Jesuit Questions Religious Boom'

Chicago — (RNS) — Loss of faith, conformity and loss of values are the three principal blights of American culture, despite an apparent "religious boom," the Rev. Thurston M. Davis, S.J., editor-

in-chief of America, national Catholic weekly, said here.

editor said "there seems to be of faith, its dedication to Bibli-In a lecture here, the Jesuit editor said "there seems to be very little sense about a religious boom that goes hand in hand besion it once exhibited, the effects of these failures have been felt throughout the entire structure was entitled "Culture in a left inroughout me and our cult-Cold, Chrome World."

Father Davis said he found hope, however, in the vigor and common sense resistance to foolishmess and cultural disintegration inherent in the American people, especially in rural areas and small communities.

THE REAL meaning of recent statistics showing that 60 percent of Americans are church and synagogue members, com-and synagogue members, com-dur styles, books, jargon, manpared with only 16 percent in ners, prejudices, and tastes in en-1850, was questioned by the ed. lertsinment out of the same bot-

"How much of it (the religious tional need for 'togetherness." boom) is simply the product of our yen for social togetherness. of a desire to belong to something, with church affiliation filling that purely human need?"

Alone with growth in church | Paris-(NC)-Auxiliary Bishop membership, he said, there has lean Villot of Paris, head of the een an immense growth in secretariate of the French Hier-moral subjectivism." He defined archy, announced that 75 French this is "the tendency for every priests have been released from one to judge his moral duties and their diocesan duties to serve in obligations as purely personal Africa. matters that are subject to no objective or definitive set of

"Why," he saked, "if wo have been moving during recent years towards an everyldening practice of religion, should these very years be those in which major crime statistics, juvenile delinquency and the U.S. divorce rate have mounted so high?"

He also asked how "our re-Mgious fervor" could be recomciled "with the instability of our homes, the growth of alcoholism and marcotic addiction and the flooding of newstands with 'Confidential'-type maga-

solutes in our society," Father superior here announced. Davis conceded that "in origins,

"As a result," he continued where Profestantism has failed to maintain its limited integrity

FATHER DAVIS said the word "togetherness" (an expression coined by McCalls Magazine) "denominates an undeniably real element in today's social and cultural climate."

Working together and praying together are fine, he said, "but all too often we attitudinize tolomless bag of the current na-

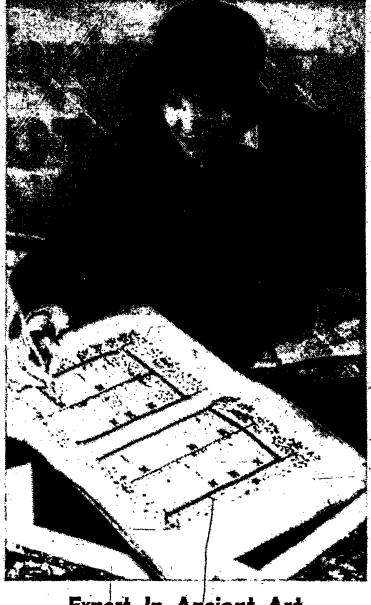
French Priests **Volunteer For Africa**

These priests are the first to volunteer their services followig an appeal from the French hishops to answer the call for priests for Africa sounded in the encyclical on—the African missions issued by Pope Plus XII in April, 1956. Bishop Villot said he priests will serve from 5 to years in the missions.

55,960 Baptized In Philippines

Manlis-(NC)-Columban misslonaries in the Philippines had a record total of 55,960 baptisms SPEAKING of "American re in 76 parishes throughout the Know" ligion" as "a support to national islands in 1957, Father William Theodore Granik. The program moral standards and ethical ab. G. Hennessey, S.S.C., Columban was broadcast and televised

religion was dominated by Amer- increase of more than 5,000 over



Expert in Ancient Art

New York — (NC) — A modern expert in the medieval art of illuminating religious planuscripts is Sister Mary Andrew (shown at work), a Sister of Charity on the faculty of the College of Mount St. Vincent here.

Free Vacations For Vocations

London, England -- (NC) -About 50 English boys who feel that they may have a religlous vocation will get a free. week's vacation at the seashore in August.

The Claretian Fathers (Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary) announced here that they have invited all altar boys aged between 11 and 16 who think they have a religious vocation to write to their headquarters at Hayes, near London.

Those selected will be invited for a vacation from August 15 to 22 at Highcliffe Castle, the society's seminary at Highcliffe-on-Sea overlooking the English south coast.

The vacation has been planned to combine business with pleasure: each morning will be dedicated to a spiritual retreat while afternoons will be spent at the beach.

Catholic Teachers Form Association

Philadelphia (NC)-A chap-

The association was establish-

er of the World Association of Christian Teachers has been organized at LaSalle College here.

ed in Rome at the 1956 general chapter meeting of the Christian Brothers. Catholic teachers on every educational level may join the association. It aims to deep en in Catholic educators their sense of responsibility and of the dignity of their vocation.

Former, President Deplores Condition

Harry Truman Believes Catholic Faith Would Hurt Presidential Candidate Bid

New York - (NC) - A Cath-land colleges in the New York olic candidate's chances for elec- area. tion as President of the United States would be hurt by his religion, former President Harry S. Truman said here on a tele

vision program. The former chief executive appeared on the "Youth Wants to program, produced by over the National Broadcasting Company network.

