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COURIER-JOURNAL
Friday, June 24, 1960

Failed Refugees U.S. Accused

Washington — (NC) — The United States has failed to fulfill its responsibilities during the World Refugee Year, U.S. Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota has charged.

The Minnesota legislator asserted that with WRY drawing to a close (June 30) "we have still to pass refugee relief legislation of even a modest nature and object in this Congress."

"THE PRESIDENT has still to advance plans for using at least one-half of the special World Refugee Year funds of 10 million dollars authorized by the Congress last year," Sen. Humphrey declared.

The Senator's views were expressed in the Congressional Record under an extension of his remarks made in the Senate.

"In plain language," Sen. Humphrey said, "World Refugee Year has met its major ob-

jective to call to the attention of the entire world its responsibilities for those without home or country, but these responsibilities have not been fulfilled in this one year.

"There are continuing responsibilities and they are ours as Americans, as brothers of all who suffer because they have been deprived of freedom and rights."

At the request of Sen. Humphrey, an address given by Sen. Philip A. Hart of Michigan at a dinner sponsored by the New York Committee for World Refugee Year was printed in the Record. Sen. Hart suggested that each candidate for the presidency this year be called upon to outline his program regarding the refugee problem.

Armed Forces Queens In N.Y.

New York — (RNS) — Shown at a dance in their honor at the Cardinal Spellman Servicemen's Club in New York are the five newly-crowned Armed Forces Queens. With Mgr. John Kelly, the club's director, the girls are (left to right): Marine Lance Corporal Judith Anne Small of St. Bernardine parish, Baltimore, Md.; Army PFC. Mary Lukals of St. Laurence's parish, Lawrence, Mass.; Airman First Class Sue Houser; Seaman Judith A. Garrison of St. Phillip's parish, Battle Creek, Mich.; and Coast Guard Seaman Joanne S. Rishel.

Maturity At Eighteen?

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

In one of your articles you stated that a girl of 17 is not yet a mature woman and should be watched carefully by her parents. Yet at the age of 18 a girl is legally on her own, and is expected to earn her own way in life. Do you mean to say that a year, between the ages of 17 and 18, will make a mature woman out of a child? Or perhaps at 17 she is more mature than you, (and many others) wish to admit?

You raise an interesting point, Joe, though I was somewhat surprised to find my remarks on parental guidance of teen-age girls questioned by a man. Feminine readers should take note that they have at least one staunch defender in the opposite camp!

THE ANSWER to your question will depend upon how we define maturity. Maturity is a general term that has little meaning without a specific referent; that is, it must refer to some quality or characteristic. For example, it might be said that women are sexually mature after they have completed puberty since they are then capable of reproduction.

Because the average girl in our society reaches relatively complete physical development around the ages of 18 or 19, she may be regarded as physically mature at that time.

The definition of civil maturity is somewhat arbitrary. Women are granted the privilege of voting when they reach 21, while in roughly three-fourths of the states they may marry without parental consent after 18.

On the other hand, maturity related to social, intellectual, moral, emotional, and spiritual qualities appears to

be a gradually developing process, depending upon native capacity, training, experience, and the demands of the social system or culture in which one lives. Because none of us fully develops all of these qualities, we remain more or less immature in regard to one quality or the other all of our lives. Maturity is a matter of degree. In reality the basic question is always: "Mature enough for what?"

When you insist that a girl at seventeen may be more mature than some of us wish to admit, you are basing your conclusion on several doubtful assumptions. First, you assume that she is old enough to come and go as she chooses, to select her companions wisely, and to regulate her social life according to her own best interests.

Do you really mean this, Joe? In the widespread current concern about teen-agers the result of parental illusion? Are the social scientists merely fabricating the distressing statistics on juvenile delinquency, illegitimacy, scholastic incompetency, irresponsible early marriages, and so on?

You also assume that parents and others are either misjudging adolescent girls or trying to deprive them of their rightful freedom. What evidence could you offer for this? To be sure there are always a few parents who misunderstand their role and deny their children all opportunities to develop normally.

The majority of contemporary parents, however, exert far too little effort to guide, instruct, and discipline their teen-agers, as recent studies clearly indicate.

Aren't you forgetting that parents are responsible before

God and society for supervising the development and conduct of their teen-age children? Although girls at 18 are granted some legal independence, nobody assumes that they become automatically mature at this age, should be entirely on their own, or are expected to earn their own way in life.

THE FAMILY is still the basic "launching pad" of young people into life and society. As long as they are supported by their parents and remain in the family circle, it is taken for granted that their parents are responsible for their guidance and have a consequent obligation to supervise their conduct.

Both parents and teen-agers seem to have lost sight of the important Commandment, "Honor thy father and mother."

Many modern parents appear to have lost confidence in themselves. Instead of taking the love of their children for granted, they attempt to "buy" it by constantly giving in to them, with the result that they are afraid to exercise the authority their responsibility as parents obviously demands. If fathers and mothers recalled that their authority comes from God, they would probably feel less insecure in fulfilling their roles.

