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### AMONG WOMEN 'Modesty And Charm'

By Mary Lennon Snyder

The approach of the Christmas season means in many circles a quickening of the social tempo until it becomes almost literally a whirl. With this in mind, fashion editors and copywriters are assuring us that 1953 will be a "glittering, exciting" season for Christmas formal fashions.

Readers of this column will recall that I have previously written from the leaflets of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers. Today I should like to reprint from one entitled "Modesty and Charm":  
"Father, my mother was with me when we bought it. The girl was not being impudent. She saw nothing wrong in wearing the low-cut prom gown because her mother had been with her

when the dress was bought. "BOYS AND GIRLS will, and do, find fault with their parents, but the children are quick to justify their own actions if mother and dad approve. An eight, ten or twelve year training in modesty from priests and Sisters counted little to this girl because mother approved her dress.

"The world, the flesh, and the devil have teamed up in an all-out attempt to undermine the virtue of purity by battering down its safeguard which is modesty in dress. Mothers must again become mirrors of modesty if the victory over the devil's scheming is to be won.  
"Girls and boys must be taught as tiny tots to love modesty and must be corrected for immodesty. Even though they are too young to sin, they are from infancy old enough to be impressed with the beauty of modesty."  
AFTER LISTING examples of immodesty in modern dress, the writer asks: "When will girls begin to please rather than allure men?" The answer declares, "Only when mothers at home have enough fortitude, enough spunk, against the social pressure of the crowd to be different, to be Catholic, to be Mary like, and not permit themselves or their daughters to buy or wear extremes in women's clothing.

"Would that every mother and daughter would make the following pledge: I believe that modesty in dress safeguards the virtues of purity. I pledge myself to set the example of Mary-like modesty for my family and associates at all times. Only when we have regained a sense of modesty in mothers will we no longer hear from girls in extreme styles their trump arguments: 'Father, my mother was with me when we bought it.'"

### WHAT'S DOING AT THE DALYS' The Advent Wreath

By Mary Tisley Daly

Many readers have asked for more information about the Advent Wreath, mentioned here last year. Having heard of it first from Marguerite Culhane, a zealous advocate of making the modern Christmas truly Christ-like, I want to bring it back to her for further briefing.

Her suggestions, combined with data from Conception Abbey Press, are lined up here on the five W's of journalism:

**WHO:** No one seems to know who originated the greenery of the wreath but it is very old coming out of Germany. As to the modern "who" — all families, all schools, all groups getting together during Advent might well have such a wreath.

**WHAT:** It is a round circle of greenery, either wrapped around wire or wood, resembling a Christmas wreath. Or, for more lasting effect, the greenery can be planted in wet sand in a glass, aluminum or the ring gold. Four white candles, each tied with purple ribbon bows are placed in a north-east-south-west position in the green, secured by insertion into melted paraffin or wired in place. Any grass will do.

"Snip off the tender tips from your shrubbery and use them for your wreath," Mrs. Culhane advises. "It's good for the shrubs this time of year. And if your apartment house manager objects, tell him you're helping them shrubs to more abundant growth."

**AS TO THE significance:** the round form represents the flow of time; the green means hope of the Saviour's coming; the four candles — designating the four Sundays of Advent represent the four days of man's life; the purple means penance; the light of the candles is symbolic of Christ, the Eternal Light Who comes "to enlighten them that sit in darkness."

**WHERE:** In older days, the wreath was suspended from the ceiling by four purple ribbons; nowadays it is usually put in the center of the dining room table.

**WHEN:** It should be set on the table the first Sunday of Advent, with the white family sacrament. The other candles are lit with white wax. On the First Sunday of Advent one candle is lighted by the youngest child (or in his stead) and may burn during all of that day. On the second night, it is lighted by a young person. It is lighted by a young person on the third night. It is lighted by a young person on the fourth night.

**WHY:** The reason for using the Advent Wreath is to impress on the family or other group the importance of good beginning of the Church Year, to make proper spiritual preparation for the glorious coming of Christ.

**LIKE OTHER liturgical symbols,** its importance lies solely in its effect on those participating. If it is to be used merely as a house decoration, or afad that "everybody's doing this year," the wreath means nothing.

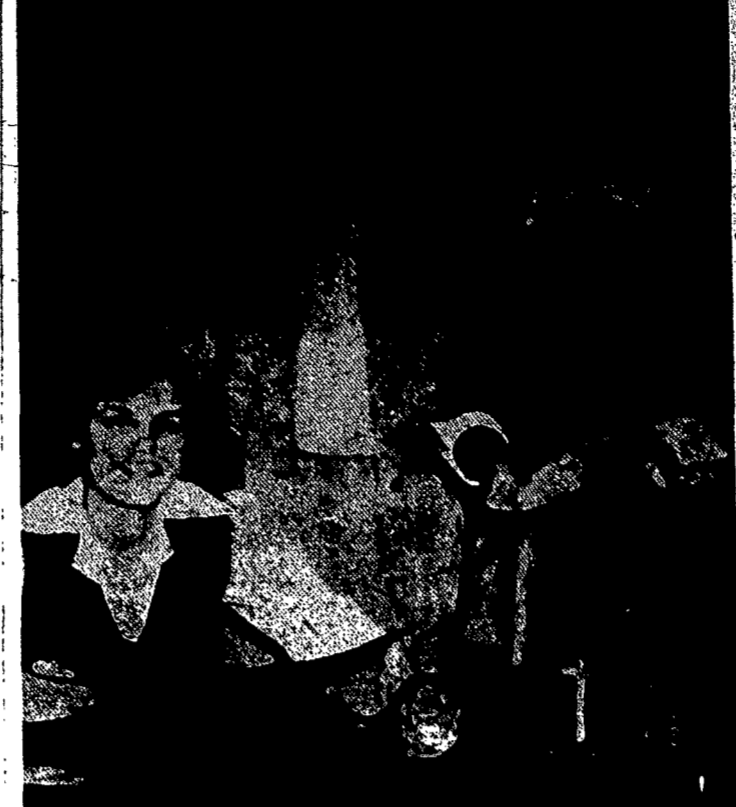
The only beneficiaries will be your shrubs!

