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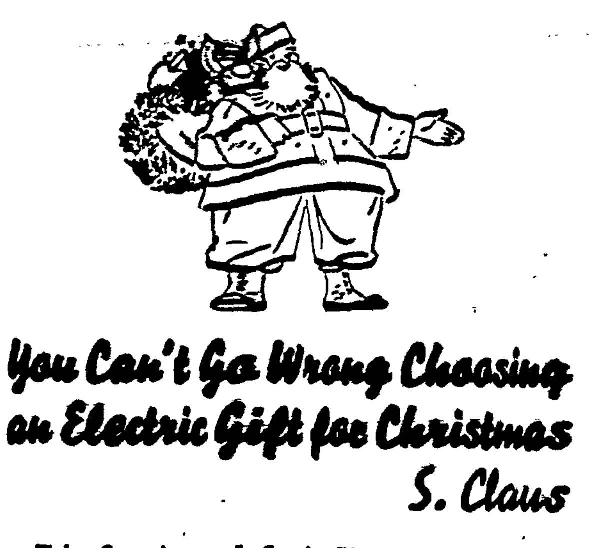

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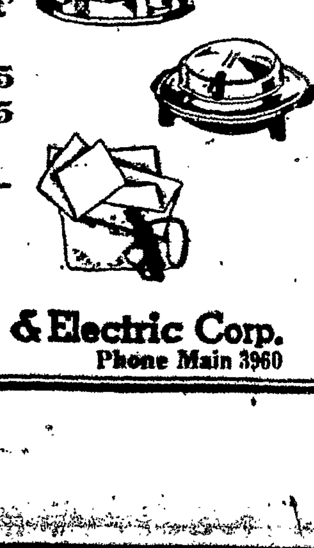

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Crying In The Dark

By EILEEN LEARY

I come with the infant's cry again
Piercing the cold and the dark,
I come with the hollow-eyed desolate men
Pacing the wharves and the park,
I come with the young, young terrified girls
Standing in doorways at night,
I come with the shipwrecked and shadow worlds
O pity and solace my plight.

I lean on your strength, so sure, so sweet,
I turn with a childlike trust,
I who am breaking with pain and defeat
Brother of yours from the dust.
Speak not in deeds of great gallantries
Speak not of hope sacrificed
Speak in a voice that is braver than these
The Charitable voice of Christ.

Esther Leary.

And Charity—the kind gracious lady with basket of food under her arm, or Charity, the efficient young woman with a list of needy cases, answers in the name of Christ. It seems incredible that from the very centers of charity people should be at work compiling data to prove that birth control is the remedy for all this economic distress. Reading your daily papers or even reading my mail you would be inclined to whisper, "Did they not hear you say, Lord, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven?'", and yet some people would deprive them of Heaven and even the existence.

A letter:

"Dear Eileen Leary,

I suppose you are taking Cardinal Hays' part in this birth control controversy Did you see the account in the paper next day which refuted his article? It said that the Catholic Church was for birth control in principle but not in the means used to reach the end. Just ten years ago the Catholic Church was against birth control in principle. So you see she is weakening in spite of herself . . . and the sad part of it is that only the poor and ignorant people suffer since the rich avail themselves of any knowledge on the subject.

Answer this question. If the Catholic Church believes that there are sterile periods in a woman's life and teaches the public so, don't you believe that there would be infinitely much more promiscuity and infinitely much more impurity before marriage?

Mrs S M."

I draw a deep breath and answer, "Dear Mrs S M.

Before I talk about the secret formula for no babies which birth control advocates seem to think the rich possess, before I come to the 13 good clergymen and true of other faiths than our Catholic one who think America needs no moral inspiration from the Catholic doctrines, I answer your question.

The Catholic Church is not teaching the public on the subject of sterility in women It so happens that enough medical data has become available in recent years for books and pamphlets to be published by men of the medical profession The approval of these books for Catholics by the heirarchy of the Church is not a new change in principle on birth control The Catholic Church has never been against any form of self control married people wish to observe. Read the Encyclical Letter by His Holiness Pope Pius XI on Christian Marriage. He clearly states. "Nor must married people be considered to act against nature if they make use of their rights according to sound and natural reason, even though no new life can arise on account of circumstance of time—". For any intelligent person to say that there is no difference in principle between self control and birth control is absurd You are a married woman. Is there any difference in the offense against Nature and God when married persons choose a day on which to have marriage relationship and when they deliberately frustrate the act? Need I say more?

Would young people now seeing in print medical proofs that the average woman has a sterile period within each month use this information to degrade themselves before marriage? The methods advocated by birth control defenders are so much more widely advertised and guaranteed these cowards would rarely trust sterile periods.

