

## 'Control' Stirs Controversy

The birth control controversy continues to stir strong comments from critics of the Catholic stand on the subject.

Objections ranged from the hardly profound observation that Catholic Church laws are made by a "bunch of bachelors" to the utterly crass outlook that unfavorable "economic, psychological or physical conditions" which make "procreation undesirable" justify promiscuity without responsibility between spouses.

Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the National Council of (Non-Catholic) Churches, although a champion of the birth control program, admitted he agreed with the nation's Catholic Bishops that the government has "no business" in the matter, as President Eisenhower stated.

He also said Protestants must prove their own convictions on separation of Church and State by respecting Catholic consciences in this delicate subject.

LONE VOICE TO TAKE a total stand with Catholics was Greek Orthodox Archbishop Iakovos who assailed handling of the topic "like a football."

Greek Orthodox, as Catholics, are opposed to artificial birth control.

To have children without interfering with nature's laws "is a duty binding on all," the prelate said.

Speaking at a dinner at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, New York, on the feastday of its patron saint, the archbishop told his listeners that the "whole subject" of birth control reminded him of the slaughter of "Hebrew infants during the reign of Pharaoh, and of other innocent children in Jerusalem at the time of Herod."

He was not implying that there is "talk today of infanticide," he stressed, but that "in our day we are speaking of intervention of one kind or another."

The prelate observed that he did not know whether "we have the right to treat human dignity with so little respect," but added, that "I do know we are obliged to protect human life under all circumstances."

Expressing concern about the "secular spirit" in which the subject is approached, Archbishop Iakovos declared the entire argument in favor of birth control is based on the "premise that society must forever banish from the face of the earth hunger, misfortune, juvenile crime, social revolution and wars, since all these are a consequence of over-population."

Although this argument "may be correct," the archbishop continued, he objected to it because it is "entirely negative." Calling for a "positive approach" toward responsibility to "man and God," he quoted Genesis, Chapter 1, in which God, after creating man "in His own image, blessed him and said, be fruitful multiply, and replenish the earth and subdue it."

Until now, he said, "we have perverted ourselves and shattered the image of God within us. We have not yet replenished the earth to such an extent that over-population has resulted in degrading the dignity of man."

Instead of "subduing the earth and transforming it into paradise," the primate said, "we have become slaves of animal instincts."

## Joseph Breig

### Too Many of us

I yield to no one in my respect, in general, for the objectivity and honesty of American newsmen. Within the limitations of deadlines, and of the newspaper page or the radio or TV broadcast, they come up with excellent results.

But they do have their weaknesses. One is their tendency to equate freedom of speech and press with license to offend against modesty and decency — and indeed to descend to vulgarity — in the matter of sex.

Allied with this, because it is inevitably connected with right and wrong uses of sex, is the subject called "the population explosion," which is a current darling of discussionalists and viewers-with-alarm.

I DO NOT THINK it is too much to ask competent journalists to reject the words "population explosion," or at least to note for their audiences that they are loaded words — in more than one sense. Their use unbalances a report in its very origins.

Nevertheless, CBS-TV, with Howard K. Smith reporting, titled a recent one-hour special program, "The Population Explodes." This is a piece of sensationalism and special pleading which ought to be beneath professional journalistic dignity.

CBS-TV is by no means the only offender. Almost everything written or broadcast about world population is poisoned with the words "explosion" or "explosion." This is not honest journalism. It is a word-trick.

"Some news outlets, further, have been patting, in my opinion, for the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, which is a private, not public, set-up, and periodically issues handouts with Malthusian implications."

THOMAS MALTHEUS, the clergyman who came up, a century and a half ago, with the idea that population grows geometrically (1.248-1.16) whereas food production at best rises only arithmetically (1.24-1.5) has been proved just about as wrong as a man can be.

Still, Malthusianism has been dug out of its unhoneored grave by birth-prevention propagandists, and is having a vogue at the precise time in history when it is most clearly preposterous.

Father Anthony Zimmerman, a population expert, has noted that many Americans are worrying about the world starving at the very moment when they are paying taxes to reduce food production — and to store the huge surpluses that mount up anyhow.

EVEN IN THE worldwide view, optimism, not pessimism, is the realistic attitude nowadays. Populations are growing because of the spread of health, sanitation and medical knowledge; but the average human being today is better fed than ever before.

