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National Council of Catholic Women

Guardians of Reverence

By Rev. Albert J. Shamon, Director

"We are living in what might properly be called an era of carnality." (Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen).

A pure girl in New York, for instance, is such a rarity today that Walter Winchell would write a paragraph about her and call it "Broadway Allen." But purity and chastity are alien to the world today because women have let down their guard, viz., modesty.

Modesty is an exterior virtue; it protects and safeguards interior chastity.

Modesty has special reference to the eyes, ears, lips and hands — to all the external senses. It admits of no glances or touches for example, which would endanger chastity.

Modesty is the armor, chastity is the protected life behind it.

Now if the world is impure today, it is because woman first became impure.

And if woman became impure, it is first because they put off the armor of modesty.

Women are the guardians of reverence. For, outside the realm of religion, wealth of nature is the most reverent thing on the face of the earth.

As a young girl, she is the guiding genius of potential fruitfulness.

As spouse, she is the object of man's most ardent love here below.

As mother, she is the foundation of love, the symbol of devotion and utter self-annihilation, which is the heart of love.

In a word, women are the guardians of reverence because they, of all God's creatures, are most sacred.

For that reason men take their cue in the matter of purity from women. When women have no just regard for their own sacred character, men will have none. For as St. Jerome wrote: "Man is flame and woman is fuel and the devil blows on both." As the flame cannot burn without fuel, so the flaming youths of our modern culture would soon die out were it not for irreverent, immodest, the entirely too complaisant girls of the twentieth century.

On the contrary when women have a just regard for their own sacred character, men also will have.

You will never see a real man tip his hat to the sirens of the cinema, but you will see a real man tip his hat to a real woman — a nun passing by.

Men have little respect for the Hollywood type, because the Hollywood type have little respect for themselves.

And men, in general, are becoming less and less reverent towards women in general because women in general are becoming more and more like the Hollywood type.

A 'QUEEN' PAYS HOMAGE

Before the statue of the "Queen of Heaven" on Nazareth College campus, the College Queen of May, Miss Catherine Foley, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John M. Foley, 395 Wellington Ave., Rochester, pauses to place wreaths of roses in homage to the heavenly Queen.

Sodality of Our Lady

Our Lady's Building

By REV. ROY B. MORPHY
Diocesan Director for Sodalities

In almost every country there is a Central Office of the Sodality of Our Lady. In the United States that Central Office is in St. Louis, Missouri. It is usually referred to as "The Queen's Work."

At this Central Office there are eight Jesuit priests and about sixty lay persons who give full time to the promotion of the work of the Sodality. Well do our Sodalities know the wonderful cooperative service and personal help given to directors and Sodalists all over the country by these zealous people. We cannot begin to measure the value of this national office and the contribution it is making to the thousands of Sodalities.

It is with that thought in mind that I give you the following article written by Miss Dorothy Willman of the Queen's Work staff for the April issue of the Directors' Bulletin. Housed in three dilapidated old houses and handicapped for lack of space and modern equipment, the Central Office is endeavoring to purchase a modern six-story building which will offer them the opportunity of giving even more efficient and more widespread service. I am certain that the Sodalities of our diocese will want to respond to this appeal, for they realize it will be returned to them in the increased service, which this new building will afford the Central Office.

THE CENTURY CLUB

By Miss Dorothy J. Willmann

For years, in traveling about the United States and Canada in the interests of the Sodality of Our Lady, it has been my proud privilege to work with Directors and Sodalists under their respective auspices, in hundreds and hundreds of places. It was encouraging to hear from priests and laity alike such comments as: "We are most grateful for all that the Central Office has done for us. Never is a request for service too small or too large. How do you manage to give us all that you do? Are you heavily endowed? Where do you get the funds to carry on this great apostolate for the Blessed Mother?"

The answers to such comments are simply summarized: "We are not heavily endowed; in fact we are not endowed at all. Funds to carry on the work are made by offering supplies for sale, at next to cost price, and through periodicals, booklets, and gratuities received from lecturing. But the priests of the staff have always ordered (and it is about the only adamant order that any member of the staff has ever received) that we give whatever service is possible absolutely gratis."

There has never been any question for money for anything that the Parish Department has ever done. Even when service has demanded traveling great distances, such travel has been undertaken whether those whom we visited were able to take care of traveling expenses or not. When they were, we were most grateful; when they weren't, there was never any question asked by the priests of the staff. The Parish Department budget, amounting to many thousands of dollars, was supplied just the same.

With the exception of the Directors' Bulletin, no published service has ever had a fee attached. And even with the Directors' Bulletin, the only hope has been the actual cost of production would be covered.

It is in fairness now to you and your Sodalists that this is being written. From the generous expressions of appreciation which you have made in the past, I believe that you and your Sodalists will want to share in the necessary project which has been undertaken by the Central Sodality Office. I believe that you and your Sodalists will wish to help us buy our new building. And I think we should give you that opportunity.

The Century Club, about which you have probably read in THE QUEEN'S WORK, has been established. Those who, individually or as a group, contribute one hundred dollars or more, become members of the Century Club. Their names will be placed on a large, permanent plaque in the lobby of the building, to remain there as long as the building stands.

For those who prefer to be more technical and specific, it is possible to buy one or more cubic feet in the new building. One cubic foot can be purchased for one dollar.

Perhaps some of the larger Sodalities or Sodality Unions (who honestly feel that the Central Office has been unusually helpful to them) will wish to do more. There are approximately 110 offices in the new building. Each will cost about $230; equipment on the whole, will cost another $150. These offices may be bought. The donor's name will appear on the door of such donated offices.

