# Sound Off But No Work

Geese and a good share of Americans must be close

The squawking is usually done by the broad-chested male of the species who never votes, never attends school board meetings, never goes to union meetings, never joins the parish men's club but then bellows across back yards about corrupt politicians, high school taxes, labor racketeers and how the clergy should do more to liven up the parish.

The squawker also is characterized by deep information on all these subjects based on habitual reading of TV

American democracy is based on the premise that freedom dies unless citizens are rightly informed, voice their opinion and abide by the majority vote.

Statistics these days give graphic evidence that Americans more and more tend to make snap judgements, fail to investigate cases deeply, come to conclusions on the basis of prejudices and inherited bias. There is also evidence that these same people fail to express their opinions (even hasty or erroneous opinions) in the traditional American way — the voting booth.

Election results — whether for government office or to, decide some local sewer or street-lighting issue - more arld more give silent evidence that Americans do not much care for their right to ballot their opinion.

But as soon as results are announced, then come the squawks, and anything and everything the elected officials thereafter do is met with the same goose-like acclaim.

THE VOICE OF AMERICA has unfortunately degenerated into something akin to a bird call. Maybe it indicates an increase in bird brains in the guise of humans.

At any rate this current widespread trend to criticize should not deter the truly sincere and level headed citizens from accepting responsibilities in public office. Despite the squawkers, there are also silent but appreciative citizens, and there is the convincing fact beyond contradiction that our country, our freedom, and our faith are worth the work entailed in preserving our traditions no matter what might be the strident noises of loud mouthed bystanders.

An old rhyme summarizes these thoughts:

To those who talk and talk This adage will appeal The steam that blows the whistle · Will never turn a wheel.

So let the geese sound off. We have work to do in our community and in our church. Let's get going and do it.

#### Making Marriage Click

## False Notions Of Love Weaken Marriage Bond

By MSGR. IRVING A. DeBLANC (Director, Family Life Bureau, N.C.W.C.)

One of the sickest things in American society is our concept of love.

cided upon by consulting the

heart or may to it is the whims.

Reason, religion, tradition may

not all be involved as all should

be. The greatest less in this

Jove is that it is separating it-

like Icarus of Greek myth.

clogy, it tries to soar too high

with its wings of wax which

are melted in the sun and then

it will also be buried in the

sea. This love can never re-

In this false love there is an

idolatry involved. The married

couple separates itself from the

universe around it and event-

ually from each other. The least

physical or moral test is

enough to plunge this marriage

They are, these "lovers,"

united only by flesh, or by a

dream, or by imagination, or

by a lantasy. The language of

this love is "only us" and later

it becomes "only me": selfish

TRUE LOVE is associated

with suffering. For suffering

in rommon draws lovers closer

than joy. Suffering and joy

are not two opposites, but two

inseparable poles in a unity

Again and again we insist

Double Protection

In a composition on "Things

am Thankful For," a hoy

listed, "My glasses." His teach-

er asked him why. "Well," he told her, "they

keep the boys from fighting

me and the girls from kissing

Well-earned

Arthur's father asked him,

"Who gave you those two

"Nobody gave them to me," Arthur said emphatically, "I

had to light for them."

black eyes?e.

self from religion.

place the sacred.

into solitude.

called love.

Modern life is such that man cannot respond to the many excitements that he experiences. He is like an overstuffed stomach which cannot digest all that it has consumed. He can only respond with the faculties in him which are first

It may be his stomach or it may be his brain; it may be his imagination which runs wild or it may

be his passion which erupts. He finds it very hard to respond with his whole being. But love must involve the whole be-

LIFE IS A

great play in

excited.

Monsignor DeBlane

which he is never fully engaged. He has an off-and-on part. He finds it very difficult to love. Love to him becomes a phantom which is exterior to his life. It do yours reality. This concept of love is more sick than civilization itself. As a mimic of love, It has many of the qualities of love but lacks one thing; it does not really exict.

