

Census Bureau

Catholics In U.S. Over 43 Million

Washington — (NC) — Census Bureau figures indicate that about 43,635,000 Americans regard themselves as Catholics — about 9.2 million more than listed by the 1957 Official Catholic Directory.

The bureau estimated here that about 30,669,000 Americans over the age of 14 call themselves Catholics.

The figure of 43 million is based on calculations that give an estimate of the number of Catholics under 14 years of age who are usually counted as Church members, though the census survey excluded them.

RECENT CENSUS statistics on the percentage of the entire population under 14 were applied to the Catholic population to produce the estimate.

The P. J. Kennedy and Sons publishing company which publishes the Official Catholic Directory, gave 31,386,350 as its estimated U. S. Catholic population in the 1957 edition. The figure was based on reports submitted by U. S. dioceses.

The census bureau's estimate of those over 14 who call themselves Catholics is based on the reports of persons who volunteered their religion. No attempt was made to determine if they could be termed "practicing" members of the religion they professed.

Highpoints in the results announced here of the bureau's

March, 1957, sample survey of the civilian population include:

• Ninety-six per cent of those interviewed professed a religion.

• American Catholics are located largely in the northeast section of the country.

• A high percentage of marriages involve partners who are members of the same "major religious group."

• Catholics have more mixed marriages than members of either Protestant or Jewish bodies.

• More women than men profess Catholicism.

• The Baptists are the largest single Protestant denomination.

In the March survey, information was gathered on persons over 14 in 35,000 households across the country. These figures were projected in the study, the first time the government agency has conducted a nationwide sample survey.

Two out of every three persons 14 years and over in the United States regard themselves as Protestant and about one out of every four as Roman Catholic, said the bureau's announcement.



Kennedys Give Half Million For School

Washington, D.C. — (NC) — A half-million dollar check is presented to Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle, of Washington, D.C., by Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy, on behalf of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation, for construction of a school and clinic for exceptional children. Kennedy, president of the foundation, and chief counsel of the Senate Committee investigating labor and management practices, holds architect's sketch of the building, to be known as the Dr. Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Institute.

Papal Audiences Slated For Pilgrimages

Vatican City — (NC) — Members of Lourdes centennial year pilgrimages, which also visit Rome, will be admitted to the weekly general audiences granted by Pope Pius XII.

THE VATICAN City daily L'Osservatore Romano said that no special papal audiences will be granted to members of pilgrimages.

The pope took note of the many pilgrimages, especially those outside of Europe, which have announced they will include Rome in their pilgrimages in order to pay homage to the Supreme Pontiff. It also said that a great number of other groups and congresses have applied for such ones.

L'OSSERVATORE also said "Pilgrimages passing through

Rome en route to Lourdes, or coming from that city, are not to be granted special audiences."

They are to be invited to arrange the stays in Rome in such a way that they will be able to participate in the weekly general audience that takes place on Wednesday, to which they, of course, will be admitted.

Rocky Marciano Helps Seminary

Omaha, Neb. — (NC) — A proposed \$125,000 gymnasium at St. John Vianney Minor Seminary near here is much closer to reality—thanks to Rocky Marciano.

The former heavyweight boxing champion of the world was the honored guest at a \$10 per plate benefit dinner here to aid the campaign for the gymnasium.

Among more than 500 persons attending the dinner were Gov. Victor Anderson of Nebraska and Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan of Omaha. The Governor donated \$100 to the fund.

Bingo Amendment Killed In Colorado

Denver — (NS) — A constitutional amendment to legalize bingo, which has been fought by Prohibition groups, was killed in the Colorado House by a vote of 31 to 21.

If it had passed, it would have allowed the game to be played in the state. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 31 to 21.

Despite the defeat, the amendment will be on the ballot at the next election.

James L. Kelly, representing the American Legion, said his organization would sponsor a campaign to put the matter on the ballot by a future election. He would like to see the amendment take 100,000 signatures.

'New Generation' Method Scored

London (NC) Archbishop William Godfrey of Westminster has warned this nation that to give the sanction of law to the practice of artificial insemination would be to court disaster.

The Archbishop, making his first public statement on the subject since it recently blew up into a front page controversy in Britain, did not mention artificial insemination, by name but referred to it as "new methods of generation."

"TO INTRODUCE legislation which permits to persons, rather than to nature, the right to beget children," the Archbishop said, "is to invite disaster upon the human race."

He said that the practice of artificial insemination, if it were legalized, would be a "grave and deliberate interference with the natural order of things."

