Marriages Saved, Protected As Cana Conference Results

Washington — (NC) — The marvelous results achieved by the Cana movement, which within the last ten months has taught more than 1,000 couples inthe Chicago area how to achieve greater married happiness, were outlined here by the Rev. John J. Egan, director of the Cana Conference for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

While stressing in an interview that the movement, founded only three years ago in Chicago, does not profess to be a marriage clinic, Father Egan at the same time declared that it has saved some marriages from ruin and has brought greater happiness to countless others by imbuing couples with the Christian aspect on married life. During the past year 1,250 married couples from the Chicago area participated in Cana conferences and about 650 engaged couples took part in pre-Cana conferences

What the conferences have done can be gathered from the reaction of a husband who has been married 17 years. Answering a questionaire on what he got out of the sessions, the husband stated "This conference has not only preserved my marriage, but it has restored my faith I have been very bitter and disillusioned about marriage because my wife and I remained separate individuals

Explains Words Meaning

Explaining the title Cana Conference, Father Egan said the word Cana was selected because of its identification with the biblical setting of the marriage feast which Christ honored by His attendance, and at which He performed His first miracle

The Cana movement was started in Chicago in 1944 by the Rev John Delaney, S.J., and has been developed under the sponsorship of a small group of lay men and women as a project in Catholic Action. Father Egan related

Outlining a typical Cana day, the Chicago director said that it begins with a Dialogue Mass and Holy Communion After break fast the conferences are held in a lounge or library where every effort is made to insure comfort and keep the meetings informal. Couples sit in easy chairs and smoke if they desire Conferences, which last about a half hour, are given by the priest director who speaks on such subjects as sources of marital unhappiness, factors in married happiness, discipline of children, psychological union A talk on the physical aspects of marriage is given by a Catholic physician.

Questions Answered

There is also a round table discussion on any topic that the conferees may wish to discuss Likewise, any one may drop questions into a box which will be answered and discussed by the priest director. High on the list of questions asked by the couples are ones pertaining to the Church's doctrine on birth control and the rhythm theory, achieving happiness through marriage relations, imparting of sex instruction to children and how to rear them as good Christians, the importance of children in the family, and the budgeting of the family income.

The day ends with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament during which the priest reads the nuptial prayers and, hand in hand, couples repeat their marriage vows.

While all age groups take part in the conferences, Father Egan related, the participants agree that the younger couples stand to benefit much more from the sessions. Answering a questionaire on this point, a husband who had been married four years stated: "A Cana Conference should be insisted on for a newly married couple shortly after marriage, allowing just enough time for the couple to become familiar with the problems of married life" A wife married five years declared "Conferences should be held especially after a couple is married only a short time, six months or one year"

Aim of Engaged Couples

Turning to the pre-Cana conferences for engaged couples, Father Egan stated that their aim is the same as that of the Cana Conferences to insure married happiness The pre-Cana Conferences are divided into four meetings one all-day and three evening sessions, all of which are attended jointly by the engaged couples

The all day session starts with Mass and Communion During the day there are three conferences and an opportunity for asking questions and informal discussion. The evening sessions are given on three consecutive weeks On the first night a husband and wife from the Cana movement will talk on how to get along in married life On the second evening the couples are separated into boys' and girls' groups and a doctor addresses each group on the physical aspects of marriage while on the third evening a priest explains the Church's attitude on marriage and the marriage regulations of Canon Law

The reaction of practically all 650 couples who attended the conferences last year was that the sessions greatly increased their chances for happy married life "I am sure that the conferences will make marriages happier" stated a 22 year-old youth answering the questionaire Responding to the question whether any of her ideas were changed during the conference, a 18-year-old girl said "I never could see why birth control was so terrible, but now I know"

A LOOK AT LABOR

—By A. C. Tusky—

Democracy is not always easy to define. But generally it means the rule of the people. And the people generally rule through their majority. Even though there are 130,000,000 people in the United States, it only takes around 25,000,000 votes to elect a president, because this represents a majority of those who cast ballots in the presidential election This system has its defects but it is the best that we can think of. Perhaps there are some 80,000,000 Americans who could vote, but there are always countless voters who are too lazy or indifferent to go to the voting booth on Election Day. Consequently, we determine our majority not by the number who are eligible to vote but by the number who actually vote This is standard democratic procedure.

