

Flays 'Shocking' Birth Control Article In 'Parents Magazine'

WASHINGTON—(N. C.)—Publication in the September issue of THE PARENTS MAGAZINE of an article on birth control is severely condemned in a letter which the Rev. Dr. Edgar Schmiedeler, D.S.B., Director of the Family Life Bureau, National Catholic Welfare Conference, has addressed to the editor, Mrs. Clara Savage Lathrop.

Publication of the article, containing "a basic shift in editorial policy," also brought the prompt resignation from the magazine's Advisory Council of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John M. Cooper, head of the Department of Anthropology of the Catholic University of America. Expressing himself as having been exceedingly shocked by the publication of the article in The Parents Magazine, Dr. Schmiedeler said he felt certain it would "deeply grieve hundreds of thousands of the publication's readers who for years past welcomed it into their homes as a messenger of the finer and the genuinely dignified things of family life."

Declaring that he had not the slightest doubt that "the consciences of great numbers of these readers will absolutely revolt against this surrender of its pages to the approval and even advocacy of an unnatural and immoral practice utterly out of harmony with their innate sense of decency and religious sensibilities," Dr. Schmiedeler wrote the editor: "You have aligned yourself with forces that are rapidly making of us a decadent nation a selfish and undisciplined people."

Memoranda of Heretic Mothers

Particularly, Dr. Schmiedeler deplored publication of the article at a time when "the hearts of American mothers who did their duty to their country by rearing a normal family of children are bleeding as their sons go forth to all the fronts of the world to sacrifice, and to die if necessary, to protect our institutions and our homes, to safeguard our traditional American ideals."

"I am addressing these lines to you," Dr. Schmiedeler wrote, "to say that I have been exceedingly shocked to note in the September issue of the valued publication of which you are editor, The Parents Magazine, the article by Helena Huntington Smith favoring birth control or so-called planned parenthood. I am certain that this will be no less than deeply grieve hundreds of thousands of the publication's readers who for years past welcomed it into their homes as a messenger of the finer and the genuinely dignified things of family life. I am not without the slightest doubt that the consciences of great numbers of these readers will absolutely revolt against this surrender of its pages to the approval, and even advocacy, of an unnatural and immoral practice utterly out of harmony with their innate sense of decency and religious sensibilities.

"And of all times to pick for such a crusade—a time when the hearts of American mothers who did

their duty to their country by rearing a normal family of children are bleeding as their sons go forth to all the fronts of the world to sacrifice, and to die if necessary, to protect our institutions and our homes, to safeguard our traditional American ideals? Coming at such a time it almost forces one to believe that this is deliberately planned so as to help the cause of organized birth control which is even now collecting money all over the United States to turn the outcome of the forthcoming Massachusetts referendum on birth control in its favor.

Memoranda of Planned Parenthood

"May I ask: Can it be possible that you are unaware of the following almost incredible facts—the results very largely of a quarter of a century of the uncontrolled that the author of the article in your publication which planned parenthood? Or, if you are aware of them, may I ask whether you are not concerned about them?"

"(1) Of all the married women in the United States 41 per cent have either no children or at most one child. And you encourage more 'planning of parenthood.'"

"(2) Of all the married women in the United States only about one-third are mothers of a sufficient number of children even to keep our population stationary. Is it your wish to 'plan' this one-third away too?"

"(3) In our cities our American people are only replacing themselves by about two-thirds, and our urban professional classes are replacing themselves only by about 80 per cent. Is 'education' to foster further this suicidal trend deemed necessary?"

"Is it conceivable that you are unaware that by advocating birth control for economic reasons you are deliberately advocating something contrary to American law? Is that what we need today publications that carry into our homes the very notion of violation, if not defiance, of the law?"

Condemned by Physicians

"Are you unaware that instead of artificial birth control meaning better health for mothers, great numbers of the most reputable and most able physicians of the world condemn it as decidedly harmful to health, particularly so in the case of women? The following recent statement of Dr. Paul Popenoe might well be contemplated: 'With any ordinary group it is the woman with the largest family who lives longest, not the childless or unmarried woman.'"

"Are you unaware of our rapidly mounting illegitimacy, and of the definite weakening of the moral fiber of our young people? And at such a time you dare send into great numbers of the finest homes of the nation a message of ap-

praisal of a practice of uncontrolled that cannot but further unencourage this sorry situation.