It simply is not love. It is sweet to the lips and sour to the stomach. It lasts a day or a month. It makes promises as passion always does but neverkeeps them as only love can

that frue love must be associ-THIS PHANTOM love is its ated with God. The word "always," so imprudently used at own law, its own end, its own the dawn of love, ceases to be a justification. It frequently falsehood, the ecstacty of the cries, "I adore you," because all that is needed for that exmoment, if God is in that love. He is the guarantee of genuine pression is a troubled brain. The expression is a mere vapor of passion. No follow-up is necessary.

To say, "I love you," however, implies a gift of one-self, bill phanlom love carnol "wholedo anything. It is an innpossible contradiction.

In botany we consider the fruit as a natural consequence of the tree, in married love the child should be a natural consequence, but in this phantom love a child is an intruder and there is hardly a greater enemy of the child that this

Everything this love does is in segments. Mairiage is deJOSEPH BREIG

No Men On Mars

As the space age approaches some folks are speculating that there may be human beings not descended from Adam, or et least some kind of reasoning

creatures, on some heavenly body other than earth. I don't believe it.

Only theoretically am I interested in question about what might be the spiritual state of such

My opinion is that there is .

I see no reason to think that God who loves us with divine limitlessness, small have considered the cosmos too much to give Adam and Eve os the first of all birthday pre-cuts.

THE CREATOR could instantly will into existence a myriad of creations like the one we see. He fare us the universe to show forth His glory. Why shouldn't lie have beenos it seems to vs-levish about

His majesty is such that even the countless suns flung into space can nt best speak only faintly of it.

Furthermore, God from all eternity knew that our cosmos would one day be the abode of His divine Son. If a trillion more stars could give a touch more delight to Jesus of Nazareth as He walked in the night, well, to create them would be a small thing for the divine power.

AS FOR THE REST of us, there is a popular song that goes. "I've grown accustomed to your face." Only because we have become accustomed to man do we think the universe too magnificent for him.

Man is worthy of all our worlds. I do not necessarily mean morally worthy, but certainly worthy by nature. Any woman or child is fremendously more wonderful than any number of universes.

Material creation is immense. The stars and planets are multitudinous. But man is nearly incredible. He is far more breath-taking than all the heavenly bodies together.

A THOUSAND TIMES, YOU have heard man described as a union of matter and spirit. But if you will pause upon that thought, you will be awed.

Immaterial, everlasting spirit, breathed forth by God to

governing empire of spirit and matter. Man is himself a cosmos who, with his intellect and the cover nature's prodigious secrets. And he can lift up his heart to the divine. HE CAN PLAY with toys, penetrate space, kneel to adore

instruments he devises, can

measure the heavens and dis-

SPIRITUAL FATHER

By PATRICIA DAYOUNG

St. Agnes High School Senior

Fulbers' Day (June 15) inspired students of St. Agnes High School to write tributes to their Spiritual Fulber, Birhop Kearney in gratitude for his interest in their school. Senior Patricia de Young's poem, printed here, was judged the best of the Pathers. Day tributes to the Bishop written by the St. Agnes students.

Gratitude for Grace through Holy Orders

. . . cleansing grace of Penance

... loying grace of the Eucharist

... invigorating grace of Confirmation

. . . strengthening grace of Viaticum

Gratitude for guidance through the Holy Spirit

. . . words of fortitude and knowledge

. . . words to teach fear of the Lord.

for lessons long to be remembered . . .

for teaching me to love Saint Agnes . . .

for my Life with Christ ...

For this, because you work, hecause you dream,

For all of this, I owe you thanks supreme.

... words of wisdom and understanding

... words of counsel-"little things count"

. . . words of piery-"be Saint Agnes' girl"

for all the happiness channeled my way ...

. . . saving grace of Baptism

To all the flock, such gifts you daily give.

Taught in precious high school days now o'er.

Enough? Yes, but you have given more.

A definite pattern by which I live,

So, for all your work . . .

for my school ...

form a body of matter, so that

that matter and spirit together

are exe being, and indeed one

unique person, the image and

likeness of Ged-this is a para-

lyzing concept, but it is true.

