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Right Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynn
Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

THE GRANDMA INTERFERENCE

The estimable gray-haired lady was sad and crestfallen. Her daughter had told her to move out, and to go and live somewhere else.

"No, madam; that isn't possible, for I know your daughter."

"I am telling you, she did."

"Then, please, explain what was the provocation?"
"The other night, after her baby was put to bed, it started crying, and it cried and cried and cried. She went in to see if there was anything wrong, and when she discovered nothing of an unusual nature, she closed the windows and the bedroom door and let it cry for over an hour. I wanted to go in and pick up the poor thing, and then she told me angrily that if I was bent on interfering with her raising her children, I had better get out."

"Tell me—after it cried for over an hour, what happened?"

"Naturally, the little precious was exhausted, and it fell asleep."

"When did all this happen?"

"Monday night."

"Did it happen again Tuesday night?"

"Yes, the same thing, but not so bad."

"And last night?"

"Last night, we did not hear a peep out of it, but I'm so miserable about my daughter's telling me that, after all I did for her!"

If grandmothers only would understand that they can do no earthly good by spoiling grandchildren, things would move along much more smoothly in many a home. First of all, by their indulging kindness, they may ruin parental discipline; secondly, they make the task more difficult, and they irritate the mother, who is sometimes already on edge on account of the child's tantrum or its unreasonable notions and bad disposition; thirdly, the harmony and good feeling in the home are destroyed.

It is strange how a grandmother who has raised her own family in an excellent and successful manner will unconsciously place obstacles in the way of her daughter and son who want to follow her good example in rearing children.

While the young mother was bathing her sore eye, she was interrupted by the telephone ringing. When she walked back to the bathroom, she just caught little Patricia gulping down the eye wash. Mamma gave her a good spanking. Grandma promptly arrived on the scene from which the infantile yell came, and she scolded the mother for being so cruel.

"After all, that lotion was not poisonous."

The daughter explained to Grandma that it was her fault that the child got a good little thrashing—which announcement sounded outrageous to the totally innocent grandmother till she was reminded. Bessie recalled that, of all the whippings she got in her childhood from her mother, the grandmother of the present drama, the worst was when she had got hold of a small bottle with poison in it and was caught in the act of tasting it.

"Mother, you were so frantic, and you licked me so hard that even today I have a dread of one of my children drinking anything when they don't know what it is!"
Exit Grandma, somewhat sheepish.

What makes women as grandmothers so inconsistently different from what they were as mothers? Can it not be that they often selfishly love their grandchildren more than they did their own children? Selfishness, yes—that must be at the bottom of it. As mothers, they took their children's affection and attachment for granted; they were with them all day long, and they did so many things for them when they were little. It is not so ordinarily with grandmothers, since they do not have the same opportunities to work themselves into the lives of the little ones. Therefore, on the occasions when they are with their grandchildren, or they have temporary control over the children, usually they lavish nothing but kindness on them, and they treat the youngsters in

such a way that Grandma always will be very welcome and will be considered their staunch defender in case the going is a little hard at times. Result: the "kids" are crazy about Granmie, but they are spoiled, at the same time, for parental discipline is undermined, and Mother has the trouble afterward.

If this analysis seems to be too far-fetched, then think of the grandmothers who, forced by misfortune, have to raise grandchildren. They do not follow the same policy and method. They punish and reward in the same logical way as they raised their own children. There is not much false and damaging pity and generosity shown the young ones, even if they are orphans, for whom it is natural to feel more pity.

Grandmothers should make it a rule, when there is a storm brewing or breaking, to take a walk to the drugstore and buy a pint of ice cream for daughter, to help her cool down after the ordeal is over. Daughter will love her the more for it, and the grandchildren are more apt to be grateful to Granmie in later years.

SON CONDUCTS FINAL RITES FOR JOHN KILLACKEY

Funeral of Mr. John Killackey, father of Rev. William Killackey, pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Church, Honeoye Falls, was held on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

Solemn Requiem High Mass was celebrated by Rev. William Killackey, assisted by Rev. Howard Geek as Deacon, the Rev. Dr. John Reddington as Sub-Deacon and the Rev. Francis Feecey as Master of Ceremonies. The Mass was sung by Rev. A. M. Kavanagh and Rev. Joseph Haffey.

The following members of the clergy were present in the Sanctuary: Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hart, V.G., Rev. Thomas F. Connors, Rev. Louis Edelmann, Rev. Francis Mason, Rev. John Ball, Rev. George Doud, Rev. Raymond Lynd and Rev. Dr. Edward Lintz.

Interment was made in St. Paul's Cemetery in Honeoye Falls. The Blessing at the grave was given by Monsignor Hart.

Nun-Nurse Aids Surgeon In Four-Hour Operation While Planes Bomb City

MARYKNOLL, N. Y.—During a four-hour surgical operation performed in Loung, South China, while enemy planes were flying above, the only American trained nurse in the city, Sister Monica Marie Boyie of Minersville, Pa., assisted the only doctor there, also an American. The surgeon having already begun to operate before the air raid signal was given, there was no alternative but to continue during the bombing attack. Fortunately, it was a day-time raid, so that no black-out was involved.

This is one of many dramatic incidents related in the first official reports from South China missions that have been received at the Maryknoll Sisters' Motherhouse since the outbreak of war. Most of the letters just now received were written in October. Sister Monica Marie, graduate of Misericordia Hospital Training School, Philadelphia, who has been in China since 1934, is one of 240 Maryknoll Sisters now in Pacific war zones.

Because of the prevalent scarcity of food and the diseases resulting from undernourishment, Catholic missionaries in China, now entering upon the fifth year of war, are often the only source of aid for helpless hordes of sick and shelterless. Touched by the kindness of the missionaries, many are seeking to become Christians.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Atkinson, Kans.—Benedictine priests throughout the country attached to the community of St. Benedict's Abbey here are instructed by the Rt. Rev. Martin Voth, O.S.B. Abbot of St. Benedict's, to recite daily a prescribed Prayer for Vocations.

Our Lady of Lourdes COMMUNION SUNDAY LISTED

Members of the Altar Society will receive Holy Communion on Sunday, March 1.

The Holy Name Society will hold a Communion Breakfast on Sunday, March 8, Lawrence W. Hastings, chairman of the affair has announced the breakfast will be held at the Mark Twain Hotel.

Masses during Lent will be said every day during Lent at 7:30 and 8 o'clock. On Wednesday there is only one Mass at 8 o'clock.

SCAPULAR MILITIA INITIATES NEW OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

NEW YORK—The Scapular Militia has just published the first number of its new printed official organ, The Scapular.

The four-page publication will be issued quarterly and supersedes the mimeographed bulletin formerly issued to members of the Scapular Militia. Among other things the publication announces that the Scapular Militia will mark its first anniversary on April 15 and the magazine will mark this event in a special way.

CHURCH GOODS LEADER

New York, Fred P. Hansen, president of D. B. Hansen & Sons, Chicago, dealers in church goods and religious articles, was elected president of the National Association of Catholic Publishers and Dealers in Church Goods at the national convention here.

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