a colorful institution and one of the outstanding schools of its type in the Midwest, Sunday will observe its golden jubilee.

From the ashes of disaster has come the St. Mary's of today. We've asked Romaine Saunders, author of *Prairieland Talk* and veteran Holt county newspaperman, to contribute editorially to the celebration.

His story follows:

"It was nearing the noon hour. Denny Cronin and Clyde King were endeavoring to figure out something for the last half-column of the first page of *The Item*, of which they were publishers in a frame building where now stands the Odd Fellow building. Clyde looked out on the street and said, 'I wish something would happen.'"

"Then it happened. The convent was on fire.

"I was among the first to reach the hill just as Father Cassidy came hastening out of the door of his home to see smoke rolling from what was then known as the convent, a nearly-completed building that had been begun by the laying of the cornerstone on September 13, 1890. The building at that noon hour was hopelessly on fire. The work and sacrifice and rubble of that first building lay in ashes.

"The dream, the purpose, the determination for a school here for the children of families of St. Patrick's parish lived on. Again there was concentration of effort, willing sacrifice and bold adventure.

"So on this 23rd day of April, St. Mary's academy observes its 50th anniversary.

"A certain young man found in after years that he had more than a citizen's interest in the growth of this educational institution. He and W. D. Mathews, neither being Catholic, were invited to take part in the Academy Dramatic company, which from time-to-time gave dramatic performances, the proceeds thus garnered going into a fund to assist the academy. In newspaper work you are all things to all men. This invitation, besides fostering vanity, gave the young man an opportunity to, in a measure, redeem himself from a former embarrassing situation occasioned by Pat Hagerty confronting him with a collection plate at the laying of the cornerstone, and he was broke, not an isolated condition with a young fellow in newspaper work in the '90's.

"St. Mary's is more than a localized school. It is one of the outstanding academies to be found anywhere, drawing a student body from far-and-near and of different faiths.

"It has grown great and prosperous. May the faculty ever be mindful of the toil and sacrifice of an earlier generation under the guidance and inspiration of Rev. M. F. Cassidy who brought to fruition a notable institution as a heritage of those who were to follow."

Another Shoulder to the Wheel



Parents naturally defend their own, though it might be better for the boy in the end if they would tell him he must submit to what society exacts for violated law and all the rules of decency. Judge and jury often are confronted with undisputed evidence of guilt along with the mentally balmy defense plea.

This is a legal subterfuge that all too often releases a young criminal who may later develop into a moral monster.

Unusual and widespread attention has been drawn to the period of religious significance recently closed. I have read many times every recorded word spoken by the One who is the central figure of the Easter season. Nowhere is there a word establishing such an idea. He did say, "If ye love Me keep My commandments." This involves not a seasonal outburst of piety, but daily living.

Sir Harry Lauder's jiggling melodies will be heard no more only from records. He recently died at the age of 79 at his home in Strathaven, Scotland. On the other side of the block from where I hole up lives a jolly Scotchman who worked in the coal mines of Scotland with Sir Harry before that gent soared to the height of fame in the entertainment world.

He has a fighting Irishman to deal with. But his violent outbursts of denial do not wrap Lattimore in the white robes of a saint.

The week ending April 8 the Elgin watch factory in Lincoln laid off 150 employees. The watch business seems to be in a bad way.

Editors have outlived their usefulness for the exchange of editorial courtesies. Scientists are still at it. One scientist to another: "Rubbish, nonsense." And the come-back. Such fellows still live in the 17th century.

April 22 will be a big day up at Bassett. The cow men from the sand hills are scheduled to gather there for their annual pow-wow. Probably sand hill beef will feature the banquet board spread and the promise is out that no public spellbinder will be allowed to talk the meeting to death.

Prairieland Talk —

Giving Young Lives Start on Cultural and Spiritual Development Is Aim of St. Mary's

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS

LINCOLN — Sunday, April 23, marks the 50th anniversary of a day in 1900 when St. Mary's academy's initial few instructors stood before the first classes, and the ecclesiastical dream became a living reality. More than 10 years of toil and plan and struggle lay back of that opening day and the bitter pangs and silent tears of that fatal day a decade previous were turned to rejoicing on April 23, 1900.



Romaine Saunders

Nothing was recovered from the financial loss occasioned by the burning of the first structure. The contractor was an Omaha man who deplored the fire that occurred in his absence, but he and the bonding company were not held liable. An O'Neill citizen was a cousin of the contractor.

Through the mysterious and irresistible manipulation of Dan Cupid that O'Neill citizen became my esteemed father-in-law. That is neither here nor there in the story of the growth of St. Mary's academy.

Just what is planned for the anniversary date I do not know. Doubtless tribute will be given in memory of an earlier generation who had the courage to undertake and

the vision to perceive during the trying years from 1890 to 1900 when industry and production were at an all-time low in Holt county.

Those responsible today for the St. Mary's that has grown large may not know what it cost in self-denial and toil during those harsh years to rear upon a gravel hill the great institution now devoted to the guidance of young America coming here for an education. They do not need to know, but will be conscious of personal reward in young lives given a start on the highway to cultural and spiritual development. This is the reward of all church groups throughout the land who are sacrificing to maintain parochial schools.

Four youths are before a Lancaster county district court judge under admitted charges of assault on 2 young women. University authorities thought seriously enough of the reprehensible acts of the young men to expell them from the state university.

It is quite the fashion these days when some young devil is caught redhanded to come into court with a story of mental instability as extenuation of criminal acts. And an array of alleged experts with some sort of "ologist" attached to them as witnesses in an effort to show a state of mental balmness when the young rascal was on the criminal spree.

BANG! GOES THE PRICES GOES THE HAMMERS Penney's Remodeling Clearance

Yes, We Are House Cleaning Too—Every Day We Find More Items To Clear Out. Not Having A Daily Paper We Cannot List The Items As We Find Them—Come In Often And Take Advantage of This House Cleaning Clearance—The Store Will Be Upset For A Short Time So Please Excuse The Inconvenience.

Bleached Flour Squares, 36x22. 3 for	.69	5 Boys' 2-pc. Wool Suits 4 to 8	6.00
Plastic Chair Pads	.85	2 Boys' Sport Coats	5.00
Women's Spring Skirts	2.00	5 Men's Suits	30.00
Women's Short Coats	14.00 - 16.00	Men's Stretch-On Work Rubbers	2.00
Women's Long Coats	20.00	Boys' Zip Sport Shirts. Pastel	1.00
Women's Suits	14.00 - 16.00	Boys' Fancy Polo Shirts 6 to 16	1.00
Women's Sheer Blouses	1.88	Men's All-Leather Work Glove	1.29
Printed Drapery, 36" vat dyed	.79	Children's Barefoot Sandals Br'n or White.	2.79 - 2.98
Marquette Panel Curtain 43x81	1.19	Shoe Clearance Odds & Ends	
Priscilla Curtain 90x90	3.00	Men's Boys' Women's Oxfords	
Lace Net Panel Curtain 49x90	1.50	Women's Plastic Raincoats	1.98
Organdy Priscilla Curtains	3.13	Women's Umbrellas, 16-rib	2.66
Bath Towels 20x40	.53	Birdseye Diapers, 1 doz.	1.75
Hand Towel 16x26	.37	Plastic Garment Bags Holds 8	1.00
Wash Cloths 12x12 2 for	.29	Sanforized Piece Goods, Pique, Broadcloth, Chambray, yard	.44
Plastic Cottage Sets	1.98		
Chenille Spreads 94x105	3.44		
Sheets, Nationwide 81x108	1.98		
Pillow Cases 42x36	.33		



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