Why should not God give his

beloved image a glorious

Man thinks nothing of think.

ing. He does it almost off-

handedly. But that man can

think is a fact to strike one

THE HUMAN BODY can be

ie of dollars. But living

reduced to chemicals worth a

man, with his spiritual soul,

can love or hate; choose good

or evil; write music and po-

etry; produce art; curse or

pray; sorrow and rejoice; share

the rejoicing or sorrow of oth-

ers, and sacrifice himself or an

In his body, man gathers up

the stuff of the cosmos. He

lives upon, is nourished by,

creation. He is a thinking, self-

dumb with amazement.

For some a "thank you" is a saying trite

A word too often used in ridicule.

To pay special debt of gratitude,

Today I need a special word to write,

Why should not his adoration

of Ged go up not only from earth, but from other places in the cosmes? Why should not he hallow all the uni-

THERE IS NO need to envision astounding beings on other worlds. Man is more than astounding enough. If creation is to be populated with the sons of God, I suspect that we will do the populating.

"Subdue and fill It," was the Creator's command to Adam as He appointed him lord of creation. The drama that began. in Eden and reached its colossal moment-o-moments on Calvary may be destined to be far more tremendous than we had ever dreamed. And in Adam and Eve, and Christ and Mary, it presesses a divinely-ordained unity that is both human and divine.

### How Long Should | Pick Up Bills For My Unemployed Sister? By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J.

Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Louis University

When my good parents died eight years ago, my single sister kept the home and was partially supported by our alcoholic brother. Since then she has done nothing to help herself financially, and when my married sister and I spoke to her of employment, she became quite annoyed. Now she is in her late forties, though she doesn't look it, and depends almost entirely upon us. I don't want to be uncharitable, but must I go on helping her if she refuses to help herself?

If I understand your family situation correctly, Grace, your single sister has never been employed outside the home.

As you state in another part of your letter, you married late because you had to help support the parental home for many years. This may complicate your problem somewhat.

Your single sister has remained at home, and since you have continued to take responsibility for the financial difficulties of both her and your brother, she has developed a long pattern of dependency in this regard.

HOW MUCH longer must you continue to pick up her

Well, Grace, I think you. have been doing it much too long already. Before offering some suggestions for dealing with the problem, let's review a few perfinent principles.

We can all agree that charlly should begin at home. Fammembers are bound together by strong, enduring bonds

of nature and affection. They Don't be upset if she becomes should mutually help each other according to their various needs and capacities. True charity is based on justice, though it extends beyond

it. In the present case, justice demands that your sister make a sincere effort to help herself. As a mature woman in good health, she has no right to be dependent on the efforts of others for her financial support. As the apostle put it, "If he will not work, neither let him eat."

True charity looks to the total good of the person. Your sister is harming herself by refusing to make some effort to become financially independent.

The older she gets, the more insecure and dependent she will become. The Creator did not make us parasites, and we are bound to lose our dignity and self-respect if we try to be

Whether your sister's attitude is motivated by sloth, or fear of venturing outside the home, it is spiritually and psychologically unhealthy. Hence you will fail in charily if you allow her to continue in this

HOW CAN you go ahout her to take a more realistic view of the situation? First, I think you and your married sister should come to an agreement that you are going to take a definite stand in dealing with her.

You had best set her down and tell her the facts of life.

annoyed at the suggestion that she make some sincere effort to help herself. She's old enough to know she has no right to expect you to go on supporting her, and not too old to learn to do something for herself.

Indeed, it would be well to point out that she has a good many years of life ahead of her. At present, she's starting to retire into her shell and die pretty young.

You and your sister should make every effort to find employment suitable to her taste and talents. If she needs some additional training to get started, encourage her and help her out This will be true Chri I an charify since you will be helping her to help herself, rather than reducing her to the status of a perasite.

Grace, you must be firm. Mistaken affection easily blinds us to the true good of those we love.