"Are you unaware that artificial birth control is but one of a number of symptoms of the moral decay of the nation, all intimately interrelated? Is it not entirely obvious that birth control by no means stands alone? It is but one of many forms of unreason, all closely linked together. Birth down the moral code in regard to sex in one field and the way is paved for innovations in other fields. Lewens are thrust in the moral fabric and the whole garment speedily disintegrates. That is only what must be expected.

"Moreover, that is what the facts point to in our case. The hideous crime of abortion has greatly increased with the growth of birth control. And surely I need not point out that our divorce rate has grown with incredible rapidity, particularly among children or near-childless parents. Seventy-two per cent of American divorces are granted to childless couples.

Diservices To Country

"I dare say that in printing this article you have done a dreadful disservice to your country. You have aligned yourself with forces that are rapidly making of us a decadent nation, a selfish and undisciplined people. In approving of the principles it upholds you are encouraging in the body social the growth of a debilitating cancer that is steadily draining away the vital powers of our people. In working for the furtherance of artificial birth control you are helping to stamp in a spirit of ill-will pleasure and cheap self-indulgence that cannot but prove ultimately suicidal to the moral qualities of the individual and the nation. By using your publication for such purposes you are making of it an instrument for the decay and the decline of America.

"All this, of course, aside from the fact that it is a serious affront to the moral sensibilities of great numbers of your faithful patrons.

"Permit me in closing to call your attention to the following weighty and meaningful words of an eminent Frenchman, Jean Viénot: 'A society that claims to be civilized and yet allows the sex instinct free play is inoculating itself with a virus of corruption which will sooner or later destroy it.'"

France's Papal Nuncio On Vatican Visit

VATICAN CITY—His Excellency the Most Rev. Valerio Valeri, Papal Nuncio to France, has arrived in Vatican City to spend a brief vacation.

100,000 at Patriotic Rally, Holy Hour In New York

NEW YORK—(N. C.)—Nearly 100,000 persons attended the Holy Name Society Patriotic Rally and Holy Hour Sunday at Yankee Stadium in one of the greatest mass demonstrations of faith ever seen in this locality.

The Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York and Military Vicar, presided at the services and celebrated Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of the program. Four other members of the Hierarchy participated.

For the occasion a huge altar was erected in center field in the huge stadium. It was flanked on both sides by two platforms, one with the Archbishop's throne and a pulpit, the other with seats for Members of the Hierarchy.

The preliminary program began with a concert by the massed surpliced choirs of the archdiocese. An hour later a procession of the military, veterans of other wars, seminarians, priests and Bishops filed into the stadium.

Following a welcoming address by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael A. Kelly, pastor of St. Barnabas Church a service flag, honoring the boys of the Archdiocese who are in the service, blessed by the Most Rev. Stephen J. Donahue, Auxiliary Bishop of New York, and dedicated by Archbishop Spellman.

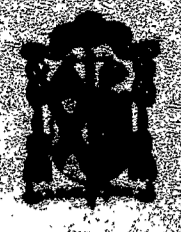
A gold star, honoring the 124 mothers in the archdiocese who have lost sons in the service, was blessed by the Most Rev. J. Francis A. McIntyre, Auxiliary Bishop of New York. The Most Rev. William P. O'Connor, Bishop of Superior, gave the dedicatory address.

The meditations for the Holy Hour were given by the Most Rev. James E. Keane, Bishop of Rochester.

Calling for "a second front of prayer," Archbishop Spellman declared that the 1,770 priests, 6,023 Brothers and Sisters in religious Orders and the more than 1,000,000 members of the laity of the Archdiocese pledge to President Roosevelt "our total devotion to the cause of America, a free nation in a free world."

General chairman for the day was the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. McCaffrey, Spiritual Director of the Archdiocesan Union of the Holy Name Society. Monsignor McCaffrey presented a token to Mrs. John J. Powers, mother of the heroic Naval Lieutenant who was lost in the Pacific and whose feats were described by President Roosevelt in a radio address early this month.

