

# MARVIN GIVES ITALIANS SITE IN ST. MARY'S

## Location Designated for Columbus Memorial Monument

If the Italian societies of Syracuse, which have been trying for nearly five years to get a site for a memorial monument to Christopher Columbus, get busy and submit a suitable design to Dwight J. Baum of New York city, former Syracusan and widely known architect, and also obtain the remaining \$7,000 of the estimated \$25,000 required for its erection, St. Mary's circle may soon take on a different appearance.

Mayor Marvin told the Columbus memorial group in a mass meeting at Firro hall, 583 North State street, last night that they could have St. Mary's circle as the site.

And so a long-discussed project—which has shifted from the circle to Fayette park, to Hanover square, to Onondaga park, and to Columbus park, got back to the circle again, with the probability Syracusans in the future will see a Columbus monument where for years there have been cannas, geraniums and other plants and municipal Christmas trees in season.

### One Restriction

Mayor Marvin reviewed the whole situation in his talk to the Italian group, refusing to take any blame for what happened in the monument controversy before he took office and making his only restriction to St. Mary's circle as the site that Mr. Baum be allowed to pass on the design.

"Personally I never made any promise to your group about the circle," the mayor said. "Before I took office I was told of your \$18,000 fund and your desire to honor the memory of Columbus by erection of such a monument. I was also told that St. Mary's could not be considered as a site.

"Then Fayette park was suggested as a site with the plan of moving the Hamilton White monument from the west end of the park to the east. I approved it, and there was opposition after the announcement.

### Entitled to Location

"Your group withdrew the suggestion, found a site in Onondaga park, and in good faith I approved that, too. There were objections from property owners. Rumors of threats and politics were attached but I wasn't bothered by that. I am trying to do my best for the people at large and can't please everyone. I say you are entitled to a location second to none.

"Now, I have interviewed all factions on the St. Mary's site, representatives of the churches, the university, the library and the courthouse. No one opposed me, so I have no opposition.

"There is only one thing. You are going to invest a substantial sum and you and I want assurance the monument will be one of beauty and art that no one can criticize. Last week I saw Mr. Baum in New York and he agreed to serve without charge, because of his interest in Syracuse, in passing on designs for the monument.

### Baum as Adviser

"If it is necessary to build a base Mr. Baum will design that and he will act as adviser to the sculptor you employ. My only motive in doing this is in fairness to the sponsors. So, proceed as soon as you will with Mr. Baum, and with St. Mary's as a site."

The mayor was cheered roundly for that and as he left the hall someone set up the cry, "Marvin for governor!"

Sentiment of the sponsors of the plan after the meeting was in favor of the mayor's action and his suggestion as to Mr. Baum.