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Druggists Vote To Curb Smut Literature Sales

Berkeley, Calif. (RNS) — Some 500 druggists of the Northern California Pharmaceutical Association have voted to curb selling of "bleed and lascivious books and publications."

The druggists took the action at their annual conference here. They adopted a resolution calling for expulsion from the association of any member who sells "bleed and lascivious books and publications."

The resolution is a recommendation to the parent California Pharmaceutical Association which has a membership of 2,500 druggists.

Police Arrest Newsstand Dealer

San Rafael, Calif. (RNS) — Police here cracked down on a newsstand dealer for allegedly selling obscene pictures and other material.

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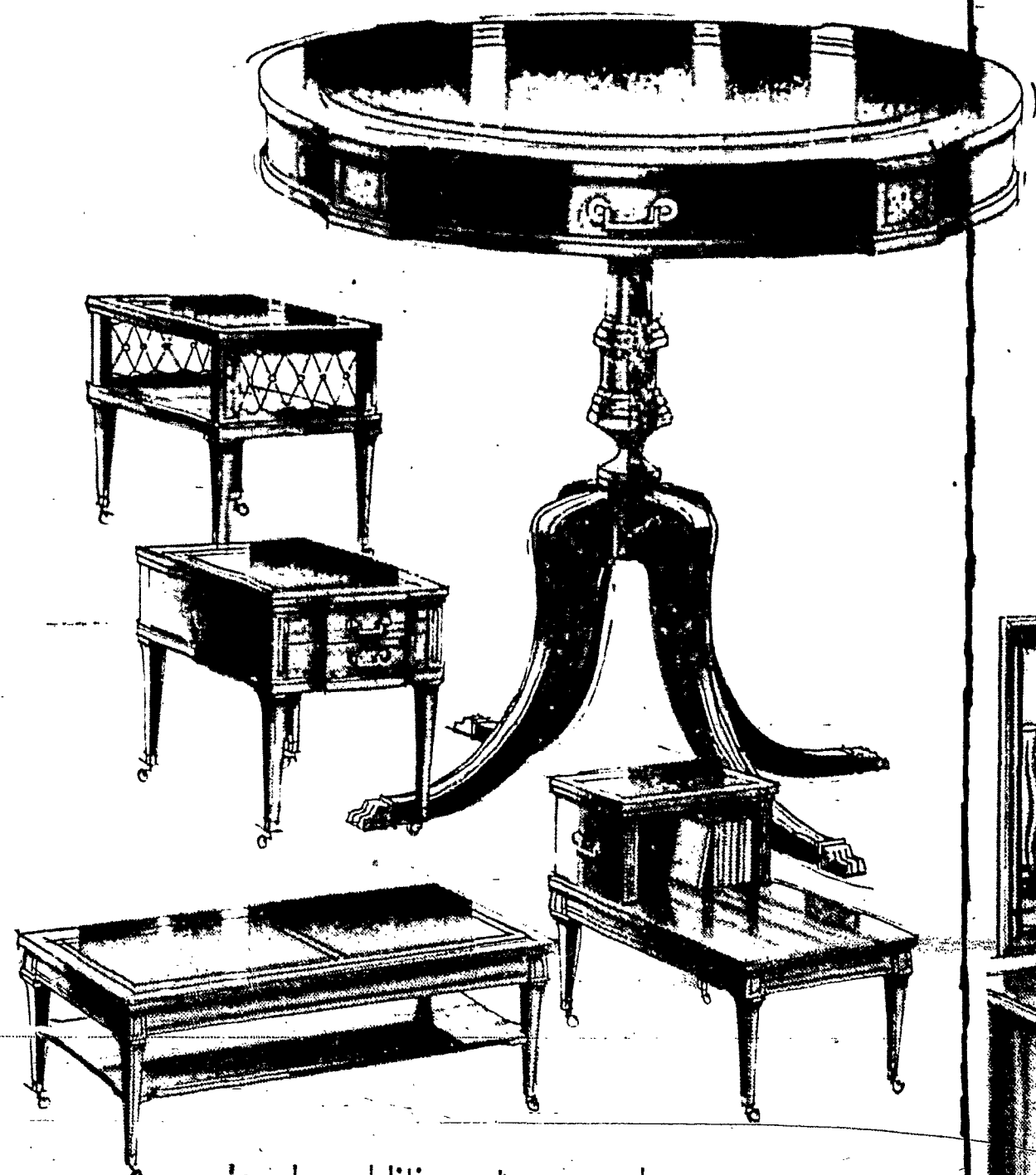
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