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1400 N. CENTER, MAIN FLOOR

Parents Must Realize Their Place

By HELEN MACCHIA

We are living in a time of crisis. The world in which we live seems to be whirling on its axis at break-neck speed.

The state is aggravated by the loss of dear ones who have gone out to fight for ideals which the world seems to term "old-fashioned" or "naive." True educational, social and moral standards are relative terms today. Godless education, materialistic society and utilitarianism were the "great ideals" of today's man. What does it matter that there is a God, the Ten Commandments, or a moral law? As long as I, the individual, am satisfied, obtain what I like, do what I please, even if it means exploiting my brother under the term of personal ambition or aggrandizement, then I am fulfilling my duty to myself.

Selfishness is the unpleasant term by which we can characterize so many individuals today. These same individuals marry, become parents and then wonder why something goes wrong in their families. These parents have beautiful homes furnished with all the comforts of life. The children have many material advantages which their little neighbors lack.

Parents' Court Now
But we find that at times some of these children, while outside the home, act as criminals and partake in moral abuses. You will say, "Why, these children seem to have the best of parents; what could possibly have made them act so?"

We learn that in Hornell, N. Y., City Judge Lyle W. Jackson, following the example of mid-western states, announced his establishment of a "parents' court," in which parents of minors, charged with offenses, will be tried. This trend seems to indicate the growing realization that parents are responsible for their children. Youths who are arrested as delinquents many times have parents who have given them every material comfort. But these parents have failed to realize that what a child needs and wants desperately is love, kindness, solitude. Material things cannot make up for motherly love and fatherly discipline. These children, not securing recognition at home, go out, join a "gang," and become what they call a "somebody." It is fun for them to act as delinquents, for then they are noticed, recognized, and acquire individuality.

Out of Proportion
It may seem a startling fact, but nevertheless it is true. Among the cases referred to the Children's Court in Rochester during the past year, 164 out of 236 delinquents were living with both parents when they were referred. This figure is out of all proportion to the number of delinquents who lived with one parent, step-parents or in foster homes. In many of the 164 cases, both parents were working and away from home, thus leaving the children without adequate supervision and control.

As we have seen, it is not the dirty, quarrelsome or poor families who produce all the delinquents. Comfortable families in which there is a lack of understanding of the parents for their children also create the atmosphere from which children will seek escape and seek love elsewhere. Parents, in these latter families, fail to see that each child is a person, an individual, with his own particular problems.

Parents must realize their position—a position in which they represent God's authority in the home. A true love of their children and their duty towards them must never for a moment be forgotten. If the American father once again asserts his right as head of the family, if he proves himself a strong-willed and God-fearing head of the household, the American family will gradually lose the stigma it is now fast acquiring—the stigma that identifies the American father as "Dagwood" who has ceased to be funny, a man with no mindy strength, will power or parental discipline. When the father and mother with the grace of God occupy their proper positions in the home and when they regard their children as their first duty and vocation in life, then we can hope to see the reestablishment of the family as the core and the unit upon which all society is based.

EVER PRESENT

"He who seeks God will find Him everywhere and at all times."—St. Alphonsus

Wins High Rank



Lt. Com. Teresa M. Crowley, who recently received her promotion from Senior Lieutenant to Lieutenant Commander in the Coast Guard Women's Reserves. She is one of four women to be so commissioned. She was formerly Director of the Carroll Club for Catholic business and professional women, in New York. Lt. Com. Crowley is at present, Senior Training Officer of the boot training camp for the SPARS in West Palm Beach, Florida. (N.C.W.C.)

Lending Books Can Be An Apostolate

Have you ever considered how much good might be accomplished by lending books, disseminating the ideas they contain? In selecting your book consider the taste of the reader... Lend the blasé novel reader "Gall and Honey," then "The Splendor of Sorrow." But "Gilbert Keith Chesterton" into the hands of one who knows that Catholic books lack interest. Remind the reader who knows religious biographies can never be popular that 14,000 copies of "Saint Teresa of Avila" have already been sold... Make your own list of the books you enjoy and keep the good work going.—"The Magnificat"

Collegians Plan St. Patrick's Day Program

By MARILYN MOORE

It will be "The Wearing of the Green" that will make Nazareth College become a bit of the old Irish land itself on Friday, Mar. 17. At 3 P. M. when they hear the sound of "McNamara's Band" coming from the Old Blarney Stone Inn, the collegians will gather there to sing their favorite songs and pay tribute to St. Patrick on his special day.

The Fr. John Blanton Unit will stage a Musical Show with Rosemary Connor as interlocutor and Mary Kelly, Mary Esther Daney, Elizabeth Lee and Kay Foley as the end men. All the Irishmen of the school will join in the chorus to sing out the famed melodies of Erin. After the show, refreshments will be served at the Inn.

The St. Patrick's Day celebration has been planned by Virginia Sullivan, Honorary Chairman, and Helen Hazmond, general chairman. Working with them were the following committee chairmen: Dorothy Ann Kelly, refreshments; Jean Flanagan, entertainment; Marie Leimberger, invitations; Mary Ann Ludwig, decorations; Betty McNulty, reception; Helen Macchia, publicity; Mary Margaret Kellick, tickets, and Loyola Nolan, cleanup.

Debate Hobart V-12

Miss Claire Yarter and Miss Jean Schartz will represent the Nazareth College Forensic Society at Hobart College in Geneva. There they will engage in a discussion on "Expectations of the Post War World" with a few of the members of the V-12 Training Unit on Saturday evening, Mar. 18.

Even A City Guy

Whether a farmer or not, you have an interest in the land, no matter who uses it. If it is being used wisely, you and your children may have enough to eat; if it is being wasted, the future Americans may go on shorter rations.—William R. Van Dersal, The New Land Pattern.

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