The Taft-Hartley Act, however ignores the democratic tradition in elections and adds something new It says that before a union can obtain the union shop from the employer, requiring all workers to belong to the union to hold their jobs, a majority of those eligible to vote must authorize the union shop In other words, the majority is determined not by those who vote but by those who are eligible to vote This means that if there are 1,000 workers in a plant of whom only 600 vote, the union will not win the election with a majority of 301 It must get 501 of the 600 votes because 501 represents a majority of the eligible 1,000

If this standard was applied to Congressional elections and candidates for office were required to obtain a majority of all eligible voters, we would have very few Senators and Representatives Yet Trade unionism is to be saddled with an election principle which has no rival for its severity in any corner of the democratic globe

The Legislators defended their position by maintaining that an overwhelming majority (83 per cent) of all workers usually voted in Board elections They pointed out that the voting has usually taken place on company property during work hours Since the workers had the alternative of staying on the job or taking time off to vote, obviously he has every reason for voting The Congress felt therefore that it was doing no harm to labor by making this practice compulsory

Under the present law, however, the employer who allows an election on company time and property is exceptionally generous Every worker who stays away from the poll is just as important to the employer as the one who votes "NO" Every non vote casts a negative vote The more people who go home without voting the more anti union votes can the employer depend upon. Consequently it is the employer's advantage to see that the elections are held after working hours and at some place outside of his place of store. Many workers living an eight hour day are going to find it most inconvenient to spend another hour going to the polling place to cast a ballot. Consequently many more will stay away to the great pleasure of the employer Under such circumstances it is a union to get a union shop

It is provisions such as this one which have caused the resentment by labor against the Taft-Hartley Act And it is these slick changes in the law which makes the outsider wonder whether or not labor is not right when it says that those responsible for the legislation really want to make the labor movement weak Certainly there is no justification for introducing into union elections a procedure which is not used in any other democratic election.

MEN OF MOSCOW: RED INTRIGUE

by JOHN O'CONNOR

VII—In the Shadow of the Curtain

Austria has been stripped rather than strapped. American Army journals have used strong language in exposing the machinations of the men of Moscow in their drive to form a Danube federation and include Austria in it.

There are several Communist Party members in the Austrian Parliament and one avowed Communist in the Cabinet: Karl Altenman, Minister of Power and Economy. Austrian properties, labelled 'German' by the Nazi robbers have been confiscated by the Reds because of the false label.

Marx's Germany

Traditionally, Germany has been one of the strongest centers of Communism in the world Not only a legacy of Marx, it has also been a tradition in cities such as Hamburg and Bremen. At this writing Washington sources predict a Eastern Germany may be completely Sovietized; b) there may be separate treaty for the United States, France, and Great Britain before a critical winter sets in.

Long the leader of the German Reds is Wilhelm Pieck—if you read the Saturday Evening Post HE IS NOT. Neither is Walter Ulbright or Paul Merker. **The real leader is Ernest Freidrich Wollweber, one of the top Soviet Espionage men in the world.** His fingerprints and profile are in nearly every police file in the world. Hitler placed a million dollar reward for his head. Sweden jailed him but not for long The FBI is said to have alerted American harbor police against him

When the Swedes jailed him, the Russians filed papers accusing him of theft—and he was extradited to Russia before the Swedes had a chance to try him! Today he is back in Germany