We see this every day in parent-child relationships. Because you have such a

long habit of sacrificing yourself for your family, you may be inclined to give in all too easily. Remember, what you really want is your sister's greatest good. Think of what she will be like in ten or fifteen years if you are not firmin helping her now.

It's generally easy to exploit charity, but those who try it are not really benefited, and we're not truly chapitable in allowing them to get away with

## What Has Happened To Father?

DR. JOHN J. KANE Notre Dame University Sociologist

THE LOW status of American fatherhood has been be-I moaned and caricatured for some time.

But a recent advertisement in a national slick has at last dealt the coup de grace to whatever paternal presitige remained - or at least any that father thought remained,

There is a touching picture of a teen-age girl, her face furrowed with grief and eyes brimful with tears, asking her mother, "Please, Hother, can't Daddy stay upstairs when my date comes?"

The reader is informed that Daddy is careless about his dress. His clothes do not measure up to the standard expected by his teen-age daughter, and will probably make a very untavorable impression en her

At first, in view of the usual dress of teen-age boys and girls, one is tempted to think of this as satire. Apparently this is merely one of a series of ads designed to make tather sartorially splended.

A more recent ad depicts a boy of about twelve helligerently demanding, "Why should I dress up? Daddy doe-n't." A cynic might reply that father had to spend so much for daughter's dress and son's clothing that he can scarcely afford a tie.

BUT THE PROBLEM of paternal eliquette towards daughter's date is not contined to advertisments.

Recently a thirteen-year-old girl was having ber first date. All her brothers and sisters were confined to the basement prior to the boy's arrival. Daddy came home just fifteen minutes before the date's scheduled appearance, and was required to shave and dress before he met the hoy friend. Unlike the ad, however, he was permitted to meet the young

Of course, families have elways tried to keep their skeletons in a closet. The problem of the crude, uncultured fither has been a humorous theme in comic strips, notably, "Bringing Up Father." It has remained for the con-

temporary period, however, to make it something more .hon a joke to make it a serious reality to be dealt with in advertisements and in real life.

There is something tragle about the plight of the modern father.

Many of them by dint of hard work and sincere sacrifice have been able to provide their children with considerably more material benefits than they have now, or had ever known as children. In fact, doing just this has developed into a first-class society virtue in America.

Behind it are some gross misunderstandings of child psychology, the pressures of the middle class particularly to achieve and to demonstrate achievements by material passessions); and a certain prideful projection by which parrais hask in the reflected glory of their children's higher sta-; even though these same might later reject their parents.

The permissive school of child rearing is by no means victous, as sometimes claimed, but it has been made into a vice by doling, foolish parents who misinterpret it. Demands made by many American children on their parents are excessive.

But unthinking parents always give in; if not at once, certainly eventually. The small child is autistic.

that is, he thinks very selfishly about himself. There is no mystery about this at all. There are residues to original sin. Furthermore, the child is not

mature enough to think of others. Incidentally, he never will become mature enough unless he meets and surmounts a few frustrations. The misinterpretation of per-

missive child rearing occurs when parents believe that children must never encounter frustrations. Children, in so far as pos-

sible, should not purposely be exposed to the kinds of frustrations which they are unable to nandle at a given age. On the other hand, children should, in fact, must be and will up exposed to frustrations. This is absolutely inevitable. The permissive parent encourages and permits his children to handle frustrations in an adequate Some common frustrations

of certain material talings, toys, movies, money. While many, Americans deplore the well-established tendency to keep up with Joneses, or preferably surpass them. they perpetuate the practice in their child rearing. An occasional derial of Fleasures or

privilers, for adequate rea-

toward children depending on

one can be hilled of brimtal

faced by children are denial

Sunday, June 15, is Father Day. This article in June's Grail magazine by John J. Kane, sociology professor at Notre Dame University, tells the rightful role lathers should play in present day family life.

hear parents help Folldren understand and react to such de-

Mary, thirteen, was recently dropped from the volley ball team-at's had Size was overwhelmed.

