



Relics found in an old cabinet at St. Joseph Academy are examined by, from left; Sisters Mary Damian, Mary Gabriel, Mary Evangelist and Mary Oliver. Sister Mary Evangelist holds a key used to lock the gate in 1862. See Photo

At Reunion Day Sunday

Alumnae, Old And New, Will Mark Passing Of St. Joseph High School

By Marian Darmsted

Another chapter in the story of a school was completed this week and old and new grads of St. Joseph Academy High School, located at the corner of 9th and G Streets, will mark the occasion Sunday at a Reunion Day.

This is not the final chapter in the history of the 90 year old educational institution. The school will not close. Its doors will be open this fall to elementary students exclusively and high school girls will go to the new Bishop Manogue High School for girls being built at 21st and Broadway or to Mercy High School in the north area.

High School Passes

But something has ended. A high school has passed away.

Old year books, pictures and copies of the school paper will be on display Sunday afternoon in the school auditorium. Bloomered gym suits and uniforms of past years will be modeled by St. Joseph graduates. Acquaintances will be renewed and incidents nearly forgotten will be remembered.

Sister Mary Evangelist Morgan who has chronicled the history of the Sisters of Mercy who staff the school, has reported one little known fact about the academy.

Almost St. Aloysius

"But for the absentmindedness of a stonecutter, St. Joseph Academy would have been St.

Aloysius Academy. All of the old bed linens and towels and several of the items being restored in the current "house-cleaning" were stamped St. Aloysius," she said.

Perhaps the artist could not spell Aloysius, but St. Joseph is etched in stone at the entrance of the convent.

Tables for various classes will be situated in the school yard Sunday. Honored guests will be members of the class of 1916, who will celebrate their golden reunion. Class members attending will be Mary Ann Roach Canfield, Gussie Brown Hill, Doris Larke Ulm, Claire Brennan McDonald, Ethel Lane

Cartier, Geraldine Genshlea Dadigan, Esther Bennett Johnston and Ethel Donnelly.

Mixed Emotions

Young students, who will attend Bishop Manogue High School this fall, have mixed emotions about the "big move." Lorraine Brossard, sophomore, voiced the feelings of most of the students about leaving SJA.

"We really don't want to leave the school. Sure, the building is old, but that isn't what counts — it's the spirit of the place."

