

AMONG WOMEN
A Few Words On Parents

By Mary Lennon Snyder

Ponce de Leon won himself a place in our history books by his search for the Fountain of Youth. Believing the myth which had persisted down through the ages, he sought that Some Place where there was a fountain whose waters would rejuvenate.



recreational and social contacts beyond the circle of parental friends and acquaintances, we live vicariously the days of wing-spread and nest-leaving. And the father re-lives a very special phase of his own life as he watches with eagle eye the son who is an altar boy. They mutually commiserate the harshness of a practice which puts the shields on the tallest towers and makes the lighting of the candles for a High Mass such an ordeal for the smaller altar boys.

Every home Mrs. Snyder with a child in it has a moral and mental fountain of greater potency than even Ponce de Leon dreamed. What parent, observing his First Holy Communion does a child making preparations for not re-examine his own spiritual state? "What has happened", he asks introspectively, "of all the good intentions of my First Holy Communion Day? Am I as good a person as my parents and I hoped I would be on that bright May morning so many years ago?"

As we watch him make his first... BEING A PARENT also carries a very special compensation in that it destroys many of our old regrets. I suppose each one of us remembers unhappily some faux pas or gacherie, some thoughtless word or stubborn attitude with which we hurt our parents now gone beyond reach of our apologies. When we see our own children do the same things, the circle is complete. We see these things in their true perspective, and in a bright flash of realization we know that our parents also understood. A few words on parents would not be complete without a reference to a special phase of parenthood—namely, the number of children. In this, so many are guilty of a sin against charity, by concluding that parents of an only child are such by will and preference.

A young and attractive woman once told me that added to her cross of a childless marriage was the assumption by so many of her acquaintances that her lack of family was what she and her husband preferred. AT THE OTHER end of the arc are those who are ready to start their own canonization proceedings because they are parents. The state of parenthood, let us remind ourselves, is not a rocket which blasts us into heavenly bliss. The day by day rearing of children and the persevering in their moral training can be made the steps up the ladder to Heaven.

The point for us to remember right now is that children are a blessing from God bestowed upon us. During the summer months when they are our exclusive responsibility, when we do not share the duty of training them to know, to love and to serve God, we should realize the full beauty and happiness of our vocation.

Abandoned Girl Inspires Women To Found Home

Lisbon—(NC)—The sight of an abandoned girl roaming the streets of Lisbon 10 years ago has led to a unique establishment today caring for 53 homeless girls.

It all began when two wealthy women were strolling leisurely through Lisbon's sunny streets. The time was 1943, when World War II was at its peak and Lisbon was fabulous as a center of international intrigue and espionage.

The two women, Madame Renee Van Nitsen, a Belgian, and Donna Clotilde Ferreira, Portuguese, were walking through the Prada do Chile when they saw a little girl wandering about. They talked to the child and found she had been abandoned. She had no home, had no idea where her mother was.

The two women invited the girl into their home for the time being. They became attached to the love-starved child. She told them of other young girls who were roaming the city's streets. These also were invited to live with the women. Soon their spacious apartment was too small to accommodate all the girls. The two women rented an old palace at 35 Alameda de Cruz da Pedra. Today it is called "The Motherhouse of the Girls of the City."

In addition to the 53 girls being housed at the old palace many impoverished girls get help from the women in the form of food and clothing.

WHAT'S DOING AT THE DALYS' Introducing Miss Daly

By Mary Tinsley Daly

"John and Lucille Daly: girl!" is the way newspaper vital statistics list the event. "It's a girl for the John Dalys, Jr's!" is the way the Dalys would put it. But not this grandma-columnist! She's ready to write until readers turn to another section of the paper, talk to all listeners until they change the subject.