And this is only a bare beginning of the prosperity that seems surely in store for mankind if we learn to share with ourselves sky-high. The studies by Colin Clark, famed agricultural economist of Oxford University, indicate that the earth, properly tilled, can feed, and feed well, at least nine or 10 times its present population.

Furthermore, that is reckoning without the immense potential of peaceful atomic power, which can turn deserts into gardens; and also without the titanic food resources of the sea, which have hardly been touched.

I DO NOT THINK it is cranky of me to say that it is the job of our newsmen — and of our writers generally — to learn the whole story, and give it to the people.

As Chesterton remarked in a famous retort to the contrarians: "If there is a shortage of hats, sensible men do not start lopping off heads. They start making more hats."

Humanity needs more food for more people. The same and practicable thing to do is to produce more. That way lies booming world prosperity.



## The Angel Comes To Mary

Hail, Mary, full of grace—the Archangel Gabriel greeted the Blessed Virgin Mary with words still used by half a billion Catholics in their daily prayers. The "annunciation" that our Lady was to be the Mother of God is marked in this week's Ember Wednesday Mass, a prelude to the approaching feast of Christmas. The scene above is modeled in wax by the Italian sculptor D. Mastroianni.

## Why Ration People?

# Food Surplus Mounts

Washington — (NC) — A new State Department study says the only world region where food production is known to lag behind population growth is Oceania, a group of islands in the Pacific.

During the past 10 years, says the study, world food production has been winning the race against increasing population, even in underdeveloped countries.

The report says indications are that the food increase may continue for many years. It estimates that there might be 110 million tons of surplus rice and wheat by 1975. The study centers on these two basic foods.

However, the department said in an earlier study on population growth itself that most increase in the number of people is taking place in areas where "the majority of people are already living at bare subsistence levels."

THE TWO reports, while both dealing with population growth in different ways, view it in different ways. The one on food production considers only that matter, while the other considers population growth's possible effect on over-all economic and social development.

The two departmental studies were prepared by the Federal unit's bureau of intelligence and research. They do not represent a State Department policy, but rather are reports deemed useful for departmental planning.

The study on food increase says that between 1950 and 1956, world population jumped at an average annual rate of 1.7 per cent, while the average rate of increase of world food production averaged "slightly less than three per cent."

The study maintained that the food production increase was distributed unevenly among the regions of the world, but during the past decade "increased at a rate appreciably greater than did population in the Near East, Western Europe, the Far East, Africa and Latin America."

As for Oceania, it said that despite the food production lag, "(it) continues to have one of the world's most satisfactory levels of domestic food consumption and to be a major source of food exports."

The study said that during the 1955 to 1959 period, total world food production was up 17 per cent from the total in the 1948 to 1952 period.

As for the future, the study cautioned that its projections assume that current trends will continue unchanged, a situation it calls unlikely.

However, it does say that if trends in wheat and rice

production continue and per capita consumption remains the same as during the 1955 to 1957 period, in 1975 world surpluses would be 40 million tons of wheat and 70 million tons of milled rice.

Claiming that during the 1955 to 1957 period world production of wheat went up 14 per cent above the 1948 to 1952 average and rice increased by 29 per cent, the study gave a breakdown to account for the increases.

About four-fifths of the increase resulted from greater yields per acre, while increased areas sown accounted for only one-fifth. Sixty per cent of the rice increase was accounted for by bigger yields per acre and 40 per cent by the sowing of new areas, it said.

The earlier State Department study on population growth itself placed special emphasis on the effect of this growth on the effort to raise the general level of production and well-being, not just food.

It emphasized that drastic lowering of the death rate — not an increase in the birth rate — accounts for the population growth.

All the medical developments and public health techniques developed over the past century are available now for combating disease in underdeveloped nations, it said.

"As a result, death rates in many countries . . . are now declining much more rapidly than they ever did in the industrial nations and at a much earlier stage of development, before there has been any substantial improvement in levels of living," it claimed.

It sketched the problem of population growth, saying: "In the majority of the less developed areas, populations are now increasing at annual rates of at least two per cent and rates of three to 3.5 per cent are not uncommon."

"These rates of growth will result in a doubling of human members once every 20 to 35 years."

"Moreover, there will very likely be a continued acceleration in population growth in these areas. There remains much room for further reduction in death rates and there are no definite indications that a significant decline in birth rates is imminent."

"Even if birth rates were to begin to decline immediately, there would be an extended period of rapid population growth before the declining birth rates could reach the lower level of death rates."