Re the present controversy with His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes: there are still many half truths being uttered by the 13 good clergymen and true and by such ladies as Mrs. Benson. Why do these people want birth control to be national policy? The one reason advanced is economic. To relieve the poor which of course would enable the rich to keep all of thir money without any demands for charity? Mrs. Benson said, "The real effront to the poor is to deny them knowledge of birth control which is available to the rich". May I ask who is fooling whom? What is this secret formula for no babies that the rich possess and the poor know not? How many of present day poor among girls and women of child bearing age can't read, write, and hear? Any one of these accomplishments is all that is necessary to know about birth control. Oh, of course, there are several expensive ones which manufacturers "ballyhoo" to build up a business.

The 13 good men and true attack the Cardinal's speech on the aspect that Catholics have no right to protest against birth control practices of others outside of the Catholic faith. Who does or who would if the individuals who practice birth control were not trying to enact legislation giving sanction to all the youth of the land on the practice of a sin against nature as well as against man! After all Catholics are American citizens and have sworn to defend this land as well as non-Catholics. In what better way can a Catholic defend his country than to make certain that this country does not become a nation of middle-aged or old people and eventually a dying nation? I wonder sometimes if leaders in other faiths do not want to ease their own consciences by getting the Catholic Church to say that birth control practice is no offense against God!

As for the knowledge that every social worker and social scientist possesses about excessive children injuring a mother's health and the large family never lifting itself from the depths of destitution, how about the ancestors of whom they boast? They would not be here if the average number of children per family in all classes one hundred and thirty years ago was not eignt. Who is to blame for the destitution? Because some foreign born woman may have said to a social worker, "Too many keeds, man no work, No shoes, no food," a cry of exultation went up from the birth control sponsors. Ah here were poor mothers lamenting too many children' They never added the why or the wherefore. "No work for man, no shoes, no food." And it behooves men who use their intellect, and women as well, to be might certain of the economic aspects of birth control before they make statements for public consumption.

Would not Dr O E Baker Senior Agricultural Economist, Bureau of Agricultural Ecomics, United States Department of Agriculture be accurate in his statements about population in this country" In his paper "The Church and The Rural Youth" he gives such facts as these. "The decline in births began nearly a decade before the depression Should the rate of decline in births during the last ten years continue, less than half as many children will be born twenty years hence, as were ten years ago. Half as many births means eventually, unless immigration from abroad flows in, a decline in population to about half" More he writes "The United States has been a nation composed largely of young people. It has been dominatly rural and the number of children per family is about as large among farm people as it is in the population living in large cities With urbanization the Nation is becoming middle-aged and the prospect is that old age will creep upon it prematurely only 25 to 50 years hence During the next quarter century there should be the strength of middle age, and then, unless the birth rate rises, or there is a heavy immigration from abroad, a decline will set in No nation can suffer such a continued decrease in births as that of the last decade and not suffer a decline in strength that accompanies rapidly aging population"

He adds, "More serious from the national standpoint than the immediate effects of a declining population will be the great difficulty of stopping the downward trend. The insufficient number of children in one generation to maintain population stationary will result in a smaller number of mothers who will, unless the birthrate rises rapidly, give birth to a smaller number of daughters Thus a downward spiral in population is engendered. The probability is that once a decline in population sets in, it will become persistent and progressive. The next few decades are, in my opinion years of grace for the American people The people of the Nation must see clearly the causes and the consequences of the declining birthrate and resolutely set about to prevent them."

Are you listening, 13 good men and true?

The authority, Dr. O. E. Baker, gives this message for thought. "The message I wish to leave with you is that the restoration of the family as the fundamental institution of society, the development of an economic system which does not penalize parenthood, the establishment of a social code which approves the self-sacrifice of parents for the sake of children, and the revival of emphasis on the duty of individual to promote the welfare of the Nation and the race, are, in my opinion, essential to the preservation of any civilization. If the American people continue in the way they are going, they are likely to bring upon the Nation the fate which descended upon ancient Rome.

I ask you would birth control be the solution for the nation's economic problems? I ask you has any Catholic the right to stand by and not protest against any national laws which may teach our young people that it is fitting and proper to limit the family the way advocates of birth control are now doing" Anyway these people may console themselves that the senile America they would produce will not belong to their sons and daughters They are all too fe win number Please God we Catholic daughters They are all too few in number's earnest and the grave is not the goal will fight for an economic order in this country where we can bring up a family, not excessive numbers but a family of enough numbers to carry on for God and America.

Think it over Mrs. S. M.

"All the beauty of the king's daughter comes from within."

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Wins Horace Prize

Margaret M. FitzGerald, of the College of Mount St. Vincent, New York City, who won second place in a nation-wide contest for college students in the translation of poetry by Horace. Miss FitzGerald translated the tenth ode in Book II. Another Catholic college student, Chester Neudling of St. Louis University, St. Louis, won third place, for his translation of the 21st ode in Book III. The contest was held in observance of the 2,000th anniversary of the birth of Horace.

Peace With Justice, Charity Urged by Pope at Consistory

(Continued from Page 1)

added condolences on the death Monday morning of Cardinal Lega.

