

Rochester, N. Y. BRING YO TO AVON FOR A DIN... Avon 495 CATERING... Elite C... CATHOL on WHAA by Rev. for the CC... GIVE A Relig is the tr of Chris... GI Desser say pri... and 172 Christ... GI Silver plated tal or heads... bove... Solit

A ONE MAN CATHOLIC ART SHOW



Our Lady of the Rosary is depicted here in a one man art show at Clarke College, Dubuque. In two art students look on as faculty member Robert A. Leader exhibit chairman of the Catholic Art Association, displays his own works. (NC Photos)

Bishop Bids Women Drive Against Indecent Literature

Toledo, Ohio (NC) Women in doing it. Saving one's soul is said to be a "preparatory task" He reminded the women of their power of influence. The bishop said "I'm proud of the quality of the women. Men to a very large extent are what women make them."

All Children Get Services In British Columbia

Victoria, B. C. (NS) The British Columbia Education and Health Departments are working out a scheme whereby Roman Catholic separate school children get the same health and dental services as those enjoyed by public school children.

The Catholic Health Center in Vancouver closed recently and the B. C. Catholic Education Association said it planned to turn over the health care of its school children to the provincial government.

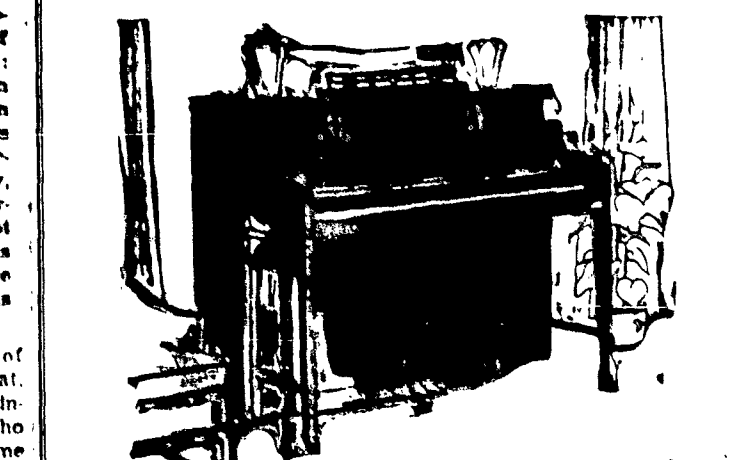
Except in the metropolitan areas of Vancouver and Victoria where health services are under local school boards, Catholic school children already are receiving all health services enjoyed by public school children through provincial health units.

In both Vancouver and Victoria Catholic children now obtain public health nursing service and immunization. In Victoria they also get medical examinations but no dental treatment through the school board.

The government plans to place all school health services under the jurisdiction of the provincial health department. This would make the services available to all children.

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Christmas Lullaby Is Family Theater Piece

Hollywood, Calif. (NC) A Christmas season fantasy starring Betty McDowell will be presented by the Family Theatre radio program on December 19 at 9:30 p. m. EST. It has been announced by the Rev. Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., founder and director of the program. The fantasy is entitled "A Lullaby of Christmas." Ruth Hussey will be the hostess for the broadcast. The Family Theatre program, which advocates family prayer, is carried over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

AMONG WOMEN

Ancient Customs

By MARY LENNON SNYDER

One of the most delightful ways of restoring Christmas to Christ is sometimes overlooked in a pursuit of a more tangible application of the slogan, "Christ in Christmas." I refer to the intensely interesting study of the evolution of seemingly pagan modern Christmas customs—a study which takes us back through the accumulated dust and disorder of the ages to the origin—often a Christian one.

Paralleling this in interest to me is the history of Christmas as observed, or ignored, through the years among non-Catholic Americans. The Puritan attitude toward Christmas is well known. In fact a law passed in Massachusetts in 1659 stated, "Whoever shall be found observing any such day, as Christmas either by feasting, or labor, or feasting in any way shall be fined five shillings."

In the puritanical laws of New England prohibiting the observance of Christmas, historians point out that there was a section of the law specifically forbidding the baking or eating of mince pie.

Why mince pie? This particular Christmas dessert through the years had become so intimately associated with the feasting on Christmas that the Pilgrims of the Massachusetts Bay Colony felt that partaking of its crusty spicy goodness was observing Christmas.

