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**Teen Talks**  
**Spree for Two**

By NORMA DE PREZ  
Spring was waiting for us that first morning in Frankfurt, Germany — and so was Spike Jones. My father and I hurried out of our hotel and down toward the main square



large enough to make proper recognition of a sneeze. I looked up to see a tall German girl of about twenty-two coming my way. Much to my relief, she explained, in English, that she would take me around the shopping district while I was waiting.

We walked down Frankfurt's Fifth Avenue. The fashionable shopping district was telescoped into one small block and the tiny shops offered cluttered displays of merchandise. My guide pointed with pride to the latest style innovations for madame. They were dress shoes made with thick, yellow plastic platform soles and high, translucent heels.

THIS, HOWEVER, was only a frivolous touch. In Frankfurt, the news look is the greatest look. It seems to be one place in the world where the female contingent does not quibble over skirt lengths or shoulder lines. Because of scarce commodities, most of the women wear heavy soled, flat heeled shoes, substantial tweeds and cotton stockings. Their spirit is not so drab as their clothes for my companion was eager to hear of Stateside styles.

We jogged in and out of several narrow streets throughout town, hopping from sidewalk to street in order to avoid the equipment of workmen busily rebuilding the bombed out sections. In some places, whole walls had been blown out leaving interiors exposed to the street. The ornate opera house seemed from the outside to be intact but was in reality a hollow shell — the result of incendiary bombing.

We neared the banks of the Maine River and walked down a few steps to a veritable Florida. The weather there was so mild that citrus fruit trees grew along the banks. Finding a bench, I collapsed into it, knowing that I could enjoy the view much better off my feet.

It was then that this charming blonde German girl explained to me that she lived four miles away from the office but enjoyed the walk. I could feel the parenthesis as she casually added that she had formerly lived in Berlin but had been bombed out three times. Suddenly, my feet didn't feel so tired.

**FOR CHILDREN IN NEED**



His Holiness Pope Pius XII respects the clothing and shoes in the papal warehouse, part of a \$500,000 shipment sent by the National Council of Catholic Women in the United States, which group conducts a continuing campaign for Children in Need in devastated areas throughout the world. With the Holy Father is Monsignor Andrew P. Landi, of Brooklyn, Director in Italy of War Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference.

**At Our House**  
**A Pyramid That Did**

By MARY TINLEY DALY  
Pyramid clubs had a short life and a lively one in our town — as they probably had to them at our house when a House one evening: "How'd you like to make a lot of money in a hurry?"

Income tax was over and the morning mail had contained a lot of those open-faced envelopes — you know the kind — so the Head of the House was enthusiastic as his friend when he turned from the phone: "Don says all you have to do is pay a dollar and sign up two friends who will pay a dollar. Want to be one of my friends?"

"If you'll supply the dollar," I agreed. Why, rounding up two friends would be easy. Nothing to it. The only problem would be which two friends to let in on the secret. Before we went to bed we had the thing all figured out — twelve days from now, when the Head of the House reached the top of his pyramid, he'd have a tidy sum; then the next night I'd collect and we'd be bestowing similar gravy on our friends. This was wonderful. And Don knew people who had collected — or he knew people who knew the lucky people.

NEXT DAY I got busy on the telephone, mentally going over friends: this one might laugh, this one lived too far away. So I dialed Jodie Sullivan. "Hello," Jodie answered the phone "want to join my club?" Then I called Helen Hall. "Do you ... I began "No I'm in one already and I thought maybe you ...

Same story all through the list. Neighborhoods were forgotten, closeness of friendship ignored; ridicule was no longer of any importance. I couldn't get ONE friend, much less two!

The day went on as I dialed one number after another. The friendless woman ... Then a bright light dawned the Benson's new family who had moved onto our street a month ago. Should have called long before, but now I put on fresh lipstick the old had been chewed off. I took Stretch by the hand and went down the street.

Young Mrs. Benson opened the door with a delighted smile, such things are illegal. So we forgot our silly get-rich-quick schemes. But, legal or not, pyramid clubs were good for something — at least in one neighborhood!

AS WE WENT down the front steps Frances Edwards, from down the block, was entering the Benson's gate and we passed on the walk.