Episcopalians To Visit Blessed Virgin Shrine

New York — (RNS) — Three Holy House of Nazareth was American pilgrimages to England will be sponsored by the American Church Union, Anglo-Catholic wing of the Protestant Episcopal Church, next year to commemorate the 900th anniversary of the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Canon Albert J. du Bois, New York, the ACU's executive director said the groups will sail from New York in May, July and September, 1961.

WALSINGHAM became one of the most important places of pilgrimage in medieval England after a reputed replica of the Lincoln, and Kings Lynn.

Sentimental Image Of Christ Deplored

Cleveland — (RNS) — Frank J. Sheed, founder of the well-known Catholic publishing house of Sheed and Ward, declared here that too many Christians think of Christ in the sentimental terms of "gentle, meek and mild."

Such an impression, he said at a First Friday club meeting, suggests that not enough people have studied the Gospel. Christ often became angry, Mr. Sheed said, but always at the same provocation: whenever he saw people profane God.

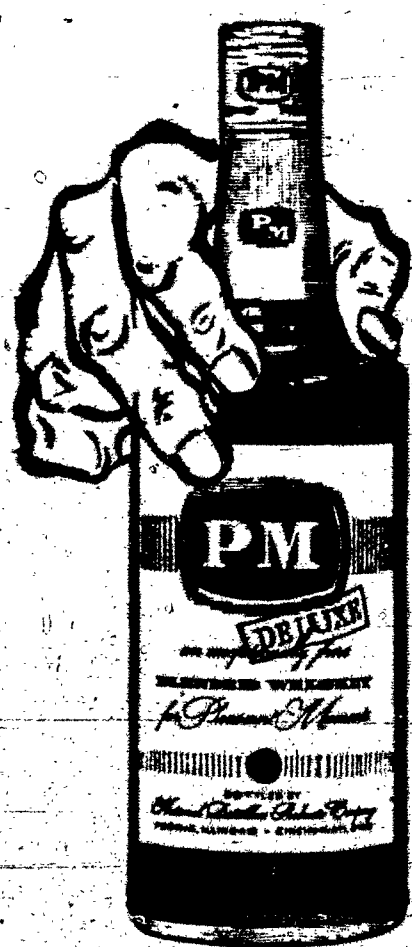
"OUR LORD was not crucified because of the smile on His face," he said. "He would be startled at the present-day picture of Christ. So would the money changers who felt His lash. So would the Pharisees who were subjected to the strongest invective in the world's literature when the Apostles."

Christ likened them to sepulchers and graves."

Asserting that too many Christians know too little about Christ, Mr. Sheed said they should go to the Gospel and read it "as if it were the very first time they ever heard of Christ."

"Everyone will get a slightly different picture, and that is natural," he continued. "We will all respond to different elements in His life. But our job is to see Him as He was seen by the men who best knew Him—the Apostles."

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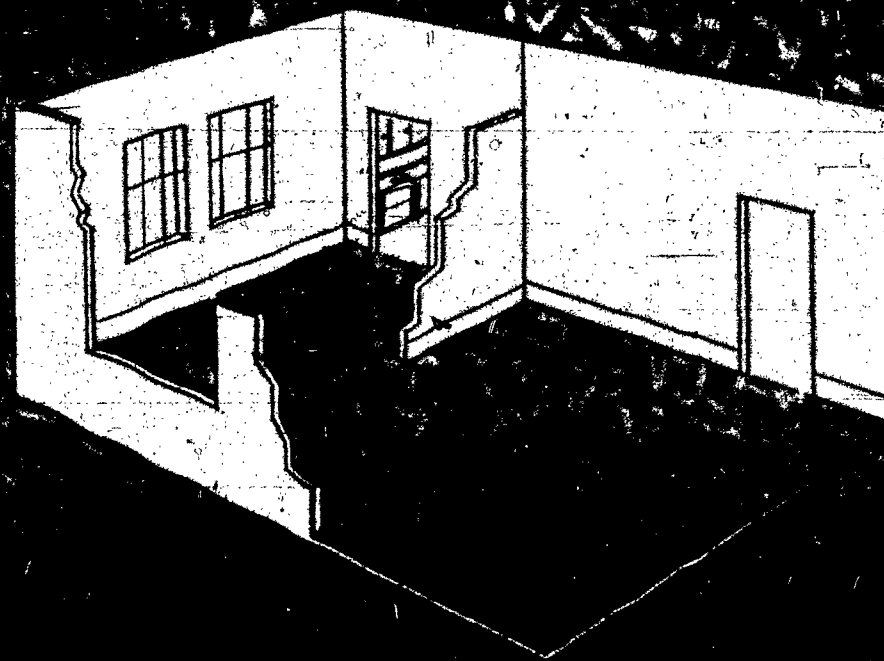
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12' x 12', reg. 188.00, now	138.88
12' x 13', reg. 233.80, now	172.40
12' x 18', reg. 279.60, now	205.92
12' x 21', reg. 325.40, now	239.44

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