

Loan Unions Noted As Best Means of Fighting Usurers

The credit union was hailed as society's best weapon with which to combat usurious money lenders at ceremonies dedicating the remodeled \$50,000 three-story building of the Fior di Marsala Federal Credit Union at 11 Sumner Ave., yesterday.

Federal Judge Matthew T. Abruzzo, officiating at the dedication, lauded the organization's work in providing loans at small interest rates to needy workingmen.

Assistant District Attorney Sigismund J. Trapani, president of the Fior di Marsala, who presided at the ceremony, declared there are now 6,500 credit unions in the United States. The Fior di Marsala, with 1,300 members and a capital of \$148,000, is the largest in the country, he said.

Pfeifer Lauds Principles

Others who spoke, praising the principles of the credit union, were Representative Joseph L. Pfeifer, Aldermanic President-Elect William F. Brunner, Sheriff Peter J. McGuinness, Magistrate Sylvester Sabbatino, State Senator Jacob J. Schwartzwald, Assemblyman Robert J. Crews, Assemblyman-Elect Jule L. Maisel, Republican County Leader John R. Crews, Alderman Peter H. Ruvolo, Alderman Michael Calandrillo, Edward Specht, vice president of the Manufacturers Trust Company; Sidney Stahl, secretary of the New York State Credit Union League; Cyril Shapiro, representing Claude R. Orchard, manager of the Federal Credit Union section of the Farm Credit Administration; General Giuseppe Garibaldi, grandson of the famous Italian, who is now visiting the United States, and Joseph Giannone, founder of the Fior di Marsala.

Concurrently with the ceremonies, Postmaster Francis J. Sinnott dedicated Postoffice Branch 122, is on the premises of the credit union, which, according to Mr. Trapani, was organized "to fight the encroachment of shylocks, usurers and money lenders."