

WHAT'S DOING AT THE DALYS'

We Find A "Smart" Evening Gown

By MARY TINLEY DALY

With the holidays approaching we had a conference on the evening-gown situation at our house—Pat, Ellen and Marie, our only dancing daughters, being the conferees...

In Pat's room we sat around and commented as Pat brought out one after another the accumulation of the years. There was the "fairy dress" Pat had almost worn to death in college...

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...

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

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

"Why, that skirt would stand alone!" I exclaimed. "I'd have to pat myself on the back to stand by it."

"Oh, but you should see it on," the saleswoman prodded. "All the difference!" So we went into the fitting room and 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!

"Our buyer has found so many of you," the saleswoman said. "I made out this ticket. This she has put in an order from the manufacturer. There never was a demand before."

"That's it," the saleswoman smiled. "Until this year. But when we found that we were losing sales, we decided to do something about it. That's why we have these dresses."

"WHAT DID SHE mean by 'many of us?'" Pat asked as we started home. I didn't know.

Later, we learned what she had meant: there is a concerted 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 general manufacturers and they, to a certain extent, are supplying the demand. It has not reached its goal by any means...

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.

Christmas Lullaby Is Family Theater Piece

Hollywood, Calif. (NC) — A Christmas season fantasy starring Roddy McDowall will be presented by the Family Theater radio program on December 19 at 9:30 p. m. EST.

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NOTICE — We are not connected with any other concern and have no peddlers on the road under the name of Herman's Bakery.

A ONE MAN CATHOLIC ART SHOW



Our Lady of the Rosary is depicted here in a one-man art show at Clarke College, Dubuque, Ia. 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 of the Toledo diocese have been asked to unite for a cleanup of printed filth. Bishop George Rehring of Toledo made the request in his message at the annual convention of the Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

BEGIN ON THE parish level, said the Bishop, although the effort must go forward on diocesan, State and national levels. He asked the women to tell store proprietors in their neighborhoods, where filthy literature is displayed, something like this: "Listen, unless all this rot is removed, I'm not coming in again. I don't go into cesspools. This is more poison." If enough do it, the filth will disappear, said the bishop.

Bishop Rehring also asked women, banded together in their parishes, to keep personal contact with theater managements, expressing reaction as patrons to what is good and what is bad.

"NO MOTHER can succeed by herself alone," said the Bishop, encouraging united effort. "She needs the help of all other women." However, said the Bishop: "The biggest problem is always ourselves. . . . Our chief work is never to look after somebody else."

Catholic women should band together, Bishop Rehring said, "primarily to do our own duty and to have the help of all others."

DP's Welcomed

Columbus, O. (NC) — Seventeen displaced persons, exiles from their communist-ruled central European homelands, were welcomed to the Columbus diocese, the largest number to arrive in a single day since the establishment of the National Catholic Settlement Council program three years ago.

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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, "Whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas either by forbearing of 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 Elders of the Massachusetts Bay Colony felt that partaking of its crusty spicy goodness was observing Christmas.

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All Children Get Services In British Columbia

Victoria, B. C. (RNS) — The British Columbia Education and Health Departments are working out a scheme whereby Roman Catholic separate school children in Victoria and Vancouver will 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 plan is to place all school health services directly under the jurisdiction of the provincial health department. This would make the services available to all children.

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