

Show Protestant Friends Kindness, Catholics Told

Washington, D.C. — (NC) — An intelligent and sympathetic approach to Protestants and other non-Catholics was urged at services in behalf of Church unity held here in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

A policy of love and understanding on the part of Catholics toward their "separated brethren" was called for by Father Eric McDermott, S.J., professor of history at Georgetown University; and Father Angelus F. Delahunt, S.A., Superior General of the Society of the Atonement, Graymoor Monastery, Garrison, N. Y.

"Far too easily," Father McDermott said, "we lamentably underrate Protestant intelligence and zeal, obsessed as we are with Protestants of straw who lack any living counterparts."

"These Catholics, especially, who make a serious study of

should do in this matter of unity.

"We must also turn our attention to ourselves," he stated, "and resolve that our attitude toward our Protestant friends will try to be appreciative of their religious thoughts and aware of their spiritual achievements and their needs. If we understand them, we may love them."

"Without love both of God and of our fellowmen there is no Christianity in this world nor salvation in the next," Father McDermott concluded.

FATHER DELAHUNT, who preached at a Pontifical Mass offered by Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, said there must be a steadfast position in regard to the Church's teaching but an attitude of tolerance and charity toward those of other religions.

"In this great work of redemption, we cannot water down Christ's teaching," he stated. "But while we cannot compromise the position of the Church, remember that there is no room in the apostolate for rudeness, lack of sympathy or kindness toward our separated brethren."

"There is no denying the fact," Father Delahunt declared, "that we priests, religious and lay are faced with a gigantic task, the bringing back of the stray sheep to the fold of Peter."

HE SAID THE conversion of the world is the responsibility of priests, religious and millions of devoted laymen.

"This age, more than any age in the history of the Church, calls for heroic and holy priests, heroic and holy religious, heroic and holy laymen," he concluded.



FATHER DELAHUNT

philosophy or theology need to have a clear knowledge of the present views of contemporary Protestants, and not merely the obsolete views of 16th century heresarchs."

HE URGED CATHOLICS to add to their prayers for further Protestant progress toward Christian unity, "words of thanksgiving to God for so much change favorable to Catholicism in the intellectual atmosphere of modern Protestantism."

He said Catholics should not concentrate solely on what Lutherans and other Protestants



No Heart Beat For Two Hours

Roslyn, N.Y. — (NC) — Fourteen candles on a cake mark a small boy's two-week struggle to live. He is David Fleming, Jr., of Queens Village, N.Y., who underwent heart surgery here at St. Francis Hospital and Sanatorium. During a five-hour operation, David's heart stopped beating for two and three-quarter hours. He was kept alive by a 15-member surgical team who massaged his heart by hand as they performed a delicate operation. 15 pints of blood were given to him from donors. St. Francis Hospital is operated by the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.



Judge Rules

'Peyton Place Too Indecent'

Omaha, Neb. — (NC) — A searing indictment of the novel "Peyton Place" was delivered by a municipal court judge here after he fined three persons for violating this city's obscenity ordinance.

Judge James P. O'Brien said the novel written by Grace Metalious, is "replete with numerous passages of objectionable material. Its material is too indecent to discuss. The court concludes that its material is calculated to corrupt and debauch."

FOUND GUILTY of violating the obscenity ordinance were Eric Nelson and Frank O'Rourke, both distributors, who were fined \$100 each, and Sidney Cohen, a newsdealer, who was fined \$125. It was the second such conviction within a year for Cohen.

The decision is an outgrowth of a trial following extensive raids last November when thousands of magazines and papers, novels were seized in a vice detail raid headed by Police Sergeant Eugene Mahoney.

ALTHOUGH numerous publications were confiscated by the police, Judge O'Brien ruled on only eight publications. He said his decision not to rule on the other publications did not indicate they were unlawful, but merely showed that judgment was not being passed on them.

Publishers he found in violation of the city's obscenity ordinance included in addition to "Peyton Place," the magazines "Night and Day," "Figure Photography and Sexology."

In delivering his opinion, Judge O'Brien cited U.S. Supreme Court decisions that considered material obscene "when, to the average person, applying contemporary standards, the dominant theme of the material taken as a whole appeals to prurient interest."

Noting that the rear cover of a seized edition of the book states it has been "banned" and "burned," Judge O'Brien declared the court "concur in the publishers' self-esteem of their material."

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We Want A Large Family: Our Youngest Is Retarded

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J.

Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Louis University

We've looked forward to having a large family, but now our youngest child shows signs of being seriously retarded mentally. The doctor says it's too early to predict the full extent of the trouble. My wife is heartbroken and has started worrying about having another child. I don't know what to think. Why do such things happen?

Few things cause parents more suffering than the discovery of some serious abnormality in their children. The child is an extension of themselves. They look forward with pride to its normal development.

THE DISCOVERY that their fond hopes will not be realized is both painful and humiliating.

Almost unconsciously they ask why this should happen to them. Is it the result of heredity? Have they somehow failed in the past? What will others think?

Why is God sending them this cross? Will they have to put the child in an institution? Will a specialist be able to help?

These are normal questions under the circumstances. No doubt, you and your wife have already raised them. Your hearts are heavy. You are probably more puzzled and worried than you want to admit. What should you do?

First, you must examine your own attitudes and feelings. This child, like your other children, is a blessing from God, an immortal soul destined for happiness in Heaven. The Creator knows that it will require special patience and care, but it is His child as well as yours. Accept it humbly and gratefully from His hands as a sacred trust confided to you. Hence it would be unbecoming as Christians to feel ashamed of this gift.

Neither should you indulge in the strange superstition that God is punishing you. The child is a blessing, only an unchristian attitude can make it appear anything else.

Second, you must be practical and realistic. There is nothing to be gained by running to a dozen different specialists. Put the child under the care of a competent one and follow his advice. He will tell



you what to expect and how best to serve the child's needs. Later on, special training may be required.

Unfortunately, some parents of retarded children, either through false pride or poor judgment, do not give them the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Such parents would be surprised to see the gains their children would make when placed under expert care. At the same time, they would probably learn that many other parents face the same problem that they do.

Third, there is the question of another baby.

Is it advisable to have another child? In answering this question we must remember that mental deficiency may be inherited, or congenital, or acquired through injury or disease. Only if it is inherited is there the possibility that a future child may be affected.

Although modern science has

made considerable advances in the study of hereditary factors, specialists in the field are still unable to make reliable predictions about future births in many cases.

IN GENERAL, if your other children are normal and there exists no cases of mental deficiency in your immediate families, there is little likelihood that your future children will be affected.

Of course, if you have serious grounds for doubt, consult a specialist, since the ordinary physician cannot be expected to give advice in so specialized a field.

YOU ASK WHY such things happen. You really mean, why does God permit them to happen? Parents ask the same question at the death of a child.

The answer is the same: We do not know the mind of God. His ways are not our ways, but the Christian knows that "for those who love God, all things work unto good."

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Protestant Church Council Disavows POAU, Blanshard

Hartford, Conn. — (NC) — The organization representing this state's Protestant churches has disassociated itself from any connection with the group known as Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

THE CONNECTICUT Council of Churches issued its statement as the newly formed Hartford chapter of POAU held a public meeting featuring Paul Blanshard, special counsel for POAU.

"Though there are persons of the Protestant faith who uphold the views expressed at the meeting about Roman Catholic power and strategy there are many others who deplore both the approach and the facts related," said Rev. Harold B. Keir, general secretary of the Connecticut Council of Churches, in a statement.

Rev. Keir added that POAU is composed solely of individuals and that its use of the title "Pro-

testant" does not imply "any relationship to any church or council of churches."

BLANSHARD said here that the national board of directors of POAU will support opponents of Connecticut's new school bus law which provides that local communities may, if they wish, transport private school pupils at public expense.

Blanshard contrasted the "great glory" of the public schools with Catholic schools which he said "are part of a worldwide dictatorial system of power."

Converts Reported In Hong Kong

Hong Kong — (NC) — A total of 4500 converts were baptized here during the Christmas season, according to reports received from parishes in this city.

Science

SCIENCE research is a challenge for young women attending Catholic colleges throughout the nation. Here Nancy Kelly (above) carries on research in metals at Boston's Emmanuel College for Women. (NC Photo).

Mexicans Observe 'Day Of Leper'

Mexico City — (RNS) — Prayers for lepers throughout the world were urged here by Archbishop Miguel Dario Miranda of Mexico in a pastoral letter calling attention to the observance of Jan. 26 in this country as the "Day of the Leper."

He instructed priests to ask their congregations also to contribute offerings so that the sufferers may be provided with medicines and other needs.

There are many thousands of lepers in Mexico, medical authorities say, but only a small percentage suffer from the type of leprosy that is transmissible.

For many years charitable Mexicans have "adopted" specific lepers by seeing to it that they have the expensive drugs they need.

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