"Sign her up for your husband's pyramid club?" Frances whispered under her breath.

"No, and I'll bet you won't either," I grinned. "Call you later."

That evening Frances telephoned. "You're right," she said. "I hadn't the nerve to ask her — but aren't you glad something got us out of our shells?"

Next day the whole pyramid craze blew up in a puff when the papers blazoned the fact that such things are illegal. So we forgot our silly get-rich-quick schemes. But, legal or not, pyramid clubs were good for something — at least in one neighborhood!

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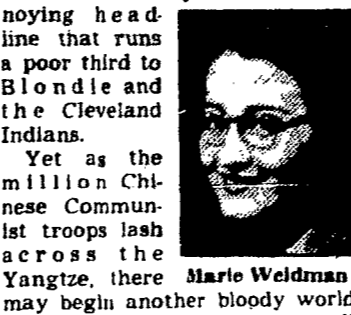
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**Women's Viewpoint**  
**How Red Can You Get?**

By MARIE WEIDMAN  
To they reat American public China seems synonymous with slow boats, three-hour laundry service and chop suey. Because we are atrophied by apathy and beset by our own Western woes, the alarming plight of the oldest civilized nation on earth is just another annoying headline that runs a poor third to Blondie and the Cleveland Indians.



Yet as the million Chinese Communist troops lash across the Yangtze, there Marie Weidman may begin another bloody world debacle and certainly there will end the forty centuries of a truly remarkable civilization.

The deep and rich culture which the Chinese possess extends so far backward into the dim reaches of time that we cannot say accurately when the Chinese did not exist. Centuries before Caesar there were Confucius and Lao-ze both of whom set the pattern for the future centuries with their serene, Golden Mean philosophy.

THREE THOUSAND years ago the Chinese excelled in the practical sciences, used the compass, and good engineering principles, studied medicine, astronomy and navigation. Europe was a Dark Age shambles (these people were perfect in their silk culture, developing the art of printing, inventing gunpowder and even spaghetti).

Their work and craftsmanship was superlative in ceramics, ivory and painting. For centuries China had already been filling municipal posts thru difficult civil service examinations, giving rise to the famous Mandarin or clerk class.

China is a country of savage poverty and constant hunger. Her farmers till every available inch of arable ground and eke out only a meagre existence. There are legions of poor in the great wall cities. But the Chinese, living primarily the life of the mind, the life of reason, have developed a patience and passivity which throughout these difficult years seems to have knit the whole sprawling nation closer together.

THE CHINESE are a sublimely reasonable people — they like a good compromise. Knowing this, it is easier to understand their outstanding virtues of tolerance, simplicity, pacifism, and to see why they could never excel in military prowess or in industrial enterprise. Their philosophy seems to insure them to each new blow from the invader — but they are not masochistic; they just love life.

Now amid all the lotus blossoms and pagodas lurks the

CHINESE REDS trained their armies with UNRRA materials and mastered their strength largely through Marshall's trusteeship when he was attempting to mediate between Reds and Nationalists. Country Gentleman Henry Wallace, after a hasty plane trip to China recommended a coalition between Nationalists and Reds, which America

backed, putting pressure on Chiang Kai-Shek.

We have shamefully abandoned Chiang and the Nationalists; although there exists an eighty-eight million dollar aid fund for China, in October 1948 not one item had been delivered to them. We have given China one-third of what we have given Greece and Turkey.

This blundering in our best American style has been abetted by a faction in our country close to policy-making headquarters which declares that the Chinese Reds are not related to the McCaw branch, but that they're agrarian reformers. How Red can you get? We may hear clear out of China now, but we shall see these same Reds again soon, when they come to fight

**Political Interests**  
**Urged On Women**

St. Louis, Mo. — (RNS) — Catholic women must become informed voters so that the Catholic viewpoint can make itself felt in present-day social, economic and legislative matters, the annual convention of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women was told here.

Dr. Paul C. Steinbicker, political science expert from St. Louis University, urged women have themselves to blame for being so "grossly unrepresented" in public office. He added that Catholic women, particularly, seem indifferent to public services.

Dr. Steinbicker urged women to join political organizations, and thereby make themselves available for political office.

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