

Priest Tells Building Trade Unionists To End Practices Criticized By Public

Chicago — (NC) — Msgr. George G. Higgins told building trade unionists they should make a special effort to eliminate those practices "which are subject to legitimate criticism by the general public."

The director of the Social Action Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, also told them they should "lean over backwards" to cooperate with management in every reasonable effort to reduce the cost of housing.

MSGR. HIGGINS delivered the sermon at the 16th anniversary Mass of the Chicago and Cook County Building Trades at St. Victor's Church here.

Msgr. Higgins pointed out that the building tradesman must realize that he is a sort of public relations officer for the entire labor movement because he is, by and large, the only trade unionist whom the average householder meets in direct and close contact.

"If the public is inclined to blame the high cost of housing on the unions," he said, "it is up to the plumber, the electrician, the carpenter and other building tradesmen to tell their story to the people with whom they come in contact."

THE PRIEST asserted that the present generation of trade unionists in the United States, "now that the problem of poverty and material want has been substantially eliminated," is in a position "to emphasize the importance of the spiritual and to raise men's sights to that higher level of living demanded by the basic teachings of religion." He said the time has come "for the well paid member of the Building Trades Unions to take the leadership in this direction."

"Your fathers and grandfathers were required to work 10 or 12 hours a day, six days a week, for a very paltry salary," he continued. "It was difficult for them to get to Mass even on Sunday and absolutely impossible to get to Mass on weekdays. They had neither the leisure nor the energy to engage in serious reading or to develop interest in the arts. You, on the other hand, are in a position to take the leadership in establishing an entirely new kind of American culture based on the intelligent use

of the leisure which you now enjoy. **THE CHURCH** has every right to expect to see you at Mass more frequently, and could "make or break" the reputation of organized labor in the to expect you to continue your next 20 years, depending on education and to take an active interest in social, political and cultural matters," he added. Msgr. Higgins urged the trade unionists to "get off the defensive and begin to engage in a little more self-criticism and self-discipline." He told them they could "make or break" the reputation of organized labor in the next 20 years, depending on whether or not they live up to the "enormous responsibilities" which he said, went along with their new-found power.



Society Honors Perry Como

New York — (NC) — Perry Como, nationally known entertainer, receives the Biennial Award of the National Christ Child Society from Mrs. Eugene Brown, of Omaha, Neb., chairman of society's 1956 convention to be held in Omaha, who travelled to New York to make the presentation. The award was made in recognition of his contribution in furthering democratic Christian ideals through his radio and television programs. Previous winners of the award have been Loretta Young and Father Patrick Peyton. The Christ Child Society is known for its work with children in all economic groups and in all areas.

U. S. Increases Donations To Mission Aid

Rome — (NC) — A record total of more than 14 million dollars was allocated to the missions last year through "The Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith," it was reported here.

The national directors of the Pontifical Societies for the Propagation of the Faith were told at their annual meeting that despite the new high, the amount was only about one-third of the total required to fill 437 requests designated as "urgent."

ARCHBISHOP Leone, Nigis secretary general of the superior general council of Societies for the Propagation of the Faith, told the national directors that there has been a remarkable increase in mission offerings throughout the world. But, he said, mission needs have increased in even greater proportion.

Archbishop Nigis reported that the United States boosted its donations by \$387,180 last year. Among other increases were Germany \$168,745; France \$111,425; Spain \$76,100 and Italy, \$39,370. Canada, Ireland, Mexico and Brazil each increased their contributions by between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

'Pray For Peace' Slogan Approved

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — The Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee reported favorably a House-approved bill directing postmasters to use special cancellation dies, containing the slogan "Pray for Peace." The Senate committee amended the measure, however, to provide that all postmasters also shall be furnished with a cancellation die calling on citizens to register and vote. The latter proposal had been sponsored as a separate bill by Sen. Patrick McNamara (D-Mich.). The "Pray for Peace" slogan measure was sponsored by Rep. Louis C. Rabaut (D-Mich.).



