

Sister Mary Lucille Retires at Mercy College After Fifteen Years

Sister Mary Lucille Middleton, S.M.I., president of Mercy College in northwest Detroit for 15 years, has handed over the administrative reins to Sister Mary Karl George.

The college board of trustees announced Sunday it had accepted Sister Mary Lucille's resignation with regret and named Sister Mary Karl as acting president.

The announcement was made by Mother Mary Raymond Cavanaugh, Provincial of the Religious Sisters of Mercy and board of trustees chairman.

Sister Mary Karl, a Mercy College graduate in 1936, has been a member of the history faculty since 1952. She also holds two degrees from St. Louis University and has taught at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Currently campus historian, she has been asked by the chief of the Burton Historical Collection to publish a biography of eminent Michigan statesmen.

Sister Mary Lucille, long recognized as one of the outstanding educators of the country, has guided the transition of Mercy College of Detroit from a girls' school, with slightly more than 200 students to a four-year coeducational fully accredited liberal arts college with an enrollment of 1,200.

Among her most recent accomplishments was the implementation of a cooperative program in Business Administration with Eastern Michigan University offered for the first time in the fall of 1967. The academic growth and expansion of Mercy College was the result of long and careful planning under Sister Mary Lucille's direction.

In addition to the development of the college, Sister Mary Lucille has been an active participant in community affairs. She was a pioneer in many of the institutions which are now recognized centers of community life.

She sought ceaselessly to expand the cultural climate of the community by bringing world-famous artists to the campus in a highly successful Artists Series presented for the general public.

It was under her auspices that the first Jewish-Catholic Dialogue to be held in Michigan was co-sponsored by Mercy College and B'nai B'rith in 1964. More than a thousand persons turned out in the fog and rain for this historic event.

Sister Mary Lucille also was an active worker in programs designed to advance educational opportunities for more students from lower income groups. She advocated tax relief for parents of college students and the vigorously sought state and federal scholarship assistance to make a college education available to more and more qualified students.

Her basic concern was with the promising student at risk in the unfamiliar terrain of college life. She introduced the now generally accepted "Pre-College Program" whereby students with unfortunate high school experiences were given opportunity to prepare for college through a carefully directed program of summer study.

"There's no use in letting a student who may experience serious difficulty with his first year at college begin this experience without the proper preparation," she said. "It is our task to give these students an opportunity for a directed program of study to learn what college is all about."

The results of the "Pre-College Program" are amazing. Hundreds of students, as a result of her vision, have been encouraged to go on to successful college and professional careers.

Sister Mary Lucille also spearheaded a program of campus expansion, as well. She saw the erection of a new dormitory, an \$1,400,000 residence for 330 women, and a new \$3,000,000 Student-Confederation Center. These were but two units of a broad campus expansion program she launched in connection with the 25th Anniversary of the college. Both were dedicated in 1966.

She was one of eight educators to receive the City of Detroit Medallion at the annual Civic Luncheon of the Women's Advertising Club of Detroit, and her greatest civic honor came in 1966 when she was chosen one of Detroit's Ten Working Women in the annual salute to Women Who Work.

Sister Mary Lucille has led her college into active involvement in an amazing number of teaching and civic enterprises — the Urban League, tutoring of underprivileged children from the inner city, St. Cecilia's Project, education of adults in various areas; Upward Bound, resident student social and cultural activities for underprivileged girls from Detroit's inner city in summer terms; Franklin Settlement, recreational, social and educational activities for inner city children; PENEPE, a volunteer tutoring group; Inter-collegiate Council on Human Relations; a locally applied under-taking to help relieve the slum by discussing ways to relieve human relations problems.

Not until her portrait was unveiled at a public ceremony in the Student Conference Center which stands as tangible evidence of her vision and enterprise did Sister Mary Lucille get her answer.

It was the inscription on the brass plate beneath the portrait:

"Commissio[n]ed by Classes 1961, 1962, 1963."

Musical Team Coming To First Baptist

A musical team from Bryan College will appear in a program of sacred music at First Baptist Church of Livonia, 17225 Inkster Road, on Wednesday, Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. The pastor, Rev. Glenn H. Kelly, announced.

The team is a brass-wood ensemble. Singing in the mixed quartet are Irene Wilson, soprano; Phoenix, Ariz.; Jeanie Stevens, alto; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Don Averill, tenor; Front Royal, Va.; and John Reese, bass. Crooked Creek, Pa. Phyllis Horton, accompanist, is from Knoxville, Tenn. Don Averill, trumpet-

er, and John Reese, baritone, also play brass solos and duets. A staff representative will be traveling with the group.

The team's program consists of an hour of sacred music, testimonies, and a devotional message. Their eight-week summer tour, June 25-Aug. 20, will take them into Tennessee, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

Bryan College is a four-year Christian liberal arts college located in Dayton, Tenn., drawing students this year from more than thirty states and several foreign countries.

Livonia Pastor Attends Conference

Elvin I. Clark, pastor of the Livonia Baptist Church, was among the 48 participants in the two-week Continuing Theological Education Conference held at the Southern Baptist Theological

Area Obituaries

MEL AMELIA LILLIAN HOUGHTON, 72, 23190 W. Ann Arbor, died July 25, 1967. She was born in Livonia, Mich., and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Livonia. She is survived by her husband, Mel, and two daughters, Mrs. Mary Ann Houghton and Mrs. Jeanie Stevens. Burial will be in the Garden City Cemetery.

STANLEY PRESTON, 62, died July 25, 1967. He was born in Livonia, Mich., and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Livonia. He is survived by his wife, Stanley, and two daughters, Mrs. Mary Ann Houghton and Mrs. Jeanie Stevens. Burial will be in the Garden City Cemetery.

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Christian Apostolate School Set

A Summer School of the Christian Apostolate, sponsored by the Detroit Archdiocese, will be held in Detroit at the St. Hilary Hotel from Aug. 13-19.

Speakers on love, Christian commitment, personality and leadership techniques will address the hundreds of teen-agers expected to gather for the conference.

Cost for the week will be \$18.50. Interested persons should contact the Apostolate office, 963-3680, extension 350.

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OUR SINCERE

concern for the family's peace of mind and comfort is evident in everything we do or provide.

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R.G. & G.R. Harris
LIVONIA FUNERAL HOME
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GA 2-6720

Kent Lake Road Open

The main entrance to Kensington Metropolitan Park along the 198 (Grand River) Freeway west of Midford is now open.

The Michigan Department of State Highways has just completed improvements which provide new entrance and exit routes into the park as well as widening the bridges at the park interchange and over the Huron River and providing increased traffic lanes along the freeway.

In addition to the Kent Lake Road entrance, which provides easy access to the Martindale Beach swimming site in the park, visitors may also use the west entrance (Kensington Road) directly off the I-96 freeway located just beyond the park's golf course.

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