Mr. Truman was questioned

FORMAN'S

FABULOUS

"Do you think that a presidential candidate's being Cath-

olic, or any other religion for that matter, would have any vital bearing on his chances for election?" Mr. Truman replied: "Yes, I

do, but I think it is too bad that that is the case. I don't think It ought to happen in this country. I am giving you

The former president was askthe number of baptisms in 1956, by 14 students from high schools ed if "we will ever get to the stage where it (a candidate's religion) doesn't make any differ-

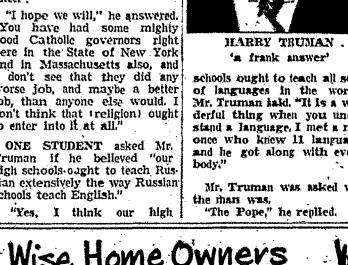
> "You have had some mighty here in the State of New York and in Massachusetts also, and I don't see that they did any worse job, and maybe a better job, than anyone else would. I don't think that (religion) ought to enter into it at all."

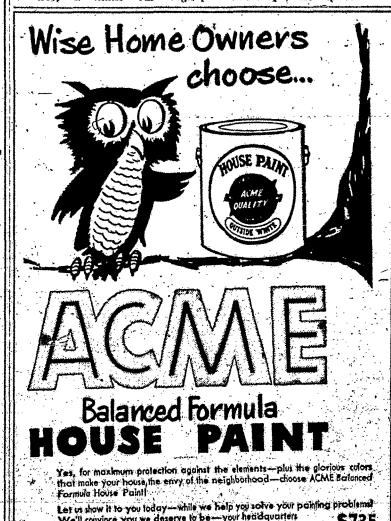
Fruman if he believed "our high schools ought to teach Russian extensively the way Russian schools teach English."



schools ought to teach all sorts of languages in the world," Mr. Truman hald, "It is a wonderful thing when you understand a language, I met a man once who knew 11 languages and he got along with every-

Mr. Truman was asked who "The Pope," he replied.





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My In-Laws Tell Me How To Cook, How To Raise The Baby, What Can I Do?

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J. Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Louis University

How can I get my husband's parents to see that we want to lead a life of our own? He's an only child, and in the fourteen months we've been married, they have been over here most of the time they're not working. I like them, but they tend to take over. I've finally managed to get her out of the kitchen, now my problem is to keep her from trying to raise our baby. Our home is the only place they visit, so when they have nothing to do, they drive over here. What can I do?

Well, Janice, your problem is an old one, though you seem to have it in a rather acute

It points up the fact that "weaning" is a two-way process. It's the same whether in Infancy or later life, both parent and child must accept what it implies and repattern their lives accordingly. Your hus! band's parents haven't grasped the full implications of his marriage. This may be a little difficult for them because he is their only child.

YOUR PROBLEM is further complicated by the fact that they enjoy such a narrow social life.: This seems rather unusual in a modern urban setting, though, as you mention in your letter, they both hold fulltime jobs, so this may provide some explanation. How can you handle this sit-

uation, Janice? Let's review some of the pertinent aspects the problem before planning I'm happy to note that you like your husband's parents.

They apparently like you, too, and that's the way it should "It's clear that their intentions are all right. They may be thoughtless and perhaps, even

FAMILY PATTERNS differ a great deal. Among some, parents and married children are very close, even to the extent of living in the same house or next door to each other.

inconsiderate under the cir-

cumstances, but there's no 'in-

This was rather common among some national groups. although modern living conditheir second and third generation descendants. In itself, this arrangement is neither good nor bad, it depends primarily on local customs and the way people are trained.



ers tend to feel somewhat insecure in their new roles and consequently are highly sensitive to outside interference. This is quite understandable.

Min their first ventures at cooking and housekeeping. they are eager to prove to themselves and to others that they are capable of doing a good job, while the care of their first baby is both a challenge and a source of concern unparalleled in their previous

experience. These are some of the passible factors in your problem. Janice. Now, what should you do? First, analyze your own attitudes. Are you perhaps a little over-sensitive? Is the situation really a serious threat to your happiness, or is it an

manage to live with?

Second, talk it over with your husband.

irritation you resent but can

Explain how you feel about the situation, and get him to cooperate with you in working out some plan for dealing with or otherwise ungleharded. This is his problem as much as of the kitchen.

blost young wives and moth- | yours, for your marital handle ness maybe involved. Although most men are rather helpless under such circumstances, if you learn to think and plan together no outside interference can, disrupt your union.

> Thaird, you may have to proceed slowly -- wearing is a gradual process:

START OUT by building up your social life on your own as a couple, Make plans to go out together, to associate with other couples, and so forth. In this 1839 You will keep your family life from being dominated by his parents. They may be upset or disappointed at first, but this is part of their wearing

Finally, don't blow your top or do anything you may later

Remember, Janice, they like you and mean well. You may have to be firm on occasion. but keep your emotions in

Try to take a long range view of the process. After all, you've already made some progress -you've got her out



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