Prayers For Holy Father

Washington, D. C. — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII received a spiritual bouquet in honor of his 80th birthday from the National Council of Catholic Women. The spiritual bouquet, being presented by NCCW President Mrs. August G. Desch, to Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the U. S. for transmission to His Holiness, included 1,061,236 Masses, 183,987 Holy Communions, 205,256 Rosaries and other spiritual works and prayers.

Married Women Warned On Craze For 'Gadgets'

Boston — (RNS) — Married women who seek after mere material comforts and fail to understand the Catholic way of life, were sharply criticized by Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston. He spoke to the Diocesan League of Catholic Women here. The Archbishop said that married women who set their primary aims for "the gadgets—the TV and the new car—are selling their inheritance for a mess of pottage." "THEY ARE ALSO joining in a subversive attack against Christian living," he added. "They do not understand the obligation of the Catholic way of life."

BOOK SHELF

By Sister Margaret Teresa Nazareth College

Spring Reading

ST. JOSEPH, by Henri Rondet, S. J. Translated and edited by Donald Astwater, Kenedy '56, 243 pp. \$4.00. Available at Trant's and all Catholic bookstores.

THE BOND AND THE FREE, by Charles Dunscomb, Houghton Mifflin '55, 249 pp.

THE DESPERATE HOURS, by Joseph Hayes, Random '55, 186 pp.

PROVIDENCE AND SUFFERING IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS, by E. Sutcliffe, S. J. Nelson '53 176 pp. \$3.75 Trant's and Tucker's.

"Thy father and I" — in that phrase there breathes the happiness of a Family. That is how Mary spoke of St. Joseph to her venturesome boy Jesus. That is the inspired hint in the New Testament that set many a great preacher on the track of the true St. Joseph.

And how beautiful are their findings as revealed in Rondet's ST. JOSEPH, a Spiritual Book Associates selection: the ardor and reasoning of St. John Chrysostom, St. Bernard, St. Bernardino, Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, Alphonsus Liguori; the tributes of Gerson, Bossuet, Faber, Newman, Vaughan, Leclerc; the encyclicals of Leo XIII and Pius XII — great souls all, speaking on the greatest of fathers!

This is truly a family library on Saint Joseph. Has a print of Murillo's St. Joseph — the best.

A POPULAR Public Library book is Charles Dunscomb's first novel THE BOND AND THE FREE, about a young Roman, Lavinia, who visits Palestine, sees the trial of Christ, begins to believe in His resurrection, is drawn slowly and inevitably toward the Christian fold.

The Random House Fireside Theatre has what is called an "historic hit" in its play by Joseph Hayes from his own prize suspense novel, THE DESPERATE HOURS.

You know the situation—probably you've seen the movie or read it in Reader's Digest: The Hilliard family, suburban, happy, out of the way of all sophistication and evil, are invaded by a gangster trio who use their home as a hideout while paying off a score against the police.

Good closet-drama, fine interplay of family loyalties and courage.

FATHER SUTCLIFFE'S "The

volume on PROVIDENCE AND SUFFERING IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS is solid, serious exegesis, fully documented and indexed, pursuing the text to the very marrow of the single word — and just as readable and spiritually profitable as his contribution to the Rondet ST. JOSEPH volume.

