

GRETTA PALMER

Defied Statistics

It's normal the same thing as average? If 81% of the U. S. population suffers annually from the common cold, does that mean that normal health includes a cold a year? If everybody commits a sin a day, or maybe more, shall we decide that something between one and three daily sins constitutes the ideal quota for the resident of the U. S. in 1953? Shall we take what we are as a standard, Gretta Palmer rather than what we ought to be?

These questions — basic, important and fundamental to our civilization — are brought to the attention of the public every few years by a man who, perhaps, does a greater service to clear thinking in America than many theologians do. For another Kinsey report is on the way. And Dr. Kinsey, by carrying confusion in this field to its logical extreme, has unwittingly done a great service to truth: he has demonstrated the fallacies of those who have no moral frame of reference of their own.

"Whatever people do is what they ought to do," says Dr. Kinsey, blandly, between the lines of every text he writes. If a majority elected for murder, murder would become a virtue. If a Gallup Poll shows that the people, for one tragic period in the world's history, approve adultery, it becomes "undemocratic" to stand up for fidelity of marriage vows. If a majority prefers the road to hell, then that is the best literature. If more people like bachelors than bachelors, so much the worse for Bach.

This is democracy gone mad. This is to defy Father Time so that he will slow down his steps towards spiritual progress to the legends who make up the larger part of the population. This is to level all values to the low standard of majority. This is to make over an entire report and to encourage doctors to "turn" healthy patients so that they, too, may join the majority with its or children in the name of defied statistics.

It seems that many areas in which the majority of men are most reliable leaders; morality is one of them. The government of Communist Russia, in its earliest years, attempted to run every activity by pure democracy. In the schools, the government officials voted for or against their teachers. On many other things, the voters decided what course to chart by a simple showing of hands. But even the confused Marxist who headed the state soon discovered that such rule by Soviet was utterly impractical. Otherwise the Russian (who outnumbered the professional) would have to rule his every health system in their own hands.

There is a very good reason for not voting by which and which is to be a political goal to which all are loyal. Voting is an impossible method of running an industrial plant. If the voters put in the "no" vote we have would be the majority, the "no" vote would be the majority.

"best" man the winner of a popularity contest. According to such a standard, Our Lord was wrong and the crowd that cried: "Ere Marabba!" must have been right, for they outnumbered Him.

WE WILL be hearing a lot about the Kinsey report in the next year: the "findings" on American women are being readied for release. We shall, no doubt, be told that half the things our moral theologians state are now outmoded and unworthy of our loyalty. For who is St. Thomas Aquinas to speak, when 74.86% of the women of Iowa fail to live according to the standards he laid down? Who are the Fathers of the Church to warn against birth control or free divorce or adultery if, in a suburb of Connecticut, a cross section of the housewives indulge in such practices?

We should all be prepared for long and dreary dinner-table discussions, over the next months, as to the fundamental fallacy of thinking that right is wrong if enough people are confused about it, and that wrong is right if enough people choose it as their favorite sin. This is the basic and essential answer to the mixed-up thinking that followers of Dr. Kinsey would foist on us.

But we have further ammunition to be used against all moderns who would scrap the moral law because these surveys show that it is widely broken. We have the sound, scholarly argument that the "facts" uncovered by such a procedure are also a slander on the true behavior of the public.

IN THIS case the findings are, themselves, distorted. An employer of one large institution where Dr. Kinsey interviewed the help has this to say: "We told him he could ask his questions of as many women employees as chose to answer, but that he could not invade the privacy of those who said they did not want to be questioned. What happened? The bold, forward young women gave him as much time as he wanted. The reticent, well-behaved girls refused to be interviewed at all."

The "facts" are loaded, then! They are not representative facts, at all. The women who gave their sexual histories to the Kinsey investigators were screened in advance — self-screened. Only the bold and brazen cared to discuss these intimate matters in order that they might be published. The reticent women have been intelligently left out. The best-behaved of them, who did not care to talk, are not represented here.

The morality of the "average" American woman is not as bad as the Kinsey report will try to make you believe. But even if it were, that fact would not affect the moral law: human failures to hit a target of Christian perfection do not mean that the goal must be changed, or the ideal revised to fit our weaknesses.

Attorney Donates Books To College

Lawport, Iowa — (NC) — The personal library of the late J. Clark Hall, a leading attorney here, has been presented to St. Ambrose college by his sister, Miss Ma F. Clark. It has been announced. Father L. E. Merk, college librarian, said the gift will be known as the J. Clark Hall Memorial Collection.

The collection includes 1,300 volumes, the majority literary and historical works. It is the second sizeable legacy of books received by the college in recent years. Clark was attorney for the college at Lawport for 47 years. He died in 1950 at the age of 73. He also left a sizeable bequest to the college.

Lourdes Cure Unexplained After Medical Investigation

Lourdes — (NC) — After an investigation that lasted 18 months, the Lourdes Medical Bureau has declared "unexplainable by present-day science," the cure of Col. Paul Pellegri.

A native of Toulon, the officer had for two years been afflicted with a fistula. He was cured on Oct. 3, 1950, after immersion in the pool at the grotto here.

Professor Oberlin, of the Faculty of Medicine, has confirmed the report of the cure. The Lourdes Medical Bureau is conducted by unpaid and independent doctors who happen to be in Lourdes and who register with the Bureau. Only the President is a permanent member. The Bureau's function is to investigate all claims of alleged cures. It concerns itself only with medical questions.

Queen Greeted At Mary's Shrine

Edinburgh, Scotland — (NC) — Queen Elizabeth II, who passed the entrance to the Carlin grotto — "the Scottish Lourdes" — during her recent visit to Scotland. The grotto, located in industrial Lanarkshire, is a favorite shrine of Scottish Catholics.

