

Teen-Age Problem Home Training First, Then Dry Night Clubs

By MARIE WEEDMAN
Rochester Catholic Charities

Well, it was a good try, anyway. We have made an honest, sincere effort to understand American teen agers, their needs, desires and problems. No where else in the world have adolescents in a group been so provided for as in our America.

During recent years churches, schools, club social agencies and law enforcement bodies within communities have thoroughly tried to make the adolescent years of Marie Weedman's children ones of slow, positive maturing and to guide adolescent energies into constructive channels.

In our attempt to combat juvenile delinquents, misguided youths, we have provided youth recreation centers and projects of every description with a number of activities for all manner of legitimate diversion.

Despite all this, in our youth better for the understanding we have tried to give them? Are they benefiting from the excellent counseling and guidance services made available to them?

Are they better balanced individuals as a result of the thousands of dollars spent each year on education, do they reflect out hopes for the future of our country?

Of course, all this is difficult to evaluate; we can only look at small cross-sections of our youth and attempt some conclusions from personal observation and experience. And what has been the finding of the average adult who contacts young people outside the classroom? Some of us have found them frightfully unbalanced and unadjusted to public places.

We have felt a great and almost overpowering urge to tell them that no one SEES their school grades, or their math achievement tests, but everyone sees their behavior in public places. They are the first armored division and continue in loud, ranting

Medical, Legal Experts Score Birth Ban Bill

Boston — (NC) Medical, legal and other experts joined three Catholic prelates here in opposing a bill which would allow Massachusetts physicians to give contraceptive advice to married women under some circumstances. Opposition was expressed at hearings on the bill at the State House.

Dr. Arthur Buckley of New Bedford declared that many married women seek birth control advice not because their health is endangered but from selfishness so they can continue their careers, cocktail parties, and bridge games. The bill provides that contraceptive advice may be given to married women for the protection of life and health.

The proposed bill is a violation of "basic moral principles with grave social consequences," the three prelates who attacked the bill stated. The prelates were Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston, Bishop Thomas M. O'Leary of Springfield, and Bishop James E. Cassidy of Fall River. Ex-Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield of Boston, a leading opponent to the bill who read the prelates' statement, said that Catholics were not alone in urging its defeat.

DR. JOHN ROE of Pittsfield, one of several doctors from that city who spoke against the bill, said the medical profession feels "no crying need" for such legislation, and that almost every week married couples come to his office asking how they can have children. "That seems to be the chief worry," he asserted, "not how to avoid having children."

James N. Clark, Winchester atorney, termed the bill a "wretched piece of straw man legislation" that it permits contraceptive treatment and advice but still penalizes anyone who manufactures or distributes it. "You can't very well legalize the use of them and penalize the manufacturer," declared the attorney. Describing himself as a "ninth generation Puritan," Mr. Clark said that it was untrue that Catholics are leading opposition to the bill.

Stating that Catholics are not alone in opposing the bill, the prelates' statement continued: "We realize that other citizens, including some distinguished religious leaders, do not agree with us. We do not question the conscientious nature of their opinions. None the less, we remain convinced that the legislative action now sought would violate basic moral principles with grave social consequences, and would be a step in a dangerous direction."

Visits Eire



Seven-year-old Margaret O'Brien, the Hollywood film star, this week passed through London with her mother on their way to Dublin and then to Sligo, home town of the O'Brien grandfather. The Catholic Herald report of her press conference in London said that reporters interviewing her found she was "an ordinary, delightfully-mannered child, excited at visiting a foreign city for the first time."

Boston Reports Many Converts

Boston (NC) In the two years during which the Chapel of the Holy Ghost and the Catholic Information Center have been maintained here by the Paulist Fathers, it has been estimated that more than 30,000 persons have visited the institution and some 100,000 pamphlets and booklets have been distributed.

The center is located on staid old Park Street, where Daniel Webster used to visit friends and where General the Marquis de Lafayette drove in his coach and four to the cornerstone laying of the Bunker Hill Monument.

Missioner Asks Catechist Aid

Washington (NC) The Rev. James Mellett, S. J., missioner in Africa for 21 years, has arrived in the United States to prepare for Christianization of a new area of some 800,000 pagans in the interior of Sierra Leone, British West Africa.

Stamp Will Honor Four Chaplain Heroes

Washington (MNS) A commemorative three-cent stamp honoring the four chaplains who sacrificed their lives when the troop transport, SS Dorchester, was torpedoed in 1943, is scheduled for release on May 28. It was announced here.

Chaplain At Alintree

London (NC) Msgr. Walter Traynor, pastor of Our Lady and St. Bernard's, Liverpool, is official "chaplain" to the local racetrack at Alintree, where most of Britain's big steeplechases, including the "Grand National," are run.

Pope Hopes U. S. Children May Escape Europeans' Fate

Rome (NC) His Holiness Pope Pius XII, addressing an audience in his private library made up mostly of American school children, parents and teachers, expressed the wish that the United States may be spared the "unholy horror" Europe has endured in seeing children taken from their parents and schools to be "formed or deformed by alien teachers at the bidding of their sacrilegious captors." The Pope closed by giving his blessing and praying for deliverance from such evils.