The report noted that virtually all governments of less developed countries have undertaken ambitious social and economic development programs, but that they often are caught in a vicious circle.

The faster the population expands, the greater the money that must be invested merely to maintain present economic levels and this hinders acquiring capital and skills needed for increased productivity, it said.

## Man Of Good Will

# At Service Of World

By JAMES O'NEILL  
Rome — (NC) — "I am a man of good will at the service of the world."

With such a simple and sweeping statement Dominican Father Dominique Pire, winner of the 1958 Nobel Peace Prize, summed up his mission and himself.

The quiet-spoken priest's conversation gives little hint of the urgency within him that impelled him to leave the classroom to become Europe's — and perhaps the world's — most famous refugee worker.

In the past 10 years Father Pire has established three homes for refugees in his native Belgium and five refugee villages in Austria and Germany.

Now he has expanded his mission to include not only Europe but also Africa and Asia. "I want to become a bridge builder where there are barriers between men," he explained.

When he accepted the Nobel Prize in 1958, Father Pire told King Olav V of Norway that he was "accepting it not as an honor but as a responsibility."

The 49-year-old Dominican has launched what he calls a Crusade for the World of the Heart. For as Father Pire sees it, the world's problem of 40 million refugees has grown into "a serious illness of humanity" which grows on "man's lack of respect for man."

Father Pire lists six "concrete points of action" encompassed by this crusade.

The first and second points aim at Africa and do not involve refugee problems directly. Father Pire's idea is to work to establish friendly contacts between African youth and the youth of Europe.

"I want to weave a thread of love between Europe and Africa. World friendships have been established between black and white people. This is possible with tact."

Additionally, Father Pire plans to set up a medical center, "a very modest one," he said, in Africa for the care of tuberculosis patients.

"I asked Dr. (Albert) Schweitzer whether such a small center would be worthwhile," Father Pire said. The doctor, also a Nobel Prize winner, who has a hospital in Africa, replied: "The high ways are necessary, but one must also have the smaller paths."

As his third project, Father Pire said he plans to go to Pakistan to study possibilities of helping the 10 million Muslim refugees in Pakistan.

"I have been invited to come to Pakistan by Asian and Muslim authorities, which represents a double bridge of friendship," he said. He added that he had not been asked.

While in Italy, Father Pire had an audience with His Holiness Pope John XXIII and visited with Italian President Giovanni Gronchi. He also visited the refugee camp in Latina, south of Rome, supervised by Catholic Relief Services' National Catholic Welfare Conference, world-wide relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Bishops.

While not abandoning his refugee work, Father Pire said he hopes the crusade will unite men of various faiths, races and nations in a worldwide effort for peace and the betterment of mankind.

ed for money but only to come and advise the authorities.

Though somewhat skeptical of what he might accomplish, Father Pire said, "I am a man of good will at the service of the world."

His fourth goal is to increase a personal contacts among men separated by the Iron Curtain in Asia as well as in Europe.

"The Iron Curtain does not cut the world in two, because on both sides there are the same kind of men with the same dreams," he said. "I do not believe that there are deep differences between men. I have spent my life among different men and always I have discovered they are all my brothers."

Getting youth interested in the Crusade of the World of the Heart is Father Pire's fifth point. He said he has received more than 500 letters from young people since he won the Nobel Prize, all volunteering to work with him.

Lastly, Father Pire said, his crusade would work to stimulate contacts among people interested in the problems of peace. He said in the past 11 years his main aim has been to encourage "unity among men."

"Men are the same and to realize that they are the same they must work together," he states.

Father Pire said the crusade has a formal organization. He has gathered about 10 interested friends in various countries and they are striving to put the six points into effect.

Returning to the subject of refugees, Father Pire said that "theoretically the best solution of the problem would be their return to their own country."

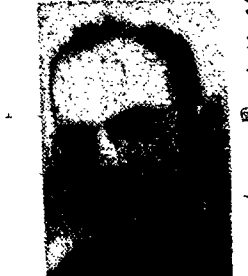
Father Pire also attacked the refugee program as it now stands because most nations permitting immigration want only those who can keep themselves employed.

"Work is the key word for the rehabilitation of refugees," he said. This often means that the ones who need the most help, the aged and the sick, are left without.