To our European ancestors the filling of mince pie was a mixture of rare and wonderful oriental ingredients, spices raising exotic fruits. What better time to serve this delectable confection than at Christmas time, for did not its ingredients recall the wonderful oriental gifts brought by the Magi to the Christ?

History books tell us that the ingenious medieval cooks used to bake this in the form of a rectangle to suggest the Manger with a cross-shaped top, thus symbolizing the manger. Putting a rectangular pie crust is no mean feat of culinary art so we must conclude that their ingenuity and imagination vied with each other in thinking of ways to welcome the Infant Saviour.

But it all points to these auspicious times where every street led to the Cathedral Square and where every supper table prepared for the feast of Christmas led to a meditation on Our Blessed Lord.

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WHAT'S DOING AT THE DALYS'

We Find A "Smart" Evening Gown

By MARY FINLEY DALY

With the holidays approaching we had a conference on the evening-gown situation at our house—Pat, Eileen and Markie, our only dancing daughters, being the conferees... and, luckily, all wearing the same size with minor alterations.

In Pat's room, we sat around and commented as Pat brought out one after another, the accumulation of the years. There was the "fair dress" Pat had almost worn to death in college, the blue and white, new for Eileen last spring, with chocolate ice-cream spot on its front; the taffeta that Pat's roommate had traded for an angora sweater; four bridesmaids' dresses... very bridesmaidly, the dress that had to be cut to ballerina length because Tarty chewed the bottom of the skirt, the dark blue very youthful one 15-year-old Eileen had worn to her first dance.

"They'll do for revamps," Pat decided, "but how's about chipping in on a new one—and drawing straws for it if we all get bids for the same night?"

Agreed. The conference adjourned with Pat and "Mom" appointed shoppers.

AT THE first store the saleswoman brought out a luscious jewel-toned gown with yards of stiff taffeta skirt.

"Why, that skirt would stand alone!" I exclaimed.

"It'd have to," Pat giggled, "there's no top to stand by it."

"Oh, but you should see it on," the saleswoman protested. "All the difference!"

So we went into the fitting room and Pat tried it on. The top was not only a mere pouf of a ruffle but the pouf went out rather than up giving the effect of even greater bareness, as though the wearer had just drawn a too-deep breath.

Others shown us were no better. "Don't you have something more modest?" we asked.

"Why, of course," the saleswoman answered. "But I didn't think you'd be interested in the 'cover-ups'."

She brought out a "cover-up"—and we definitely were not interested. It took the Oscar in the sweet, simple and girlish field: yards of pastel-colored tulle gathered onto a satin-and-tulle bodice that came cowl up and across the shoulders and ended in puffed—very puffed—sleeves, the whole business caught here and there with coquettishly placed rosebuds.

"Awfully sweet," the saleswoman murmured, spreading out the skirt over her black satin knee.

"Awfully sweet if you're going to play 'Humoresque,'" Pat whispered, "but can you imagine it at the Christmas cotillion?"

"Isn't there something well in between?" I asked. "Smart, yet modest?"

"Sorry, Madam." Black satin and pearls was already eyeing another mother-daughter twosome.

AT THE next store we stated our case more concisely. "We're looking for an evening dress, size twelve something smart but not too extreme."

The saleswoman gave us an appraising look. "You mean the 'modest' sort? You're one of those?"

Pat and I looked at each other, puzzled. What did she mean? We soon found out. She brought out some of the loveliest dresses we've ever seen: beautiful materials, exquisite styling, skillfully designed, modish bodices flowing into gorgeous skirts. It was hard to make a choice—but we made one.

"Our buyer has found so many of you," the saleswoman said as she made out the ticket. "That she has put in an order from the manufacturer. There never was a demand before for a conventional movement for modesty combined with smartness in dress. It was started, we understand, by a group of well-dressed, right-thinking young women in St. Louis and is spreading with no fanfare, no publicity.

The imprint of the convictions set by that group of young women has been felt: first through local stores, then through buyers who insist on getting what their customers want. Finally it got to the ever-alert manufacturers and they, to a certain extent, are supplying that demand. It has not reached its goal by any means (i.e., our own experience in the first store visited) but it is gaining momentum.

We learned, just by chance, of this plan when we found that, unbeknownst to us, we had joined it. And every customer who insists on getting that same thing smart but modest clothes—is adding to the splendid work of that small band of young women who had the courage to express and to demand what all really "smart" girls want.

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