All right, so babies are born every day; so this is the first grandchild. . . Nevertheless, to everybody at our house the arrival of a new baby evokes emotions that can't be put into words—a new little soul starting on the path to Eternity, entrusted for a while to the care of those we stand by. I thought, that Johnny couldn't be here to welcome his daughter—couldn't even know it until news was cabled to his ship at sea. But there was never a complaint from Lu. "When you're in the Navy," she said, her dark eyes serious, "that's the way it is. And Johnny's prayers are with us, even if he can't be."

BEING VISITING hours at the big Navy hospital some of Lu's many roommates have their husbands visit them. Lu just has us—very poor substitutes. Tonight, after a chat with Lu, we two grandmothers made a stop-over at the nursery, watched while one of the nurses hurried to a bassinette way back in one corner of the 50-baby nursery and brought HER out for our inspection. Other nurses were showing other babies, but for us there was just one—a fat, red little baby with eyes tightly closed against the encroachment on sleep by two grandmothers.

One by one, we caught everybody at our house, even the Head of the House who groaned, "Poor me kid!" Of course they'll all see her through the plate glass window at the next hospital visit—and maybe there will be a resemblance to one of them. Who cares? At any rate, our family rosary tonight was most of all a fervent "Thank You" for the little girl who—blond, brunette, or red-headed—is created in the image and likeness of God.

Family Gives \$100,000 To Diocese

Columbus, O.—(NC) With a gift of \$100,000 from one family, the Catholic Development Fund for this city surged toward its two and a half million dollar goal. The six-figure gift came from the Wolfe family whose industries include the Columbus Dispatch, the Ohio State Journal and stations WNBS and WNBS-TV.

Accepting the gift for the Diocesan Development Fund, Bishop Michael J. Ready of Columbus, expressed the appreciation of the whole Catholic community and thanked the Wolfe family "who have always been thoughtful in promoting the welfare of Columbus." Goal of the fund drive is a new orphanage and two new Catholic high schools. Current pledges have reached over two million dollars.

District Auxiliary To Hear Fr. Crowell At Dinner Party

A dinner party will be held by District No. 1 of New York Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. John at 6:15 p.m. in Powers Hotel on Thursday, July 23.

GUEST SPEAKER will be the Rev. John J. Crowell, C.S.S.R., of St. Joseph's Church. Other guests will be the Rev. George Weisman, spiritual advisor of the Auxiliary; Superior First Vice President Mr. Jacob Harzlauer and Mrs. Caroline Foster, district president.

District President Caroline Foster has appointed Mrs. Joseph Carbone as general chairman. The committee members assisting Mrs. Carbone follow: Co-chairman: Mrs. Emil Eckert; Tickets: Mrs. William Schwab; Decorations, Mesdames Max Walther, John Mahar and Frank Hauser; Finance, Miss Rose Carbone and Mrs. Albert Göttemeyer.

Entertainment: Mesdames Percy Ver Hoeven, John Maier, Emil Eckert, Roman F. Hart, Ned McKoni, Francis Abbey and Rose Freeman; Publicity, Miss Ruth A. Martin. Hostesses will be Mesdames Cletus Hengstler, William Sanger, Harry Dummer, Peter Florin, Frank Sadler and Margaret McCullough. Chairman Carbone invites all members and friends to attend. Deadline for reservations will be Monday, July 20.

Hiking Pilgrim Reaches Shrine

Charleroi, Belgium—(NC) —A Charleroi miner who vowed last year to walk to the great pilgrim shrines of Europe has reached the famous church of the Senors de-I Pilar (Our Lady of the Pillar) in Saragossa, Spain, it was learned here. The miner, Louis Genot, started out on his hiking pilgrimage last Dec. 1, and hopes to reach Rome — his final goal — in October.

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Meditation At Dusk

For the sweet mercies of night I thank Thee Lord; then clearly may I see The vast accord Of your calm immanence. You never shout the Word; Nor do I need to call That my own plea be heard. No—in the smallness This dim light lays waste—I can walk step by step And find You—without haste. Fanny Bohlsayer Corning, N. Y.