The Bishop's Appointments



OCTOBER

- 1 Thursday—Sagoyore Hotel—Opening Dinner, Columbus Youth Association Drive—6:30 P. M.
- 2 Friday—St. Patrick's—Low Mass, St. Nealon's Jubilee—9:00 A. M. St. Bernard's Embassy—Confirmation—5:30 P. M. Pro-Cathedral—Triduum Service—7:45 P. M.
- 3 Saturday—Carmelite Monastery—Low Mass—8:00 A. M.
- 4 Sunday—St. Patrick's, Orange—Jubilee Mass, Confraternity of Parish—11:00 A. M. Immaculate Conception, Miami—Confirmation—5:00 P. M. All Saints, Ludlowville—Confirmation—4:45 P. M. St. Mary of the Lake, King Ferry—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 5 Monday—Our Lady of Mercy High School—Alumni Dinner—7:15 P. M.
- 6 Tuesday—St. Anne's, Palmyra—Confirmation—7:00 P. M.
- 7 Wednesday—St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport—Bureau, Diamond Jubilee of Parish—7:45 P. M.
- 11 Sunday—Hotel Astor, New York, N. Y.—Fourth Degree, E. of G. Dinner—7 P. M.
- 12 Monday—Chamber of Commerce—Address, Columbus Day Civic Dinner—7:00 P. M.
- 13 Tuesday—Chicago, Ill.—Annual Meeting, American Board of Home Missions—7:00 P. M.
- 14 Wednesday—St. Patrick's, Elmhurst—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 15 Thursday—St. John Baptist Chapel, Elmhurst Reformatory—Confirmation—10:00 A. M. St. Peter and Paul's School, Elmhurst—Denary Conference—1:00 P. M. Holy Cross, Rochester—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 16 Sunday—Columbus Civic Centre—Low Mass, Rochester Council, E. of G.—8:30 A. M. Pro-Cathedral—Solemn Mass, coronation, Episcopal, Mission Sunday—11:00 A. M. St. Alphonsus, Auburn—Confirmation—3:00 P. M. St. Mary's, Auburn—Confirmation—4:30 P. M. Holy Family, Auburn—Confirmation—7:00 P. M.
- 18 Monday—St. Bridget's, East Moonfield—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 20 Tuesday—St. Scholastica's, Point Pleasant—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 21 Wednesday—St. Francis de Sales Rectory, Geneva—Denary Conference—2:30 P. M. Holy Family High School, Auburn—Denary Conference—4:30 P. M. St. Aloysius, Auburn—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 22 Thursday—Columbus Civic Centre—Denary Conference—9:00 P. M. Mark Twain Hotel, Elmhurst—Annual Dinner, Elmhurst Catholic Charities—7:00 P. M.
- 25 Sunday—Our Lady of Perpetual Help—Low Mass, Knights of St. John Convent—8:30 A. M. St. Francis Assisi, Auburn—Confirmation—1:00 P. M. St. John's, Fort Byron—Confirmation—3:45 P. M. St. Michael's, Monticello—Confirmation—5:00 P. M. Holy Redeemer, Rochester—Holy Hour, Nocturnal Adoration Society—8:00 P. M.
- 27 Tuesday—St. Louis, Plattsburgh—Confirmation—7:45 P. M.
- 29 Thursday—Carmelite Monastery—Reception Ceremony—9:00 A. M.

By order of the Most Rev. Bishop,

Lawrence J. Casey.

Orders Cemetery Railings, Markers Donated As Scrap

NEW YORK—It is announced at the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of New York that Calvary and Allied Cemeteries, as well as all other cemeteries under the supervision of the archdiocese, will cooperate with the proposal of the Government that unneeded and unnecessary iron railings, posts and chains around grave plots be disposed with and the metal turned over to the Government for its immediate war needs.

The cemetery authorities, the statement said, "will make the proposals as promptly as graveyards express their consent to the appeal of the salvage movement, and they are confident that these consents will be made generously and promptly in a spirit of patriotism. All metal markers under control of the cemetery will be surrendered immediately." It is estimated at the Chancery Office that more than 500 tons of

FORTY HOURS

The Devotion of the "Forty Hours" will be held in the following Churches of the Diocese of Rochester: Friday, Oct. 2—St. Michael's, Rochester. Sunday, Oct. 4—Holy Cross, Rochester; St. Vincent's, Corning; St. Francis de Sales, Geneva; Green's, Greenwood; King Ferry, Westfield. By the way—BUY WAR BONDS

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