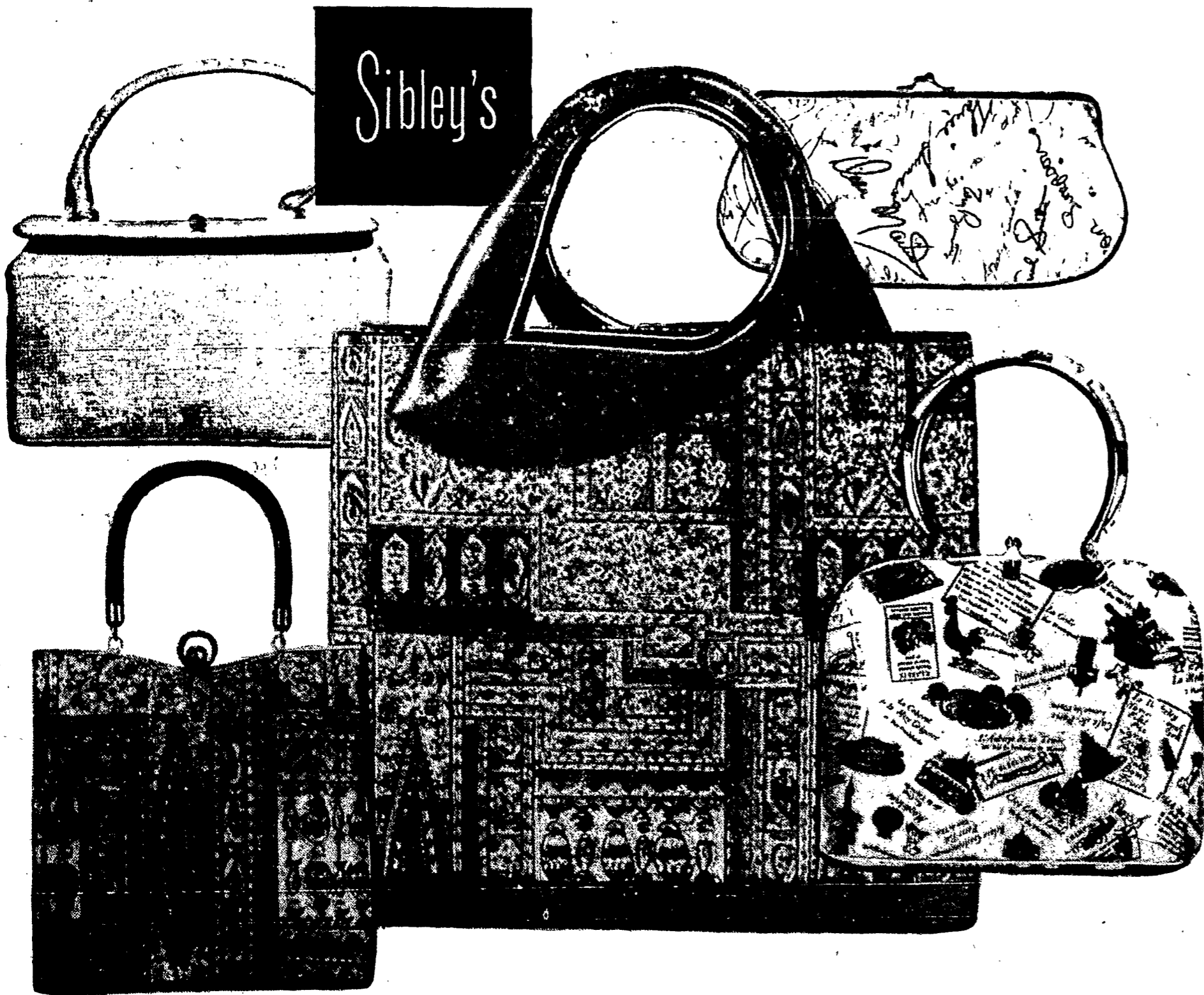
A tiny case in point: He examines our Lord's phrase, "Let him deny himself," it is not deny to himself something, or refrain from something, but deny SELF, throw it away, have no sympathy for it, giving oneself up to more urgent matters.

"We are invited to treat ourselves as if we did not know ourselves, and were not interested in ourselves."

"When the bishops of the country speak out against racial prejudice," says Rev. Killian McDonnell in the May SIGN, "they are apprehensive about more than the right of the Negroes. They are also concerned with the spiritual harm, the great spiritual harm, suffered by those who think love is divisible, by those who are guilty of racial prejudice."

"THE RACE problem," he continues, is a sacramental problem because it has to do with the Eucharist . . . Communion is more than a union of two: Christ and myself.

"It is a union of three: Christ, all member of Christ's church, and myself. Racism, then, is a sacramental lie . . . No Catholic can be ignorant of the seriousness of making his Communion a lie."



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