

**Church of Our Lady of Sorrows
ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING
Nov. 20, 1939**

**Most Rev. P.A. McGovern
St. Mary's Cathedral
Cheyenne, Wyo.**

Most Rev. and Dear Bishop:

In answer to your recent letter, I consulted many old residents here and I was assured that probably seventy-five or eighty percent of the Catholics resided on the North Side in 1911. Shortly after I came to Rock Springs Fr. Schiffrer still thought that within a few years the Slavish church could easily take care of all the Catholics here, as there were then but few English-speaking families and the Italians were very unreliable. About seventy percent of the Catholics lived on the North Side in the fall of 1918, when I came to Rock Springs. I would say that about sixty percent of the Catholics reside on the North Side of town at present.

Frank Plemel was one of Fr. Schiffrer's business advisers during the building of the N.S. church. He told me that the N.S. church cost \$69,000.00 and five or six thousand dollars were spent for church furnishings. Fr. Schiffrer spoke of his church and church furnishings costing a total of about \$75,000.00. He could have built the church for \$58,000.00 or \$59,000.00 no doubt, if he did not construct a hall and club rooms under the church. Frank Plemel said that the cost of building construction was high at the time. He also told that Joe Kinney donated about \$5,020.00 for the rectory, which was half the total cost.

Sincerely in Christ,

[S.A. Welsh]