In return for what you do for us that we may help you to serve Our Lady and her cause, we can only promise a continuance of our whole-hearted service of our desire to do all that we can for you.

If any person, priest or lay, or any group wishes to contribute to this new building for Our Lady, send your gift, large or small, to me or to your Deanery Director, who will forward it to the Central Office in St. Louis. If you prefer, send it direct to The Queen's Work Office, 3742 West Pine Boulevard, St. Louis, 8, Missouri.

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Sheila Tells How to be Top Man on the Date Parade

By SHEILA JOHN DALY

SO YOU'VE been having trouble getting dates lately, have you? All the girls you'd like to take out have a date schedule so full that it would make President Truman's work week look like a summer vacation. You have the time and the inclination to date some of the prettiest gals you know, but other fellows seem to have priority rating over you.

Sheila John Daly

You're just as eager as the next joe to make with the date offers for that cute gal in chem class, but for a date with her the line forms to the right, and you're fifth in line. You're beginning to feel like the droop of the troop simply because you can't have a date with the girl you'd like best to take out. Well, let's solve that, but quickly.

You could, of course, give up with a cry of sour gripes, but that's the coward's way out. Any gal would be happy to date you if you were a truly interesting date. So that's your problem. You could be smoother and smarter than you are — in fact, you could be right out there on cloud number eight, rubbing nose to Gregory Peck and Peter Lawford, top man on the date parade, with very little trouble at all.

When a gal is besieged by young men in plaid sport coats, all bearing nosegays and coming up with exciting plans for next Friday night, it takes a young joe with plans even more exciting to turn her attention his way. And you're just the young joe who can do it. No prosaic plans of a movie and coke later for you and your gal; instead yours will be an evening of surprising or different fun — or an afternoon of it, for all of that. Take your pick. If the gal's evenings are completely filled from now till who knows when, make your date for an afternoon instead.

Break out your blue jeans, your bright plaid shirt, and your walking shoes, and ask the gal to do the same. For you're off for a walking tour of the city zoo, completely equipped with camera and picnic lunch to eat on the way. You don't have to walk to the zoo and back, of course; there will be plenty of chance for a lot of future laughs when you pose each other feeding peanuts to the elephants. And it will also provide you with an excellent opportunity to see the girl again, since you'll simply have to get together to show her the pictures after you have them printed. Aren't you the wily one, tho!

Or if both of you work on Saturdays, you can ask her to have lunch with you. And whether lunch means broiled lobster on gold-plated dishes or hamburgers and malts for two at a corner lunchroom, a girl is flattered to have you ask her.

Or perhaps there's a name band coming to town for a limited engagement. Then pillage your piggy bank and get her for a big evening, for almost no girl could resist an invitation to share with you in the fun of listening to some one like T. Dorsey or Vaughn Monroe beat out that music. And if you'll send her next day the name band's recording of whatever song she liked best she'll have more permanent memories of your evening together.

With a beginning like any one of these, a girl will probably be interested and want to go out with you again — and again. But just to help keep yourself in her mind between dates, you might send her a flower or a recording that she likes particularly. All of this takes a little time and thought and planning, but if she's as wonderful as you seem to think, she should be worth it.

Girl Who Wouldn't Say H--- In Family of 9 Converts

North Lewisburg — (NC) — A convert family of nine — Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Kitchen and their seven children—were baptized together and the following day received First Communion together at Immaculate Conception mission here.

They received their instructions from the Rev. William Buchheit, of St. Michael's Church, Mechanicsburg, who takes care of the mission.

Acknowledging his pleasure at being able to instruct such an enthusiastic and responsive group, Father Buchheit reported that all members of the family studied their catechism faithfully and that only on one "quite excusable" occasion did he fail to get a correct answer to his questions.

"It was Patty's turn—Patty, the youngest of the family, just seven and a half years of age," he related. "I had asked her: 'What happened to the angels who did not remain faithful to God?' There was no response. I repeated the question. Again little Patty remained silent. At that moment her father explained how she feared to use the word 'hell.'

"That meant explaining to her where and when the word can be rightly used," Father Buchheit added. "Which I did. And, lo and behold, Patty rattled off the answer, 'The angels who did not remain faithful to God were cast into hell.'"

Africa Mission For Maryknoll

New York — (NC) — The Maryknoll Fathers have been assigned by the Holy See to a new mission field in Tanganyika Territory, Africa, Bishop James E. Walsh, Superior General, has announced. This marks the first time that Maryknollers have been assigned to labor in the Dark Continent.

The new Maryknoll territory has been separated from the Vicariate of Mwanza, which is under the direction of the Dutch White Fathers. The new mission includes about 300,000 persons and is situated just below the equator.

Names of Mother

Mother!
How sweet the name rolls on the tongue!
It brings music to the heart.
It spells tears, and joy, and sacrifice,
In which we cause a part.

Mother!
The name was whispered on the cross
When just before He died,
Christ bequeathed to us His Mother dear—
Gift of the crucified.

Mary A. Ganey

Galvin, K. of C. Leader, Named N. D. Trustee

Notre Dame, Ind. — Timothy P. Galvin, Hammond, Ind., attorney and Deputy Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, has been elected a member of the Associate Board of Lay Trustees at the University of Notre Dame, it was announced here by the Rev. J. Hugh O'Donnell, C.S.C., President of Notre Dame.

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