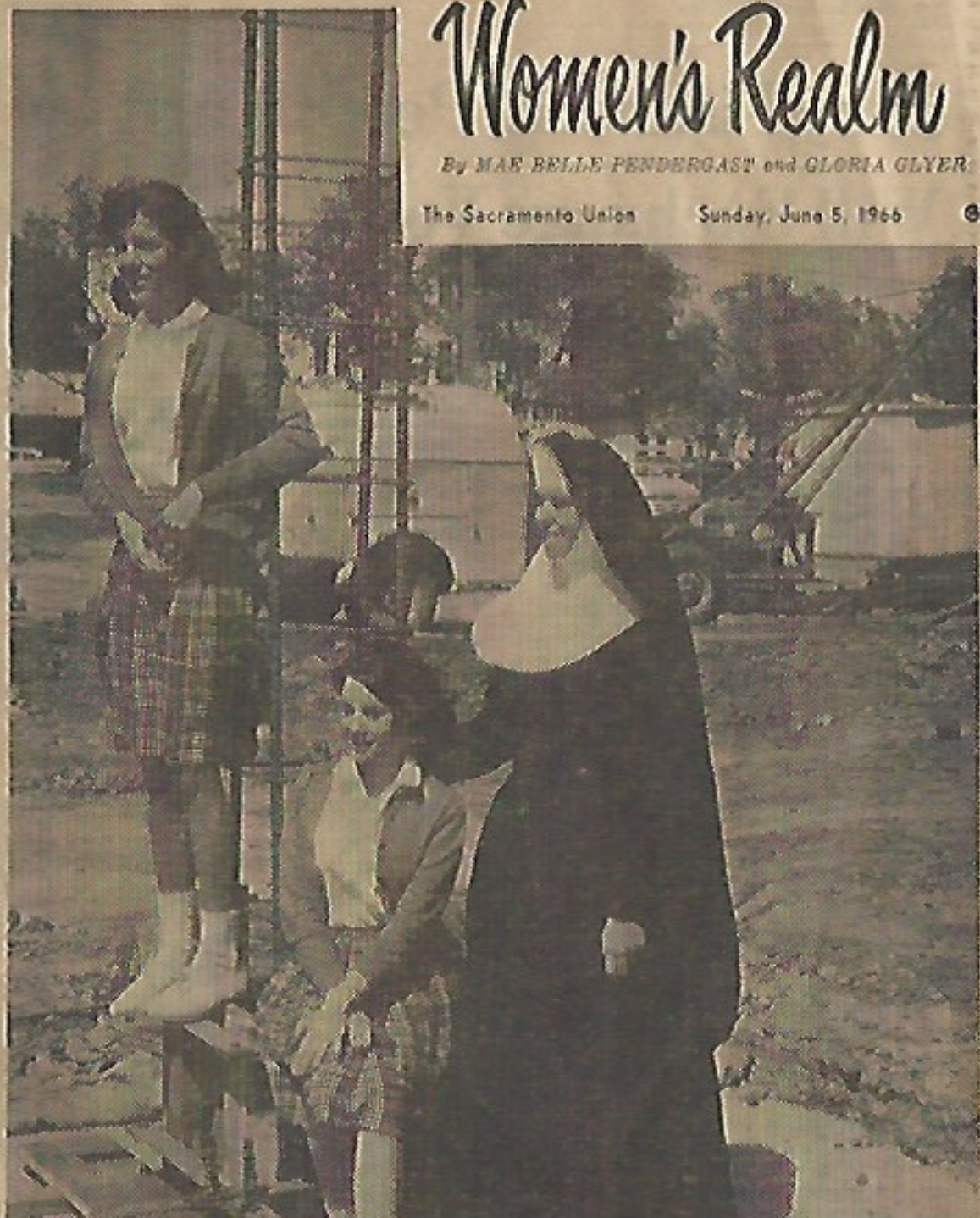
Women's Realm

By MAE BELLE PENDERGAST and GLORIA GLYER

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"MERCY" goes on . . . just as these former St. Joseph Academy graduates in the old school, Mary O'Neil (left) was graduated from 1906—her mother, Minnie Rooney O'Neil, was graduated in 1906—the first mother-daughter graduates. Mrs. Clay Azevedo completed her degree in 1902; her daughter, Mrs. Loretta Chipman and her granddaughter, Becky Boyd, completed her sophomore year in 1956, as the final two years of high school were continued at SJA in 1956, with the building of Bishop Armbrust. They are pictured on the stairway of the school building, which in 1926—classes formerly were held in the old convent, which



More Than 100 Years Old

Reunion Day Will Be Farewell For St. Joseph Academy

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ings were begun, the Legislature passed the Capitol Bill, and chose the site for the State Capitol. The Sisters were obliged to relinquish the property to the State.

They then purchased the block at 9th and G streets, in July, 1860. A small building on the property was used for a convent, and other buildings were erected for the school. Additional wings were added until in 1872 the Sisters had completed the four-story building that was for many years a landmark in Sacramento.

In 1905 the new school building was completed but even then some classes were conducted in the convent building. In 1950, the new wing, housing the library, art department, homemaking and commercial classes, was added.

In 1956 the status of St. Joseph High, with that of the other local Catholic High Schools, underwent a change. That year, the new Bishop Armstrong High School opened — as a co-instructional school for junior and senior boys and girls. Two years ago, Bishop Arm-

strong became an all-boys school, and and senior girls attended the new St. F High school. Students at St. Joseph's still pleted their freshman and sophomore at the academy.

From 1876 to 1956 there have been 2,500 graduates from St. Joseph Academy School. Many have remained in the local holding important positions in various of life — in schools, business, social religious service and as homemakers and mothers.

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Other Side

WHEN ST. JOSEPH Alumnae commemorates the closing of St. Joseph Academy High School with a "reunion day" on June 19, the walls of the auditorium will be lined with photographs of graduates, and also other photographs of St. Joseph classes, as well as banners for the years. Checking over the details are Sandy Martin, a present SJA student and her aunts, Jeanette Martin, class of 1948; and Mrs. Dorothy Martin Long, 1939, who is decorations chairman. The auditorium was the site of graduation ceremonies for many years, as well as the sophomore hops, junior proms and senior balls, not to mention school plays and basketball games. A final meeting of the alumnae to complete plans for reunion day will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday in the school library.