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THESE ARE YOUR CHILDREN

This little red schoolhouse is out of date in India, too. At Merialum ambitious Catholic teenagers must peddle or walk 16 miles to a PAGAN high school, if they want more schooling. This kind we must hold for future leadership. An India gear itself for progress, the Church must keep pace. So the Bishop of Quilon pleads for help to build a high school there. Won't you buy a brick for \$1. A desk costs \$3. India will one day be very great. Also, Catholic??

Have you ever thought of helping to train missionary priests? CHRISTOSMOS is our mission club to support this work. Members give \$3 monthly. It performs miracles in producing a "nativity" clergy. Won't you join today? Maybe you'd like to "adopt" your own priest by giving a poor boy the yearly cost of his training (\$100) for the six years of his training. You may give \$2 weekly, \$4.35 monthly, \$25 quarterly or all at once. You will win the undying gratitude of a future apostle.

TREATMENT FOR ETERNITY Who can count the souls saved by our hospital Sisters on the operating table, the deathbed, in the delivery room? God's mercy, working through their gentle care, reaches both the afflicted and their grateful families. We have pleaded for generous thoughts for the MISSION HOSPITAL of the Holy Cross Sisters in India. Your mite will buy a brick, medical kit costs \$15. Your share in their mercy is indelibly written in Heaven.

Precious lives of many hapless girls are saved every year by our energetic GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS at HAMMANA, Lebanon. In a few years these girls, like hundreds before them, will be powerful influences for good in their towns. The Sisters deny themselves even basic essentials to keep the work going. Haven't you a mite for them? They keep a piety month on \$10.

BACK TO PETER'S DAYS At the outset the Apostles quickly saw they could never do all the work that had to be done for Christ. They found pious, generous lay people who gave freely their time and talent. Today heroic young lay women are leaving homeland to serve as helpers in mission lands. No place is more fitting than the homeland of the Apostles. They count on our loyal support. A few months ago a new "team" started in Zarza, Jordan. Have you an aim for them?

SISTER MARY AGNES will whisper grateful prayers till the day she dies for the kind soul who helps her out. During her two years of training with the Franciscan Sisters at Kema, India, she needs the cost of the training—\$150 yearly. Won't you give her this sum in any installments you choose? If you can't, perhaps you'd like to help our general fund for training missionary Sisters. We call the club, MARY'S BANK. Members give \$1 monthly. Your deposits gain interest in Heaven.

NO WORK Such a scene of activity is a healthy thing in any country. But in Israel at present there is a very serious lack of work. It affects specially our REFUGEES, for local people are preferred for this little work to be had. Have you an aim for these poor people, living very often in conditions far worse than animals live? Ask for "Sufficient For the Day" when you send your mite. A FOOD PACKAGE (\$10) is a wonderful charity to a starving family.

God must surely have a special blessing for those who remember kindly his missionaries with their MASS OFFERINGS. It is the sole support of those men who gladly give their lives in spreading His Gospel. Your Masses are said almost immediately, for they receive a few.

AVE MARIA It is sung in almost every language. The world's greatest composers have devoted their genius to write music in a suitable token to Mary's dignity. The greatest voices have sung it. But your mite for Her FATIMA CHAPEL in JORDAN is just as precious a token. There is no sweeter music to Her than the love that prompts it.

Dear East Missions French Cardinal Eparch, President Mgr. Thomas E. McManis, N.Y. Sec'y. Send all communications to: CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION 400 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N.Y.

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ANNUAL NOVENA TO SAINT ANNE Sunday, July 19th thru Monday, July 27th TWO EVENING SERVICES, 7:30 AND 8:30 P. M. RUBING AT EACH SERVICE WITH RELIC Conducted by Rev. Alexander Hoffman, C.P. Novena Masses: 6:00—7:00—7:30—8:00 a. m. ST. ANNE'S CHURCH Brighton Park

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