

# What Schools Can't Teach

New schools and new courses can never replace the basic need of a good home training.

Sociologists state that fundamental habits and attitudes — honesty, truthfulness, respect, piety — are formed in pre-school childhood. If the roots of these virtues are not "home made" there is little chance of a school succeeding in developing them.

It is also true that a child from a good home can be corrupted by companions so the vigilance of parents is a duty that is never ending.

**NUMEROUS OTHER FACTORS** infect the youngsters' minds these days to complicate parents' tasks. TV brutality, crude comics, jungle music — to name but a few — make a tragic impact on children who are supposed to grow up to be polite, cultured, intelligent adults. Faced with this dilemma of what their parents tell them and what most of the world seems to be doing, the children understandably become distracted, confused and bewildered.

There is no one simple solution to this current and growing problem.

Many parents seek in study groups to pool their mutual problems and seek by discussion to find the best answer. The answers will often necessarily change from group to group and even as individual couples apply the answers in their own homes. But the sincere effort to find a solution is the first major step to obtaining one.

As Catholic schools turn away applicants in increasing numbers due to capacity filled classrooms, parents are confronted with additional problems — especially the teaching of Catholic truth and culture beyond the level the parents themselves studied these subjects.

Again the study group idea offers the opportunity for adults to learn the faith better not only for their own information but to impart it to their high school and college going offspring.

## Poll Shows Catholics Don't Bloc Vote

Albuquerque — (NC) — Students polled at random during the National Newman Club Federation convention here said they would not vote for a presidential candidate solely because he is a Catholic.

The 405 students were polled on five questions. The questions and results follow:

1. Would you vote for a presidential candidate solely because he is a Catholic?  
Yes... 0 No... 385 No Opinion... 11
2. In voting, which would influence you more: the personal integrity of the candidate or his party's policies and platform?  
Integrity... 263 Platform... 135 No opinion... 7
3. Which party's policies do you believe closer to Catholic social doctrine?  
Democratic... 209 Republican... 66 No opinion... 16
4. In the future do you expect to participate in politics beyond the minimal act of voting?  
Yes... 220 No... 169 No opinion... 16
5. Do you think a Catholic can be elected President within the next decade?  
Yes... 335 No... 53 No opinion... 17

A total of 112 chaplains were also polled on these questions. Asked if they would vote for a presidential candidate solely because he is Catholic, 109 of the chaplains said they would not.

## SERMONETTE

God Never Changes (From the prayer of St. Therese)  
By the Rev. James D. Moriarty

Joe Stokes sat on the bar stool, leaning forward on his two elbows, his chin cupped in the palms of his hands. Dreamily he gazed at the mug of beer before him. He watched the air bubbles hurrying up the length of the glass to the surface and pop silently into the open air. That was the story of his life. Everything looked good for a while. Things seemed to be rising to the top and then "pop" just like the bubbles plans evaporated into thin air.

The priest had just advised him to resort to prayer. Wasn't prayer like asking God to change his mind? If he remembered anything from his college philosophy class it was this: God was not the type to change his mind. God never changes. He is a changeless Being. Then what good would prayer do?

And then like the air bubbles rising ideas began to pop into Joe's mind.