# SERMONETTE

One Tick at a Time  
By Rev. James D. Moriarty

Did you ever hear of the clock that could think? When it was wound up and put in its place for the first time it began to meditate. As the pendulum swung to and fro it considered that it had to tick twice each second. That would be 120 times each minute or 7200 times every hour. In 24 hours it would tick 172,800 times. This meant 63,720,000 times every year. In 10 years it would have ticked 637,200,000 times. At this point the calculating clock ticked 637,200,000 times.



Clocks can't think but humans can. It would be better sometimes for humans if they couldn't because just like the clock the human mind may begin to add up all the jobs to be done. It doesn't realize that only wide imagination can do it. There is one thing that can be done at one time. It begins considering all the jobs to be done in the next ten years. And the worrying mind builds a huge imaginary building to have it come toppling down about its ears.

It has been said that if the ordinary man were to be faced with all the food he will eat before he dies the pile would be large enough to frighten him to death. And it would drive the average woman crazy. But bite by bite each will consume this food in due time.

God doesn't give us the grace and strength today to last us for the next fifty years. But in the words of His own Divine Son He has promised us enough to take care of any situation which may arise. "My grace is sufficient for thee."

Only the foolish are forever plunging themselves into the possible troubles of tomorrow. The realist keeps aware of the fact that the only time one can enjoy is now. It's too late to catch the train after it has left the station. It's insane to go to the station a full day before departure time.

"Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof." is good to keep in mind. Let's take today as it comes. Let's mind the most of it. The future will have joys and sorrows of its own making. The best way to know what makes us tick is to just take one tick at a time.

## Making Marriage Click

# Marriage Marvels

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

To be happy and holy in marriage, we must investigate the "mystery" connected with the Sacrament of Matrimony. Sacred Scripture refers often to this mystery. Study this mystery deeply and wonderful new truths appear. It is for that reason that some married couples actually exclaim about the joys of marriage more than they describe it.

Some use intuition more than logic. We have seen artists, for instance, who enter into the mystery of beauty around them and detect brilliant colors where others have seen dullness. Sweethearts see marvels in a lover which no one else can detect. Saintry couples discover magnificence in matrimony which is completely missed by the worldly.

BUT THIS IS true, not only of the marvels of matrimony but of the whole universe. There is a forest of symbols created by God whose beauty only the eyes of faith can see. Our Lord taught us this in His parables, in His references to the narrow and the illies of the field.

The word "mystery" in our vocabulary has been reserved to the life and action of God Himself. It is for that reason that we speak of the mystery of the Trinity, the mystery of the Incarnation, the mystery of the Redemption, and, of course, the mystery of Christian Marriage.

Matrimony is a constant reminder of an association and a life with Christ. It is a wedding of Christ to the humanity He has saved. In the old testament, God is called a faithful and loving spouse, a fickle, passionate, but repentant bride. Heaven is called a wedding feast.

St. Paul, in the fifth Chapter of his Epistle to the Ephesians, that Magna Charta for Christian marriage, portrays the wedding of Christ to His people which took place on Good Friday. Every Mass is a Nuptial Mass because it is the wedding of Christ to His Mystical Body. This not just

poetry. It is truth and it has very practical consequences.

We note the intimacy of that total union of Christ to His bride. It involves the body, the heart, the intellect. There is a union of Christ's Body to our own through the Eucharist. The flesh of the Son of God is associated with our own and some theologians say it prepares our body for its eternal resurrection — a resurrection which will resemble that of our Lord's on Easter Sunday.

THIS INTIMACY leads also to a union of suffering between Christ and His bride. True lovers suffer not only next to one another, but also with one another. This union leads to offering and to the education of souls for God.

It was on the cross that our Lord united Himself forever to humanity. As the Last Supper is an image and a symbol of eternal priesthood, so the Crucifixion on Good Friday is a symbol of the unity of Christ with His bride. It was there He won His bride.

Only a home which meditates on the cross can understand the depth and breadth of Christ's love for man. It is only when a couple accepts suffering that love is present. It is only when we see our love and sorrow together, love and sacrifice together, that we will see love and redemption together.

Where love exists, sorrow brings inexhaustible joy because sorrow purifies love. We have only to compare the grandeur of those who have labored and suffered with those who have known only a limped, lazy, untried love.

The unity of couples in the Sacrament of Matrimony, expresses better than all other sacraments the union of Christ and His Church but that superiority is only in the expression. The Sacrament of Matrimony leads only to the Eucharist, which possesses the plenitude of love and of life.

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