

# Madonna House founder honored by Governor General

The founder of Madonna House Apostolate in Combermere, Mrs Catherine de Hueck Doherty, was invested with the Order of Canada by the Hon Jules Leger, Governor General of Canada.

The Order of Canada which has three categories of distinction was founded in 1967 to honor Canadians for outstanding achievements. The three categories are: Companion, Officer and Member of the Order. Mrs Doherty was invested as a Member of the Order.

Mrs Doherty was born at the turn of the century in Russia and escaped with her husband, Baron Boris de Hueck from the Russian Revolution and came to Canada in the 1920's where she did extensive work with the Immigration department assisting with Russian emigres.

During the 1930's she opened Friendship Houses in Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa to do extensive social service work during the Depression in feeding and clothing needy Canadians; publishing and lecturing against the Com-

munist threat in ethnic groups, particularly of Polish and Ukrainian descent in Toronto.

In 1938 she extended the Friendship Houses to the United States in Harlem, New York City, Washington, Chicago, Louisiana and Oregon to pioneer in interracial relations between black and white Americans.

In 1943 she married the famous American journalist, Mr Edward J Doherty, and in 1947 opened the Madonna House Apostolate in Combermere as a training centre for young people to engage in the social services with a committed dedication to serve the poor in Canada and elsewhere.

In 1954 Maryhouse was opened with a trained staff as a hostel to assist hundreds of Indians coming to Whitehorse Yukon, for medical attention. This foundation has worked extensively over all these years in close conjunction with all territorial departments.

In 1955 Marian Centre was opened to alleviate the needs of the poor in the city of Edmonton, Alta., and during

this time has provided over a million free meals to the needy and distributed clothing to hundreds of thousands of Canadians in that city.

In 1956 Madonna House Apostolate was incorporated in the Province of Ontario under letters patent from the Lieutenant Governor as a non-profit religious organization to perform works of charity.

In 1966 Marian Centre was opened to assist the poor of the city of Regina, Sask. and has provided food and clothing to thousands of Canadians in that area.

In 1973 Madonna House, Ottawa, Ontario, was opened as a house of prayer; in 1975, a house of prayer was opened in Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan; and in 1976, another house of prayer, Coudert House, was opened in Whitehorse, Yukon. The staff of these houses also visit the lonely and the aged.

Other foundations of the Madonna House Apostolate are presently in Oregon, Arizona, Virginia, New York and the West Indies. Members of the Apostolate have at various

times also worked in Texas, Peru, Honduras, Bangladesh and the Holy Land.

Mrs Doherty's group have actively cooperated with the Red Cross Society in all areas, the St John's Ambulance Corps, the Victorian Order of Nurses, the Credit Union and Cooperative Movements in all of their Canadian foundations. All personnel have been trained in Combermere, Ontario, without benefit of government or ecclesiastical grants or subsidies, on a self-supporting basis.

Mrs Doherty has also authored and published the following books: Friendship House, Dear Seminarian, Dear Sister, Where Love is God Is, My Russian Yesterdays, Out of the Crucible (pamphlet on Lay Apostolate), Stations of the Cross, Poustinia and The Gospel Without Compromise.

Mrs Doherty was invested at a reception at Government House, Ottawa on April 7. She was accompanied by her son George T de Hueck of Mobile, Alabama.



Mrs Catherine de Hueck Doherty was invested with the Order of Canada April 7 by the Hon Jules Leger, Governor General of Canada.