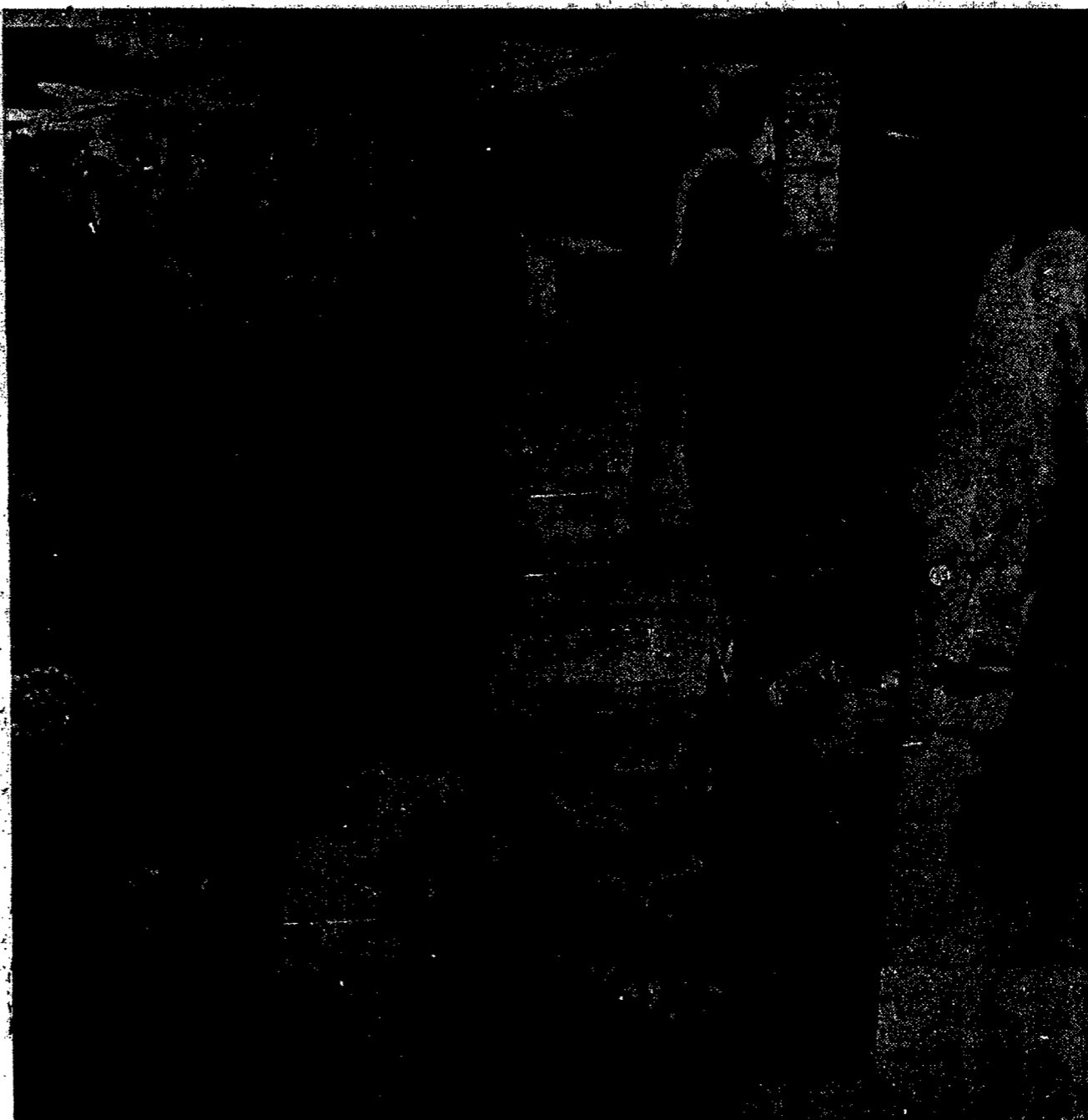
Sure, God never changes. That's right. But every created thing changes. Seeds change into flowers and flowers give us back the seeds. Minerals change and become alive in the flowers which draw them from the earth. Grass and grain change into meat and milk. And meat and milk change into blood and bone. The stars, the sun, the moon, the earth are constantly changing. People are changing all the time.

Maybe prayer was the answer. After all it was not asking God to change his mind. It was just asking some of these things or creatures or people or whatever to fit into a pattern. That wasn't too much to ask. Many of these changes were taking place anyway. It was just a matter of what direction they would take.

It had never struck Joe before that so many changes were going on around him all the time. All things were changing, more or less, except God.

Joe sipped his beer and tasted it twice before swallowing. He smiled at the simplicity of the situation. All these changes going on about him, . . . God wouldn't have to change anything after all because Joe Stokes was changing himself.

When actor David Niven was mess officer in the British army, he once bought a special treat of expensive caviar and had it served at the general mess. To his amazement, he heard much grumbling from the men. Finally he asked an old sergeant what was wrong. "Sir," the sergeant glared, "this blasted blackberry jam tastes of fish!"