She came home tearful and hitter. At first, her mother deroled to write to the principal, then to the ceach.

Finally, she was persuaded that Mary's being dropped from the team could be a more important factor in her spiritual and psychological development than remaining on the earn might-be. The ther essist ed Mary to take it in uride and to realize that on wes not always successful Mary learned how to handle frustration.

Associated with this tendency to satisfy all children's cants and whims is a paternal quirk characteristic of modern Amercan society.

At one fashlenable prep -school in the east, some students were given more spending money for a week than their teachers carned in the same period. A standing joke at this school was, you could always identify faculty memhers because they arrived at school by trolley car or bus. The students had cars.

Years ago. Thorstein Vehlen. talked of "conspicous consumption." He meant the tendency of the wealthy to exhibit their material presessions as an index of prestige. He claimed that wives were used mainly as exhibitors of such wealth. Wives may still be, but rhildren are increasingly becoming the exponents of "conspicuous .consumption."

A casual visit to modern suburbia will amply prove this point: the youngster of loday is more than fully equipped for fun and recreation.

Bicycles occupy almost as much lawn space as the grass; inflated wading pools are as much standard equipment as hathtubs; swings and sliding hoards, formerly found only at state supported recreation centers, are now part and percel of the home accessories.

Teenagers seem to believe a personal car is a must, and if most don't get them, that is no proof that they don't feel they have a right to them.

In itself, of course, there is nothing wrong with providing children with such things, But

comes. But he will be proudly exhibited, because daught will really be saying, "This is my father. This is the kind of man of whom I am proud. Can you measure up to him?"



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MOST REV. JAMES E. REABNEY, D.D., President

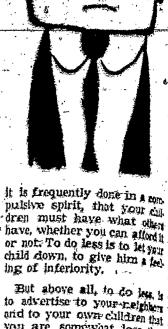
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MAIN UPPICE

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AUGUST UPPIUS

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have, whether you can allowing or not. To do less is to let you child down, to give him a fee ing of inferiority, But above all, to do les le

and to your own calldren that you are somewhat less that prosperous, and therefore failure. SOME AMERICAN PORT

actually rear their children co a plane of social and conliving that is unrealistic be cause it is higher than farers themselves can actually allers Unconsciously, they teach their children to look down upo those who are less fortuna who do not possess the gater essential to the "better life."

Vertical mobility, that is movement into a higher said and economic level, is differ lutor middle class America box's and girls. When they so ceed, parents bask in the re-Herted glory. When they ha parents are unhappy, and more than one child suffers sedent emollorial upset from the severe competition which he as

Again, there is no fault to be found with a parent min tries to make possible for Li children a superior social el commic life than he enjoyed The problem rests in the les values which may be created by such parental pushing.

THE ULTIMATE Proof d this moladjustment recipin the tremendous full that ea parents create between the selves and their children.

An Immigrant boy, who parents made great szenien to send him through medal 5-hool, is now a succentil Physician. On one necession is mother came to his ciffee le was both furious and askird. and lerbade her ever to vict him again. Her plain dress, tu accent, and obvious low to nomie circumstances exued him to reject her.

Is daughter ashamed of Bet dy? Does she prefer that he not meet her date! Is it much 'clofbing? Must Daddy get late full evening dress to much fourteen-year-old youngstul

These are some pene ralls questions that parents may il ask themselves about their dil dren. There has been much talk of parental rejection cl children. What about children's rejection of parents?

THE VALUES which men have are not innate. They are learned. Parents are the lose most leachers in the world whether they know it or not whether they wish to be or not

The great lengedy of a perent's rejection by his child is that the parent himself many sciously faught the child to do It he implanting take values by placing too great s pothings, and by encouraging a child to snobbishness.

A son or daughter who given more wholesome values who realizes the dignity of the human being, and who has a true love for father and mother, will feel a pride in them, There will be a realization of the sacrifices made in their be

Daddy will not have to his in the attic when the hoy friend



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