Lest we forget, there is also the "Military Comittee for the Renovation of Germany" a group of 10,000 German officers heavily sprinkled with Soviet spies as an insurance of loyalty. The group is under the nominal command of Count von Einsiedel and Field Marshal von Paulus, captured at Stalingrad. They have at their disposal some two million German labor slaves who are away from Europe and who might embrace Communism in an effort to get home Others, professional soldiers, bitter against England and France and contemptuous of the U. S., might welcome a chance to work for the Kremlin

Labelle France

France has the largest Communist Party in Europe It is organized and led by those Moscow trained veterans, Maurice Thorez and Jacques Duclos At the present writing 184 members of the Chamber of Deputies are members of the Party Duclos, it will be recalled, is the person whose speech unseated Browder in this country

A year ago in the general election the Communists are reported to have spent ten times as much as the other parties. If you will check the facts for that period of time, you will also discover that C-47 Lend Lease planes were flying gold, dollars and pounds into Paris just before the elections. There was no commercial necessity for such shipments...!

On the Channel

The 'Low Countries' have not been neglected. Belgium has at least 33 Communists in her parliament and recently counted four in the premier's cabinet. Her danger lies not only in her ports but in the huge colony the Congo where Russian propaganda is often dumped ashore from freighters

Holland, home-office of the richest colonial empire on earth, has home problems to lend to as well as the revolt of supppressed natives in the Far East.

There are at least 15 Communists in the Parliament, led by one Pieter de Groot, Party chairman and leader in the Parliament. Other active leaders are Senator A J Koejeman and G. Wagenaar.

The Isles

Although Irish authorities like to pretend there is no attraction for Communism amongst their people, unfortunately the case is not entirely a sound one. 1933 was the last time a Communist ran on a ticket in Ireland. He was a poor, last.

Yet there are Irish in London and in the slums of England, the United States and Australia who are Communists of the most active and clever sort. One of the paradoxes of the Emerald Isle is this: those who are radical go to the extreme of anarchism—which is far more radical than Marxism. One of the most active and long-serving Reds in the United States is a woman of Irish descent.

Top-drawer man in English Communism is reported to be P. Pirelin. Mr. Gallacher, House of Commons man from Scotland, is the official parliamentary representative There is another leader in London named Zilleaus his presence and means of getting there being quite a mystery.

Recently R Palme Butt, vice chairman of the Party in England, opened the Empire Conference with a demand that India, Burma, Ceylon, Egypt and Palestine be freed, Cyprus united with a " . democratic Greece," and Malta with "a . . . democratic Italy." (Cyprus, incidentally, has 4000 Communists, most of them DPs!) The British Communist press is a faithful echo of Moscow's papers and programs.

Spain and Portugal

Not even the Falange or the secret police has been able to stop the growth of the Spanish Communist Party. The temporary home of the Spanish Communists is just over the border in Toulouse, France. In charge is none other than Dolores Ibarrul, notorious Spanish Loyalist. Working out of headquarters is a secret operational committee called "Delegacion del Comite del Partido Communista Espanol." There are probably 25,000 highly trained Communists in Spain, 1300 around Seville, 3500 around Madrid. Their propaganda is printed in France or in Latin America. The 12,000 guerrillas who are still fighting in Spain are armed via the French border

The last big figure to be caught was Vincente Murza, an important Spanish Communist and a former French maquis. According to the police, he was over the border to engage in "terroristic activities."

Internal rumblings give rise to rumors. Some observers feel that Salazar's one-party state may find its chief opposition from the M.U.D. (Movimento Unidada Democratica). The inefficiency of this organization would belie the presence of a trained Communist cell.