## Maryknollers Bring Faith To Priest-Poor Area

Manila — (RNS) — Foreign missionaries like the Maryknoll Sister at this Manila market are working hard to preserve the Faith that was planted in the hearts of the Philippine people more than 400 years ago by Spanish missionaries. Religious orders conduct many large schools and hospitals on the islands, but there

are fewer priests in the Philippines today than there were 60 years ago. According to figures in the Catholic Directory there are only 2,338 Catholic priests on the islands — a decrease of 235 since 1898. During this same period the population trebled from 6,500,000 to 19,000,000.

## More Priests — Church's First Need To Survive In Latin America

(This is the last of six articles on problems of the Church in Latin America written by the editor of Noticias Catolicas, Spanish and Portuguese edition of the N.C.W.C. News Service.)

By JAIMÉ FONSECA

Spurred on by the vast and complex religious and social problems afflicting their countries, the Catholics of Latin America are realistically striving to make their Faith play a major role in their temporal affairs.

Their efforts to solve such pressing problems as the ignorance and poverty of the masses and the lack of religious vocations have received the encouragement and guidance of the Holy See.

They were climaxed by the establishment of the Latin American Bishops' Council (CELAM), set up on the pattern of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in the U.S.

The Holy See's Consistorial Congregation, which has charge of the government of dioceses, has spelled out its functions as follows:

• To study the problems of the Church in Latin America with the aim of seeking their proper solution.

• To seek a timely coordination of Catholic activities in order to secure greater efficacy.

• To promote and sustain those projects, initiatives and works that directly or indirectly concern the common welfare of all Latin America.

• To carry out those tasks especially entrusted to it by the Holy See.

CELAM had its inception at the International Eucharistic Congress in Rio de Janeiro in 1955 and was formally established in 1956. Since then its three annual meetings have laid down a vast program in detail. Last year the delegates of the national bishops, clergy who make up the steering board of CELAM met in Rome, a significant move toward a closer unity of its aims and work.

Knowing that Latin America suffers the vicious circle of a languid spiritual life because of the lack of priests and a distressingly low number of ordinations because of that languid spiritual life, the bishops made a determined effort to break this circle and thus spearheaded an amazing recovery in vocations with the help of missionaries from the U.S. and Europe.

CELAM is also giving Catholics a united front to meet the onslaughts of secularism, communism and Protestant fringe sects proselytizing.

It will also bring renewed efficiency in the methods of combating religious ignorance, in spreading the desire for religious life and vocations among the youth, in the difficult task of bringing about social reform in industry and agriculture and in gathering material resources for the vital works of mercy

deals with the means of meeting the challenge of the Protestant missionary effort, as well as of spiritism and other new creeds.

It also deals with new methods of preaching and of religious instruction — the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine functions here under the direction of a Maryknoll priest — liturgical movement, Catholic missions and the communications media: press, radio, television, movies.

2. The Diocesan and Religious Clergy and Institutes department is entrusted with affairs relating to both native and foreign clergy, vocations, seminaries and pastoral methods in parish life. This department prepared the first congress of rectors of Latin American seminaries held in Rome last year, which discussed ways of giving a deep and solid spiritual formation to the priests, as well as modern and useful intellectual training.

3. The Education and Youth department deals with the whole Catholic educational effort in Latin America, including parents, teachers and students organizations. A special concern has been the spiritual assistance to Latin American students in foreign countries, mainly the U.S.

4. The Lay Apostolate department is devoted to all forms of apostolic activities of the laity, both in their national endeavours and in their connections with the international organizations, Catholic and non-Catholic.

Besides the official Catholic Action groups for men, women and youth, there function in Latin America the third orders, sodalities and the Legion of Mary. There are also specialized groups like the Christian Family Movement and cooperatives and associations for students, doctors, professors, lawyers and other professional men.

5. The Social Action and Charities department is concerned with social and industrial relations, social reform, the problem of alcoholism and the "culturalization" of the 30 million Indians in Latin America.

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## Prejudice Abates

Albuquerque — (RNS) — A prominent American sociologist said here that nomination of a Roman Catholic for the presidency will arouse some inter-religious tension, but prejudices against Catholic candidates have declined substantially in the past 20 years.

