

# GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

"Make friends with the Mammon of Iniquity." Our Lord once said. Mammon is money. By making friends, He meant, through your charity create intercessors who will plead for your soul before the throne of God.

Word came from China recently about an opium dealer who, in years past, was good to the missionary Sisters. Once he brought a Sister the passport which she forgot by rowing three days down a river and two weeks back. Another time a Sister was sick and he practically forced a Chinese doctor, in the middle of the night, to visit the nun. Later he rescued a girl who was sold into prostitution, had her baptized, and provided a dowry for her marriage. Sometimes he would be found in Church, saying prayers, but his evil trade slowed down his desire to be a Christian. Then came the Communists. He lost his profitable opium trade and was forced to work on a labor gang repairing roads. A fellow prisoner on that road-gang found him dying — the fellow prisoner was a priest who baptized him and received him into the Church. The Sisters on the missions had been his intercessors in heaven.

"Create for yourselves intercessors and pleaders; the prayers of others for you, could be better than your own. The Chinese, the Japanese, the Africans, the lepers, the sick whom you aid will be your attorneys for the defense when you die. 'Make friends with the Mammon of Iniquity.' Send it to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and we will send it to the Vicar of Christ to distribute to the poor of the world. Send your sacrifice of a pleasure or part of your capital — you will be so glad you did it."

GOD LOVE YOU for \$2 "I am adding the necessary change to make the change in my pay check come out to an even dollar — enclosed is for the past two pays." . . . to Anon for \$1 "This is very small but it is just half of what I now possess." . . . to Mrs. J. B. for \$5 "Just a thank you for a favor granted." . . . to Mrs. J. G. B. for \$10 "Half of this is for a favor received. The other half is interest for delayed payment — whoever heard of delaying payment without paying interest?"

By reason of the fact that you read this column you must have an interest in the Missions. If you write to us and request an annual plan pamphlet we will send it to you and show our interest in you.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 18, N. Y., or your Diocesan Director Rev. George S. Wood, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.



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# BOOK SHELF

Saint Bernadette

St. Margaret Teresa, Nazareth College  
Saint Bernadette: The Child and The Nun, by Margaret Tronczon, Sheed '58 (published Feb. 12), 248 pp., \$3.75.

Longing to do full justice to Our Lady's little saint by building her "life into a 'spellbinding novel'" (perhaps like "The Nun" (St. Margaret Mary) and "The Reluctant Abbess"), Margaret Tronczon confesses that she could not do so.

The facts about the Apparitions were too arresting in themselves, she says. Bernadette's charm held her fast, and the evidences of Our Lady's clear and merciful intent toward mankind drew her, as it drew those thousands of first pilgrims to the Grotto.

She ended, then, by tracing humbly the big and little facts of those day-to-day glorious visitations; the ten years of happy growing up, complicated by the responsibilities of giving witness; the ten years of convent life, lived in sickness and in a deprivation of love so stern that her companions rejoiced to have God take her.

Christian hope would have died, they feared, if her trial had lasted much longer.

This book based on the author's intimate acquaintance with Lourdes and Barres and their history and folkways, full of new material and of new light on old, depending at important points on Msgr. Trochu's work (now available in English), reviewed in "America," Feb. 8; "St. Bernadette Souvenirs," Pantheon, \$4.95), has the magical freshness of a first account—so much for humility! It is a news-story of our Mother's love.

IT IS SOMETHING else, too, that perhaps Bernadette and Our Lady connived at. It is full of Catholic teaching, useful apologetics. Readers move from event to event armed with parallels in

# MARRIAGE TALKS

## Catholic Women List Annual Cana Conference

If you want to know about married life, then come to the Monday night series of talks arranged by the Family Life Committee of the Monroe County Council of Catholic Women.

Father Daniel Hogan, moderator of the council, said the series is open to all couples either recently married or planning to be married within a year.

THE TALKS will be held at the Powers Hotel in downtown Rochester each Monday of Lent at 8:15 p.m. Admission is free.

Scheduled for the series are the following speakers and their topics:  
Feb. 24, Father Albert Shannon, "Foundations for Marriage."

March 3, Gerald Barrett and Mrs. H. Lou Gibson, "The I in Marriage" — domestic problems and their solution.

March 10, Father Daniel Hogan, "Child Care and Education," March 17, Father Louis Holman, "Marriage Laws."

March 24, Dr. Maurice J. Gorman and Dr. James E. Stegerson, "Physiology of Marriage." This series marks the 14th year the marriage course has been given.

# SERMONETTE

By REV. JAMES D. MOBIARTY

"O Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace."  
Eight hundred years ago there were no Franciscans. Since that time three religious orders of men, numerous congregations of Religious women and great numbers of third order members have come into being.

In the little Italian town of Assisi a young man lived the full life. He was talented, . . . popular, . . . attractive, . . . winsome, . . . bubbling over with the enthusiasm of youth. He stood head and shoulders above his colleagues in many ways. Even they recognized this fact when they dubbed him the King of Youth.

He could have been a worldly leader. No doubt he could have been a successful entertainer, a politician or whatever.

But when he realized his special talents he did not seek to climb to the pedestal of adulation. A new idea popped into his ever active brain. If God had endowed him with extraordinary ability then there was only One worth serving, . . . only One worthy of complete dedication.

Francis must decrease; Christ must increase.  
"O Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace," he prayed. And he meant every word of it. But in his wisest dreams he had no idea how tremendously God would answer his prayer.

Because of his total dedication, his work lives on today, . . . many, many times multiplied. Had he followed the ways of the world the most he could have hoped for would be a few dead pages of historical recognition. But Francis is very much alive today in the hearts of priests and nuns and brothers and Third Order Members. His spirit has been magnified millions of times.

