



SPREAD OUT FOR A SESSION of callisthenics, one of Mrs. Ruth Sumrill's classes in physical education at Our Lady of Mercy High School waits for instructions on the next exercise movement. The spacious gym has

ample bleacher space for spectator sports, plus a balcony area for additional seating.



LAURENCE TEEVENS, vocal instructor at Our Lady of Mercy, conducts the senior chorus in "The Lord's Prayer" as part of

their regular classwork. All choral groups will soon be rehearsing for the spring arts festival.



KING, THE COLLIE, is on hand with Sister Victorine to greet visitors in the Our Lady of Mercy office. He is the high

school's well-loved mascot and obviously a great favorite.



SISTER VICTORINE, principal and local superior at Our Lady of Mercy enters the living room of the resident sisters located in one wing of the high school. She is riding her electric scooter which whisks her on her many rounds of the lengthy corridors.

JEAN MCSORLEY of Detroit shows off the excellent dressing room facilities at Our Lady of Mercy. It is completely equipped for all exigencies of play production, and the drama students make sure that it is frequently in use. Coming up next: "The King and I."

Never, Never . . .

Never talk with a stranger.

Don't take candy or money from a stranger.

Never walk home alone from school, a playmate's home—or anywhere.

Never accept a ride in an automobile—or go close to the car to see who is calling you.
(If it is your parent or neighbor, they will open the window and call you by name.)

Always take the car license number of anyone attempting to give you an automobile ride. Try to remember what the person looks like. (Then tell your mother right away.)

Never linger around street corners—or go to the playground by yourself.

Run to the nearest house and knock on the door—if anyone tries to bother you.

(This message published in the interest of our children, by the Farmington Enterprise Community Service Department.)

OLM Accentuates Educational Positive

From the faculty living room at Our Lady of Mercy High School, there is such an exquisite panoramic view that it must be difficult for the 31 teaching sisters to tear themselves away and attend to their 1200 charges. During the day, however, the room is deserted and they are all busy with their tasks.

The window wall with a full length balcony outside looks out across a lagoon toward the Provincial chapel which can only be compared to a pair of praying hands reaching toward the sky. Between the two buildings also are seven white pillars representing the stations of the cross and a statue of the founder of the order which was fashioned in Italy. Each of these contributes its share to the beauty and tranquility of the scene.

To greet visitors in the office, a large collie named King is on hand who bows reverentially when he meets the resident nuns. Beside him to show callers about her 274,000 square foot domain (it must surely be one of the most beautiful high schools in the country) is petite Sister Victorine on her electric scooter. Sister Victorine is the school's principal and the local superior.

Until 1965, the school was located on the Mercy College campus in northwest Detroit where there was only space (and crowded at that) for 900 pupils. Designed by the faculty members with help from experts in various fields, the present school is built in a square surrounding a courtyard where a fountain is to play by next summer.

At the time of its dedication, the school chapel was described and pictured in the Enterprise pages. Its art work is unique and the central mosaic with its hand carved crucifix was done by the art department's Sister Ignatius.

All of the lockers are located on a lower level leaving the walls of the main corridors free to display the remarkably fine art work of the girl students.

Each department is grouped in one section with its own conference and faculty rooms. There is a library which will eventually house 25,000 volumes and now has a materials center, a periodical room, a faculty professional library plus two conference rooms and a seating capacity of 150.

An Olympic size swimming pool is provided over by instructor Patricia O'Toole, and coach Dolores Yager and her son, Jim, are spurring the Mercy Marlins on to one victory after another.



No need here for the spacious gym to double as a multipurpose room, for there is a handsome 1200 seat paneled auditorium as well as a smaller drama room equipped with a stage for more informal classwork.

On the day of the Enterprise visit, Mrs. Ruth Sumrill was directing her physical education class in a spirited game of Japanese volleyball, sister Ann Elizabeth had a group in the auditorium placing as much varied emphasis as they could command on the words "I see," and instructor Dominic Messina was listening to his drama class do interpretive readings. The Book of Ruth was posing quite a problem, and the girls were requesting a more modern version with fewer thees and doths.

One interesting facet of the teaching procedure at OLM is the fact that all ninth graders take speech twice a week. Sister Victorine says that this adds a great deal to the students' ability to communicate in their subsequent grades.

Lawrence Teevens was directing the senior choral group in "The Lord's Prayer," and the choral room seemed to echo with angel voices. There will be an arts festival week this spring where the girls will really be able to make a joyful noise, and the other arts will come into play as well.

Just now, also, "The King and I" is going into rehearsal as the school's next dramatic production.

Very recently a new schedule has been set up whereby the seven extra-curricular clubs have become a part of the school day. On meeting day, the class periods are shortened to 38 minutes, leaving time at the close of the school day for the club sessions. This has been greeted enthusiastically, as there is no problem then with transportation; home. There could very well be, as Detroit girls arrive each morning in 13 chartered buses.

Clubs include French, Latin, German and Spanish Clubs, Future Teachers, Future Nurses, Speech-Arts, and Human Relations.

On the bulletin board in the entrance lobby are some words that seem particularly appropriate to this outstanding institution:

"Our opportunities for education must not be taken for granted. They are our heritage from God and our gratitude is best expressed by hard study, wise use of time, and noble living." And another quotation from General Dwight D. Eisenhower concludes: "America is great because she is good . . . and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."