**Radio Novena To Mark Marian Year**  
In honor of the Marian Year proclaimed last Sept. 8 by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, the Sacred Heart Radio Program is conducting a special Novena from Nov. 30 to Dec. 8 over Rochester Radio Station WRLY, Monday through Saturday at 7:05 a.m.

The fifteen minute broadcasts will carry the Novena prayer, a special talk by one of the Jesuit Fathers on the staff, and conclude with the Angelus. Father Matthew Hale, S.J., Director of the Northeast region will open the Novena with two talks. Father Joseph L. Murray, S.J., likewise attached to these regional offices, will be among the speakers in this novena series.

The Marian Year commemorates the centenary of the solemn declaration by Pope Pius IX on Dec. 8, 1854 of the Immaculate Conception of the Second Virgin Mary.

### MERCY SCHOLARSHIP DANCE



AS CURRENT returns promises a record attendance at the Rochester Club tonight for the Mercy Alumnae Formal, Miss Elvira Yullo (center), Program Chairman of the Association and Miss Catherine Robinson (right), dance chairman present to Miss Jean Marie Entress (left) details of this event which sponsors annually the full tuition scholarship to Mercy of which she was recipient last year.

### N. H. Catholics Plan Drive Against Obscene Literature

Manchester, N. H. — (RNS) — The Catholic diocese of Manchester will launch an organized drive here before the end of the month to clean out "newsstand smut."

THE REV. William P. Neiman of St. Anne's parish, director of the committee, said that the Rev. Whitney S. K. Yeaple, secretary of the New Hampshire Council of Churches (Protestant) and commanders of American Legion posts in the city plan to attend.

Bishop Matthew F. Brady of Manchester, chairman of the new committee, said the group was formed because "the traffic in printed obscenity has reached gigantic proportions."

"Obscene literature is an evil of such magnitude as seriously to threaten the moral, social, and national life of our country," he said. "History demonstrates that no nation can long survive when the moral law has broken down."

"TO PROVIDE an adequate remedy for this alarming condition, it is necessary to organize and set in motion the moral forces of the entire country. Wishful thinking, noble emotions, righteous indignation, will never avail to check the onslaught of this resourceful, diabolical foe."

Bishop Brady will speak at the Nov. 24 meeting. Other speakers will include Police Chief Francis McGranaghan, and Rep. Louis Martel, who has been a leader in efforts to combat obscene literature.

### Every Fourth Maryknoller New York State Native

Maryknoll, N. Y. — New York leads all other states in supplying vocations to Maryknoll, according to a new survey of the home dioceses of Maryknoll priests, Brothers, Sisters and students. One-fourth of all Maryknoll personnel comes from the Empire State.

The survey, complete as of November 1, shows a total of 2,499 Maryknollers, composed of 546 priests, 726 students, 139 Brothers and 1,088 Sisters. Of these numbers New York State contributes 671, or 144 priests, 235 students, 40 Brothers and 252 Sisters.

A BREAKDOWN of the individual dioceses and archdioceses shows that Brooklyn leads all others in the country for Maryknoll students, with 108, while New York Archdiocese is second with 85. The totals for each ecclesiastical territory in New York State are:

New York Archdiocese, 62 Maryknoll priests, 85 students, 15 Brothers and 72 Sisters.  
Albany Diocese, 8 Maryknoll priests, 12 students, 2 Brothers and 18 Sisters.  
Brooklyn Diocese, 54 Maryknoll priests, 108 students, 21 Brothers and 126 Sisters.  
Buffalo Diocese, 6 Maryknoll

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### Public Housing Aids Families, Says Pontiff

Coalingdale, Italy — (NC) — Pope Pius XII has commended public housing projects as essential to wholesome family life and the good of national economies.

The interests of private and cooperative housing enterprises must be respected or even favored, he said. At the same time, the Pope warned, private enterprise should not be allowed to interfere for more motives of profit with the social function of property, which is to provide decent housing for families.

The Holy Father spoke at an audience here for members of the Council of the Autonomous Institute of Popular Housing.

URGING HIS hearers to fight every form of "swindling" and unproductive speculation in regard to land, Pope Pius declared that the fundamental need of families was a departure point for the Church in praising such work as theirs.

"The Church," the Pope said, "cannot cease to remind that, according to the will of the Creator that a natural order be established, the family must be a spiritual, moral, juridical and economic unit, and that strict laws regulate the birth and development of new life.

"What a burden arises, then, for Christian consciences when betrothed couples, new domestic freedees, growing families can find no shelter . . . which is not inadequate and too costly!"

THE COUNTRY or territory which a people inhabit, Pope Pius said, "is not, even in its economic aspect, an economic liberalism would have it, simply an overall field where the mechanism of momentarily lower costs and favorable conditions of the market determine the lot and the location of men."

Pope Pius said that in housing, as well as in other fields, public authority must "render possible, favor, and in any case not thwart private enterprise, and especially cooperative housing." He added that "certainly there must always be a strong public authority which provides energy and method."

### Thanksgiving Day Rio De Janeiro, Brazil — (NC)

His Eminence Jaime Cardinal de Barros Camara, Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro, attended a solemn Te Deum in Candelmas Church here which marked the fifth year in which Brazil has observed Thanksgiving Day.

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