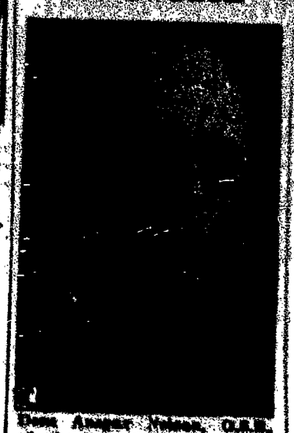
Italy's Togliatti

Home of the Vatican, chief target of the Kremlin, Italy may possibly fall into the hands of one of the most highly-trained and capable Communists to ever graduate from Moscow. Palmiro Togliatta. A professional Communist for a generation, he helped found the Party in 1921. Once, from exile he turned over the names of the Italian Socialists to the Kremlin Moscow felt they were hampering the Communist underground in Italy They were liquidated!

Among his personal friends are Joseph Stalin, Ana Pauker, Maurice Thorez, Klement Gottwald, Dimitrov, Rakosi, Pieck, Kussinen. In other words: meet the graduate school faculty

There are 108 Communists in the legislature and four in the cabinet Pietro Secchia, party organizer, stated he will attain a Communist cell and section for every church tower in Italy At this writing he has 8635 sections totalling 34,450 cells.

To Sweden



Dom Anselm Nelson, O.S.B., of the Benedictine Priory at Portsmouth, R. I., has been named Coadjutor to Bishop Johannes Erik Mueller, Vicar Apostolic of Sweden. Bishop-elect Nelson was born in Denmark 41 years ago, came to the United States in 1930, was received into the Catholic Church in 1936 and was ordained in 1947. (Bachrach Photo)

Notre Dame Adds New Teachers

Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — Eight men from Europe and South America are among 36 new teachers who have been added to the faculty of the University of Notre Dame for the coming school year, according to an announcement by the school here.

Twenty-one of the new faculty members have been added in the College of Arts and Letters, four in the College of Engineering, four in the College of Science, four in the College of Commerce and three in the College of Law.

Those from overseas are: Dr. Ludwig Rieler, archivist of the National Library of Ireland, Dublin, to be assistant professor of classical languages; Jean P. Gallichon, associate editor of L'Epoque, Paris, to be lecturer in French literature; the Rev. Nicholas Horvath, Budapest, to be University lecturer in philosophy.

Also: the Rev. J. F. Smyth, Liverpool, to be visiting lecturer in architecture; Dr. Albert L. Deville, of the National University, Medellin, Colombia, to be associate professor of biology and herbarium curator; and Dr. Paul Doty, London, to be assistant professor of chemistry.

Best Sellers

A moral evaluation of current books, published by "Best Sellers," The University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa.

I—Suitable for any class of readers

Dust on the King's Highway, White.
Hurricane Warning, Meier.
Lament for William, Russell.
The Game Cock and Other Stories, McTaverty.
Paradise Alley, Sheridan.
The Saving Sense, Nevils.
Together, Marshall.

II—Suitable for ADULTS ONLY because content and style too advanced for adolescents.

Behind the Silken Curtain, Crum.
Father and the Angels.
Four Stars of Hell, Critchell.
Inside Asia, Gunther.
Kingsblood Royal, Lewis.
Peace Breaks Out, Thirkell.
Prince of Darkness, Powers.
Report from Spain, Hughes.
Report on the Germans, White
Miracle of the Bells, Jenney.

III—Suitable for ADULTS ONLY because of immoral incidents which do not invalidate the book as a whole:

Friends and Lovers, Mac Innes.
Give Us Our Dreams, Geertz.
Hope of the Earth, Runbeck.
The Last Days of Hitler, Trevor-Roper.

IV—Not recommended to any class of readers:

The Children, Fast.
Dull the Sharp Edge, Marsh.
An Essay on Morals, Wylie.
The Heller, Hensing.
I, the Jury, Spillane.
Kenny, Bromfield.
Mr. On Leong, Randish.
Smith Unbound, Dilworth.

Envoy To Come Here

Rome (NC) Tullio Franco Franco, Ambassador Extraordinary of the Dominican Republic to the Holy See, is preparing to leave here after an audience with the Holy Father. He will go to Lake Success, N. Y., to represent his country at the United Nations.