"We do not propose to speak at length," Pope Pius then said, "although there is no lack of subjects both joyful and sorrowful upon which We We might express Ourselves. Among the joyful events it is sufficient to mention those triumphal demonstrations of faith which took place, among others, at Lourdes, Buenos Aires, Cleveland, Terramo, Prague, Ljubljana and Lima, where immense multitudes of people assisted under the leadership and example of their Bishops, their civil magistrates and notables of their lands.

"Nor, as We have said, is there a lack of sorrowful subjects which have filled Our paternal heart with sadness, such as especially the events which are taking place in Russia and Mexico, and to a certain extent also in Germany. We do not desire to go further with this sad recital, nor do We desire to refer to those conflicts which for a long time have preoccupied not only Europe and Africa but indeed the whole world"

Holy Redeemer A. A. Sets Christmas Party, Dec. 28

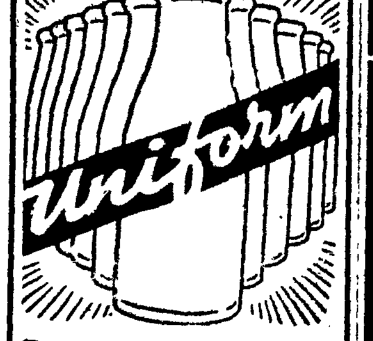
The Holy Redeemer Athletic Association will hold its annual Christmas party Saturday evening, Dec. 28. An unusually fine program and floor show has been arranged Members and friends of the club are asked to attend this party.

PARTY FOR YOUNG FOLKS AT HOLY APOSTLES, DEC. 20

The young people of Holy Apostles' parish will hold a social in the school hall, Austin St., on Friday evening, Dec. 20.

Music will be furnished by Johnny Schwab and his orchestra.

Gerald Marks is chairman of the fete, and is assisted by Frank Camelia, Walter Corcoran, Leo Shatzel, Joseph Shatzel, Arline Deuter, Alice Gundy, Dorothy Gundy, Margaret McGovern and Lauretta Sullvan.



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WEGMAN DAIRY

Midnight Mass At the Cathedral

(Continued from Page 2)

The program of music for Christmas at the Cathedral will be:

Christmas Carols sung before Mass by the students of St. Andrew's Seminary

I. Carols: "Resonet in Laudibus" 14th Century .... Dom Pothier
"Angels We Have Heard on High" .... Montani
"Shepherds in the Field Abiding" .... Noel Bisentin
"Silent Night" .... Montani
"Adeste Fidelis" .... Traditional

II. Processional: "Adeste Fidelis" ....arranged by John Paul Bonn
Sung by Cathedral Men and Boys Choir

III. Mass:
Introit.... "Dominus dixit ad me" Seminarians
Kyrie Eleison .... Carnevali
Gloria in Excelsus ..... Carnevali
Cathedral Choir
Graduale ... "Tecum principium" Seminarians
Credo III .... Gregorian
Both Choirs
Offertory .... "Laetentur caeli" Seminarians
Supplementary Offertory
Cantet Nunc Io.... Traditional
Congregation
Sanctus .... Carnevali
Cathedral Choir
Agnus Dei .... Carnevali
Cathedral Choir
Communion: "In splendoribus sanctorum ...... Seminarians

IV. Recessional: Holy God.......... Traditional
Congregation

Fifty students from the Seminary under the direction of Mr. Stephen H. Cauley compose the sanctuary Choir. The Cathedral Choir, composed of twenty men and twenty boys is directed by John Paul Bonn with Francis Bonn as Assistant Director. The "Adeste Fidelis" which is being sung for the first time by the Cathedral Choir is an new arrangement of this time honored hymn by John Paul Bonn for five part voices.

This musical program will be repeated at the 11:00 Mass on Christmas day.

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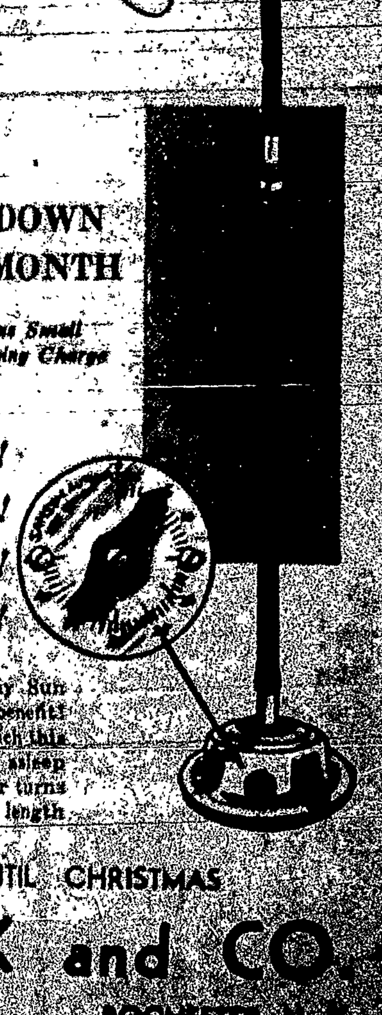

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