The Duke of Edinburgh spotted the grotto during the royal drive, and the Queen, obviously interested, turned to give a special wave to the children assembled there. The youngsters stood outside the grotto under a banner which read: "Carlin children are praying for their Queen."

Former West Point Chaplain Guest At White House

Washington — (NC) — Magr. George G. Murdock, who served as Catholic chaplain at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point for 17 years, called on a couple of old friends while in Washington. He was the guest of the President and Mrs. Eisenhower at the White House.

Monsignor Murdock said he'd had a chance to talk over old times and old friends with Mrs. Eisenhower, and said the First Lady was completely at home and had lost none of her great natural warmth and charm in the big official mansion.

The President, he said, was out golfing when he first arrived, and was even more jovial than usual when he came back — probably a good day on the links, according to the Monsignor.

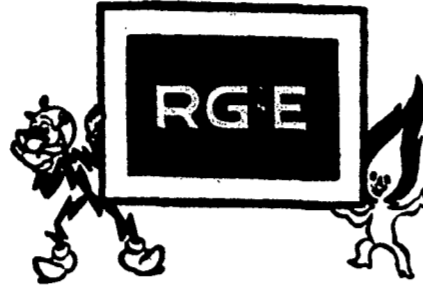
Monsignor Murdock said he had to leave for another engagement after two hours — Mrs. Eisenhower insisted on calling a White House car to take him.

Convert Author Dies In Britain

London — (NC) — Wilkinson Sherren, well-known British Catholic author and journalist died at his home at Richmond, just outside London.

A convert to the Church, Mr. Sherren had been for 25 years editor of Columbia, organ of the Knights of St. Columba, British equivalent of the Knights of Columbus in the United States. He wrote about a dozen novels and a whole series of Catholic books for children. He was a frequent contributor to British and American periodicals.

Mr. Sherren leaves a widow. His only son was killed in World War II.



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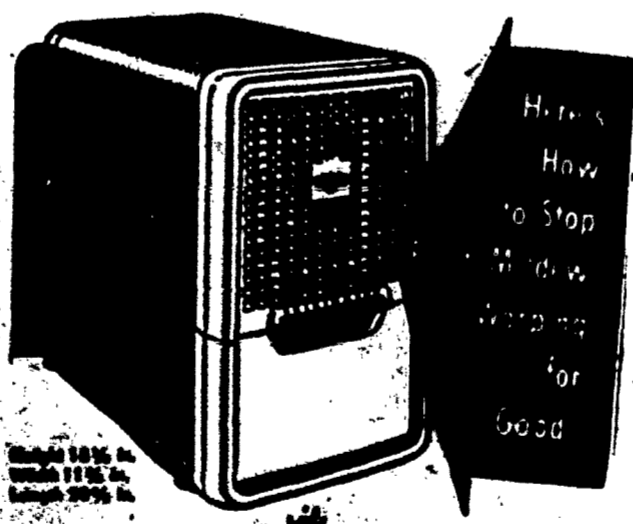
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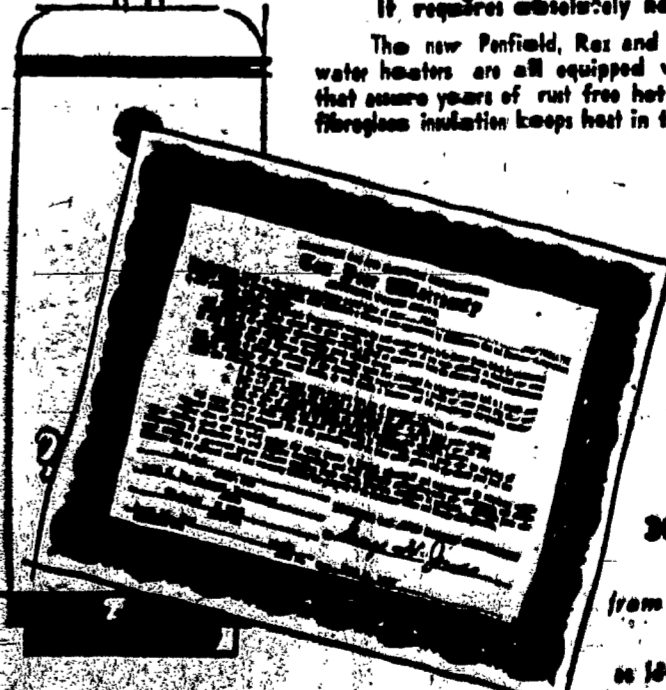
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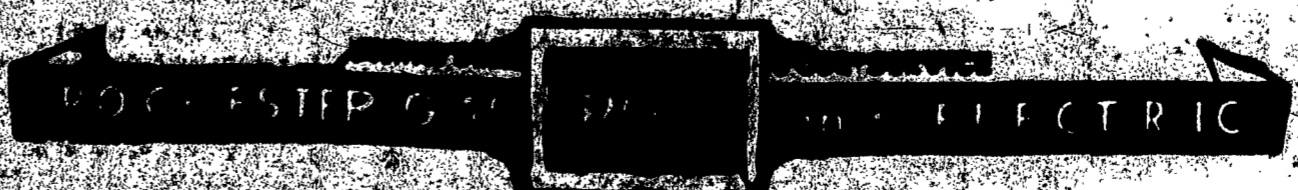
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'I Was Prisoner Of Korean Reds'

(Continued from Page 1) ... I was a prisoner of war for 18 months in North Korea. I was captured by the Chinese in 1950 and held in a prison camp. I was released in 1953 and returned to the United States. I have written a book about my experiences, 'I Was a Prisoner of War in North Korea'.

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