Dr. John J. Kane, chairman of Notre Dame University's sociology department, told delegates to the 45th National Newman Club Federation convention that the mere possibility of a Catholic presidential candidate has already resulted in "some resurgence of the old fears, doubts and prejudices that swept American life in 1928."

"Perhaps this is inevitable at this stage of intergroup relations in the U.S.," Dr. Kane said, "but as a stern warning to all of us" that hostility, prejudice and discrimination are no figments of the imagination but real factors to be combated incessantly and increasingly.

However, while stressing the lack of sufficient "solid empirical evidence" of public sentiment on the matter, Dr. Kane pointed out that Gallup polls, such as Gallup polls, reveal a shift in opinion since 1940.

In that year, Gallup found that 51 per cent of those polled said they would not vote for a well-qualified Catholic candidate. In 1959, however, only 24 per cent said this. Younger voters, present polls showed, are less opposed to a Catholic than older ones.

"One disturbing finding of the polls," Dr. Kane said, "was that more than half of all Catholics questioned would jump their party lines to vote for a candidate of their own faith. Perhaps it is an indication, however distasteful to Catholics, that the remnants of a minority group mentality still survive."

The sociologist reviewed sources of tension between religious groups in America the past 10 years, and noted "slow but constant improvement in this aspect of American life."

"The millennium is not at hand," he told the Newman Club members, students in

Non-Catholic colleges and universities. "In fact, it is not even near. But it is less distant than it was in the late forties and early fifties."

Dr. Kane said that today's two most critical areas of contemporary domestic relations are the field of education and the question of a Catholic in the White House.

The sociologist predicted that school situations — such as quotas in medical schools, federal aid to education, fringe benefits like text books and bus transportation — are going to become much more critical in the future. He attributed this to the stresses or increasing enrollment and soaring costs of education in both public and parochial schools.

Dr. Kane concluded with a consideration of how prejudice and discrimination can be eliminated. "We must begin," he said, "with the frank admission that no single racial or religious group has a monopoly on these pathologies. In other words, America's minorities can be very prejudiced toward the prejudiced. . . ."

"The only sound basis for fighting discrimination and prejudice is morality," he stressed, "and the very best motivation is a religious one. While Protestants, Catholics and Jews do disagree theologially, love of neighbor and the dignity of man and his brotherhood under God are tenets common to the Judeo-Christian tradition."

## Making Marriage Click

### Self Expression

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

"As a mother I am being frustrated in my efforts to save Johnny from frustration. My maternal windshield has doubts as thick as mashed potatoes. How can I be sure I am going in the right direction?" Mrs. E. M.

2. One of the greatest things a child in a decent home can have is time on his hand to dream, to imagine, to make things. Even in early childhood silence and solitude are a must. Constant loud radio, TV, or sudden noises can make a child nervous. It is wise to walk with a child in the quiet sections of a park, to gaze at the stars, to be alone in life but, of course, not enough to make him unsociable.

Until a child can meet reality, he must live in a certain fantasy. There are, however, dangers for the adolescent who day-dreams about the purely fantastic and the completely impossible.

3. Sympathetic reassurance from adults is needed when children are seized by anger, fear, rage, or grief. These emotions often impel violent reactions. One of the most important of life's tasks for a youngster is to learn how to manage these emotional situations. He must learn to free himself from panic.

If a child is afraid of the darkness, someone he trusts may walk with him in the quiet of the dark and not only show him how to avoid breaking his neck by stumbling over something he cannot see, but actually demonstrate genuine calm and fearlessness.

• A man dashed out of his office to put another nickel into the parking meter. Just as he arrived, he saw a man dropping a nickel into the meter for him.

"Hey," he said. "You dropped that nickel into the wrong meter. That's my car."

"I know," said the man. "You would have gotten a ticket in another minute or two."

The car owner hastily gave the man a quarter in gratitude. "Thanks a lot," he said. "Do you do this often?"

"Happens pretty regular," the seedy character replied.

Then he added, as he turned away. "Sometimes I even get a half a dollar."

• Pretzel drinking man's fil-trar.

• Sign on a dairy in New Orleans, La. "Our cows are not contented. They are always striving to do better."