Francis never saw his prayer in print as you see it. He lived it.

How many times have you read the beautiful prayer of St. Francis? Perhaps more than you can count.

How many times have you sincerely prayed this prayer?  
You have talent. It may be little. It may be great. Are you able to say sincerely with the simplicity of St. Francis:  
O Lord make ME an instrument of Thy peace.

# House Report

## Red Peril In U.S. 'Greater Than Ever'

Washington — (NC) — The communist threat in America is greater today than ever before, the House Committee on Un-American Activities said here.

In the first section of a report to be released in seven sections, the committee stated:

"The Soviet satellite in outer space has presented fresh evidence of Soviet Russia's technological progress — a progress made possible to a large degree by the penetration of our internal defenses by Soviet conspirators and their theft of some of our most vital military and scientific secrets."

The report did not elaborate on this point.

The year 1957 was "one of the greatest years of triumph for the

# JOSEPH BREIG

Who's Whoism

I have entered into the discussion of alleged American mediocrity in order to cite some neglected considerations, and to caution against certain dangerous assumptions.

I sympathize with the objectives of the two men chiefly responsible for raising the issue — Catholic University's Msgr. John Tracy Ellis, and Notre Dame University's Father John J. Cavanaugh.

They desire improved Catholic education, better scholarship, intellectual atmosphere in homes, and greater all-round competence among Catholic Americans.

In seeking those things, however, we must be careful not to forget that worldly standards and Christian standards often diverge. Rightly balanced values are vital.

In public reports of the remarks of the two men, the emphasis has been heavily laid on the side of criticism of Catholics, Catholic education and Catholic achievement.

Virtually no attention has been paid to Msgr. Ellis' references to the immense obstacles Catholics have surmounted — their poverty, their immigrant ancestry, and the persistent bigotry under which they have labored, and still labor.

Father Cavanaugh did not balance his talk, as Msgr. Ellis did his book, with such considerations. And both men omitted other facts which should be cited in elementary fairness to American Catholics.

It was particularly unfortunate that Msgr. Ellis, and after him Father Cavanaugh, made the mistake of turning to Who's Who in America for evidence of the comparative accomplishments of Jews, Protestants and Catholics.

AS I SHOWED in a previous column, Who's Who is not a compilation of intellectual eminence. Indeed, Who's Who it self admits that it is not necessarily a record of worthwhile achievement.

In the preface of the 1948-49 edition, James M. Cain described Who's Who as "at the same time a Dun, a Bradstreet, a Social Register and a Hall of Fame, all merged into a grand consolidated National Glory Highway."

Essentially, said Cain, inclusion of one's name in Who's Who means, "You are a success." In the sense that you are well known.

Who's Who editors themselves, in their statement of admission standards, tell us that their aim is "to include the names, NOT NECESSARILY OF THE BEST, but rather of the best-known, men and women in all lines of useful and reputable achievement." (The emphasis is mine.)

Cain adverts to the same standard when he admits the justice of complaints that Who's Who has given too much attention to "obscure clerics, do-gooders and professors in small universities, and too little to hustlers, comedians and similar celebrities, really in the news."

Thus we have the reality badly stated — if you are "in the news," you have the prime qualification for being listed in Who's Who in America.

OBVIOUSLY, then, if we are to keep our Catholic balance, we must be at pains to avoid infection with what I beg to describe as Who's Whoism.

Who's Whoism is one of the dangers against which I feel constrained to raise my voice. Another is an opposite peril — we must not fall prey to a mass inferiority complex. We must not think of ourselves as a huge collective failure.

The contrary is true. We have shortcomings, but we have done wonders in a couple of generations. Naturally, I favor making the success greater. But I will not be silent in the face of any implication that we need hang our heads in shame.

# Harvard Scholar Cites Catholic College Role

Worcester, Mass. — (RNS) — Catholic colleges have "a wonderful opportunity" to do good for the country and for mankind, a Harvard University professor declared here.

DR. FRANCIS M. Rogers, professor of romance languages at Harvard, said Catholic colleges "are the heirs of a glorious tradition of intellectual affairs, of contact and mutual respect between East and West, of language and area studies."

"As Catholics you have the world by definition," he continued, "and so inevitably you

respect geography; and you have a time-perspective and so cultivate history."

Catholic colleges have "the tradition of international ecumenical service in situations involving foreign languages," he observed. "They have additional great assets that are, alas, apparently lacking in other centers of study. One of them is intellectual fearlessness."

DR. ROGERS SAID Catholic colleges are "exceptionally well situated" to take advantage of the "missed opportunities" of secular colleges.



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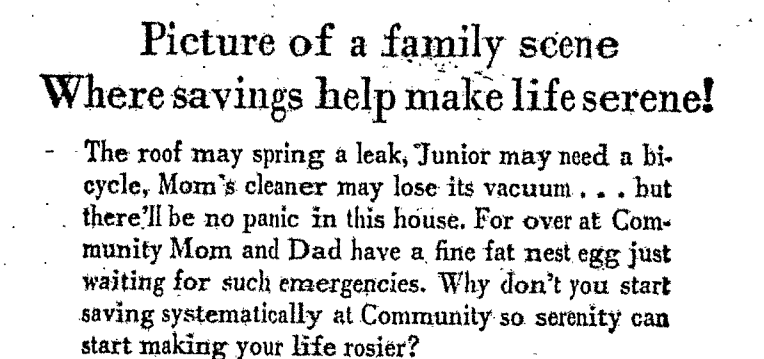


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Picture of a family scene  
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