House Hears McCollum Case Verdict Scored

Washington — (NC) — Two members of the House of Representatives roundly condemned the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Champaign, Ill. released-time case, in speeches on the House floor.

One of them, Representative Sam Hobbs of Alabama asserted that "what has happened now is that the United States Supreme Court has upheld the erroneous claim that the states are interdicted by the First Amendment, and also that the First Amendment means that which was never intended."

Earlier Representative Charles J. Kersten of Wisconsin, told the House that the United States educational system "can be realistic only if it affords our children the means of discovering the knowledge whereby the sophistry of Communism can be overcome."

HE SAID he regarded the Supreme Court ruling as a "tragic decision," which makes "it impossible for our educational system to provide for any kind of general religious instruction of our public school children."

Representative Hobbs said in 1940 the Supreme Court enacted the doctrine that the 14th Amendment imposed on the states the duty required of Congress by the First Amendment. He added that the court's latest decisions—the New Jersey school bus case and the Champaign case—"go so far beyond all former decisions as to cause the fear, if not the certitude, that the effect will be to destroy every mark that characterizes this nation dedicated to God and to freedom of worship."

"I WANT to call attention," Mr. Hobbs continued, "to just a few truths that are self-evident. I believe that they are, the epitome, the essence of our problem. This: Our forefathers came here for the priceless privilege of worshipping God, not for the purpose of ignoring Him; the essence of the religious philosophy of the United States of America has always been the absolute guaranty of freedom of religion, never of freedom from religion."

According to custom, the one with the best table manners gets first choice of dessert. This applies only to the three middle girls. Pat and Johnny are above this and Virginia below it. Mary had spilled a glass of milk and Markie had sneaked a piece of chicken to Sarge — both pretty serious misdemeanors.

THE REST of the dinner went off smoothly, and as we elders went to the living room for coffee, the girls did the dishes.

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At Our House "Fussin' and A-Feudin' And A-Fightin'"

By MARY TINLEY DALY

Jim Moneyway, our guest last Sunday, stretched out his long legs, puffed his pipe contentedly and sipped a drink as he and the Head of the House talked and waited for dinner to be announced.

"Mighty peaceful out here, Jack," he commented, "and with all these kids! Do they all ways get along as well as this?" Putting the last minute touches to the dining room table, I glanced into the living room and caught the eye of Mary Daly, of the Head of the House.

"They have their moments," he said noncommittally. Breathing a silent prayer that the temporary mood of tranquility would continue, I rang the dinner bell. In they came—from the back yard, from the basement, from upstairs—and the men from the living room. May they could keep up the illusion at least during Jim's visit.

REVERENTLY, nine heads were bowed as grace was said—but there were furtive glances to appraise the big platter of fried chicken. Even with three chickens—six drumsticks—a feud was possible, but I hoped for the best.

The Head of the House filled the plates; breast and upper joint for Jim, a drumstick and another piece for each of the children, a breast for me and a couple of necks (his own uncontested choice) for himself. There were plenty of mashed potatoes, gravy and string beans—and every body went to work on dinner.

"Our guest first," said the Head of the House sternly. "No, thank you," said Jim. "I've had plenty and I still have a piece."

"Don't you want that nice upper joint, Mr. Moneyway?" asked Eileen, nudging him with her elbow.

"Oh, yes—yes, indeed," Jim grinned as he took the proffered piece and appreciatively put it onto Eileen's plate.

MANY PAIRS of blue eyes caught the transaction, but nobody said a word. Wings and backs were passed around, together with additional helpings of mashed potato and gravy.

"Who gets first choice of dessert?" asked Markie. According to custom, the one with the best table manners gets first choice of dessert. This applies only to the three middle girls. Pat and Johnny are above this and Virginia below it.

Mary had spilled a glass of milk and Markie had sneaked a piece of chicken to Sarge — both pretty serious misdemeanors. According to custom, the one with the best table manners gets first choice of dessert. This applies only to the three middle girls.

THE REST of the dinner went off smoothly, and as we elders went to the living room for coffee, the girls did the dishes. "I can't get over how well those children get along," said Jim again.

Just then the "conversation" in the kitchen became rather loud—slightly above the conversational pitch. "You girls may play the kitchen radio," I called. That helped. Either the radio drowned out the argument or they became interested in the program. It didn't matter. Peace was restored, at any rate.

165,000 Clothing Articles Collected

Hartford—(NC)—The State of Connecticut leads the nation in the Central European Infant Clothing Campaign sponsored by the National Catholic Women's Union, it has been announced. So far 165,000 articles have been collected in the drive, and Connecticut has contributed 56,000. Goal is 1,000,000 articles of baby clothing.

In a recent message in connection with the campaign, Mrs. Mary Filser Lohr of New York City, chairman, declared: "The crying need, the desperate pleas of women and children in their hour of suffering and want are becoming far more serious than we can imagine. With outstretched hands they patiently wait and pray for your kind charity and helpfulness."

Province Names Catholic Begins, Sask. — (NC) — Dr. John M. Uhrich, 70, physician and surgeon, who has been named Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan, is a well-known Catholic lay leader and has given years of service to the provincial government.

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