Dr. White Elected

Toronto—(NC)—Dr. Helen C. White, of Rosindale, Mass., author, educator and Lactare Medalist of 1942, has been elected a vice president of the International Federation of University Women. Dr. White is a professor of English at the University of Wisconsin and the author of "Dust on the King's Highway."

The Literary Crusade

Clubs Over Cultures—IV

By John O'Connor

In protesting the pernicious presence of the cryptical 'book clubs' in the United States, we might have a look at other means of insuring the success of a book before it reaches the counters. This is a phenomenon of our times and perfectly in keeping with the promotion-mindedness and pragmatism that has distinguished American private lives, public lives, yes, even the highest office in the land and the highest court in the nation.

However, since those who are instrumental or responsible for disseminating ideas are the most responsible to the public, it might be a good idea to see how some of these ideas are put over to the public. In this regard there are certain sections of the press which are as a murderer caught with a smoking pistol.

Years ago the late, great Heywood Broun wrote that if he had his own newspaper he would eliminate the large headlines. He was right. Too many people are heading readers, and irate newspapermen will be glad to tell you. And in all respect to the artists of a difficult field, there is too much headline reading and too little reading of the news behind the headlines.

* * *

The same situation holds in the book field. I will continue to stress this point: people feel they 'must' get a book—even before it is on the stands. And the reviewer who has seen the book weeks before knows it is a bad book. The hours spent on the sophomoric bilitation and childish preoccupation with sex that is to be found in some modern novels might be better spent in a game of wit-sharpening poker or bridge.

Thus, the reviewer reads the book ahead of time. He knows and feels the work is a bad one. He says exactly that in the words allotted to him. And what happens?

His review, with some haste and finely drawn distinctions appears. Across the page facing his review, perhaps in color, there is an advertisement costing thousands and written by some clever huckster who hopes to read the book he is praising.

* * *

The founder of advertising power—another name for wealth—has devoted out the human opinion of the reviewer, that the universal and the commoner and the millions of casual buyers answer the advertisement. They buy! And they slip down another rung into the literary hell that is intellectual sterility, critical inertancy, guided opinion, and literary vandalism.

It is rare that American book critics are cops with advertising pressure. The necessity of integrity does hard apparently. And this is especially true of the reviewers who are brave enough to continually disagree with book clubs, foundations, and guilds—and who don't give a hoot about a book merely because the publisher has signed up sufficient for so many lines of ads.

The Book Clubs have Hollywood on their side—and Hollywood in turn has the book clubs to make way for such nothing, super-colossal dynamic productions—which is invariably a case of a mountain of publicity labouring to bring forth a mouse. Hollywood is supposed to have—and suffering from their use of birth. But Hollywood is there—and the selection of the Book Club will now be announced . . . even if you protest.

* * *

Then one evening, if you're not careful, an atomic radio voice will introduce to you and you and you a dramatization of the book, starring the glamorous Tilly Tiddlywinks—star of the dramatic ability of a drugged oyster who hasn't been fed. She is supported by that great comedian (laughter, applause) Rob Roop—and his regiment of writers. (Applause, laughter.)

You have hit the jackpot—and through Hollywood — of all the dirt. The advertising budgets of the two dozen odd have made go into high gear. The screen credits will be arranged. National conventions will be delayed with 'high stories.' Meanwhile the heads of production for production also will continue to hammer away at the minds of America.

* * *

The reviewer who is honestly honest and highly critical of a book has, therefore, two hurdles to clear even if he does his best to resist the claims of selected selectionists or the Bicycle challenge. The most sure honesty against inherently limiting budget . . . and apparently there are people in Hollywood who will produce anything. Witness the ranking film of THE OUTLAW—and the attitude of producer Howard Hughes in the Legion of Decency and more recently in the dignity of the United States Senate.

And there are other questionable ways of selling books. An author of the stature of John Ray Carlson often finds a sympathetic and skrill interlocutor in a commentator the stature of Walter Winchell.

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