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MEET "LIEUTENANTS" BRYCHTA.



Catholic nurses throughout the country are answering the call for 7,000 registered nurses a month for the armed forces. Pictured are the four daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Brychta, of St. John's parish, Hanover, Kans., all lieutenants in the Army Nurse Corps. Left to right: Cecelia, Sydonia, Marcella, stationed at Camp Robinson, Ark., and Mildred, who is at Camp Wallace, Tex. Mildred and Marcella are triplets, the other member of the trio having died in infancy. They have a brother in the Army. Register photo. (N.C.W.C.)

TIMELY ETERNALS

By Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven
Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

THE VOICE OF THE HAND

We were at lunch in a hotel restaurant with a Hollywood director. An orchestra was playing soft music. For a little variety, a young lady appeared at the microphone by the piano and sweetly sang a song. When she finished, my friend applauded enthusiastically. I asked him if he knew the girl? To his negative reply, I ventured a guess that he would sign her up for the movies. He laughed: "No, she wouldn't film well; besides, she has only an average voice." Then why, I queried, your vigorous handclapping?"



This was his explanation: "People who perform in places like this are hired and paid to entertain the cash customers. The common thought of those who enjoy the artistic efforts is, 'What's the use of disturbing ourselves with applause—they get a salary for what they are doing?' He deplored this cold-blooded, inconsiderate attitude, for he reasoned that anybody is worth a "hand" when he does something as well as he can; and people who work in the entertainment business are most sensitive to this encouragement, irrespective of the amount of money they receive for their work. "Besides that," he continued, philosophizing, "life for most of these people is an uncertain struggle, more so than with any other worker. And what did it cost me to give this little expression of appreciation? Nothing! I profited by it! I exercised my hands so artfully won't get into them so easily; furthermore, I received a gracious smile in payment and a comforting feeling that I did somebody a good turn."

MORE ELOQUENT

"The voice of our hands often can be more eloquent than the use of our vocal cords. This is particularly true when a friend is suddenly stricken by some grief. To the one whose heart is crushed by sorrow, too many words of consolation are a bother and an annoyance. There is nothing that will convey our sentiments of sympathy more effectively and touchingly than a mute, warm hand-clasp. When congratulations and rejoicing are in order, the spouting of words cannot do any harm, for the recipient is busy with his own good fortune and will pay little attention to the giggling expressions that gush forth. In cordial handclasp or a hearty slap on the back, significant of understanding and encouragement, has sent many a person, who felt down and out, on his way again, shaking his seemingly hopeless task with a new spirit and a determined resolve. A silent, friendly pat, denoting appreciation, will make people continue doing their utmost to ful-

fill their duties, no matter how tedious, monotonous and taxing those tasks become. Even dogs are responsive to this expression of appreciation. One can almost see the satisfaction in a race horse when, after carrying the colors of his stable to victory, his owner will stroke his mane and pat his sleek neck.

In a crucial moment of the football game, when a fresh quarterback is sent by the coach into the fray with a hefty slap on his back, that player knows what the coach means: "Boy, we are depending on you; give all you've got for the glory of old alma mater." And so the boy will, while the effect of the encouraging blow still is making his shoulder blade tingle. **SPELLING CHARACTER.**

Hands can spell, in clearly enunciated words, a person's character. An expressionless handclasp, the kind which gives one the feeling of clutching a tenderloined catfish, denotes a cold soul devoid of all sentiment, a human who is most probably in his own way and everybody else's. He just doesn't fit; there is something definitely wrong with him. A prolonged handclasp, especially between men, signifies an unmanly character. The hurting squeeze grip is indicative of too much man and not enough gentleman.

A neglectfully written letter may tax your patience in deciphering what the writer is trying to convey to you, but one point in that letter is very clear and obvious, namely, that the sender is very much taken up with himself and cares little about you. Maybe this is the reason that learned people are accused of having terrible handwritings; they are too preoccupied with themselves and their own calculations to bother much about anybody else's time and convenience.

The hand that is prompted to apply the toothpick at table is not influenced by the elegance of politeness. There is something wanting in the feeling of respect for the other diners.

Someone has said: Good manners are the small coin of virtue. Manners are minor morals." Our hands have more to do with interpreting our emotions and giving a reliable clue to our inmost regard for others than any other part of the anatomy. "The hand is the mind's only perfect vessel." (Tuckerman.) Its actions and reactions clearly portray and pronounce the appreciation of our soul for ancient virtues that make gentlemen of men and ladies of women.

Anyone can set prices, but it takes brains to make a better article.

Book Club Selects 'With A Merry Heart'

NEW YORK. — The Catholic Book Club has announced its selection for June book-of-the-month society, "With a Merry Heart," a collection of humor by Catholic writers, edited and compiled by Paul J. Whelan.

ST. MICHAEL'S

206 CLINTON AVE. N.



Rev. Arthur F. Florack
Pastor

Rev. Donald Lax
Rev. Edward A. Shamon
Assistants

MASSSES:

Sundays: 6, 7, 8:30, 9:45 and 11.
High Mass.
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and High Mass at 9:45.
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