

Ethics Code Proposed

Boston — (RNS) — A few days after Cardinal Cushing of Boston issued a Lenten pastoral letter calling for higher moral standards among public office holders, Massachusetts Gov. John A. Volpe went before the State legislature to ask for a measure demanding a strict code of ethics for all public employees.

In a special message before a joint legislative session, Gov. Volpe urged that the "public trust not be subverted for personal gain." His speech came on the heels of a similar demand made recently by President John F. Kennedy when he spoke before a joint session of

the Massachusetts legislature. The measure suggested by Gov. Volpe aims at setting standards for all office holders "far above the morals of the market place." He told the legislators that the public has "a right to be sure no genuine conflict of interest exists among us" and that no selfish motive is permitted in the conduct of public affairs.

Cardinal Cushing's letter was distributed to Catholics at Sunday Mass throughout the Boston archdiocese. It declared in part that "no double standard can be adopted by public officials and (that) government must acknowledge its subjec-

tion to the moral law." The Governor's proposal provides for a special five-member "conflict of interests" commission to enforce appropriate standards of conduct. This commission, he suggested, would be composed of a clergyman, a justice or former member of the Massachusetts Supreme or Superior Court, an attorney and two gubernatorial appointees.

His bill would stipulate a broader scope of existing conflict of interest laws governing all governmental activities as well as recognizing and defining legitimate private economic interests, such as ordinary investments.

Birth Control Squabble Ends Health Council

Syracuse — (RNS) — The Metropolitan Health Council which became involved in a controversy when shortly after its establishment two years ago it admitted the Planned Parenthood Center, has disbanded.

Created to coordinate health planning in this area, the council quickly encountered trouble when two Catholic hospitals withdrew after the Planned Parenthood Center joined. Father Daniel Lawler, director of Catholic Charities for the Syracuse diocese, resigned from the council's board of directors and Bishop Walter A. Foery attacked the council for admitting the birth control organization.

The Community Chest then decided to stop its contributions to the council, John E. Morrissey, Jr., council president, said in announcing the dissolution.

He said the Community Chest faced loss of support from Catholic agencies if it continued to give funds to the council.

Crusader Mass Rite In Holy City

Jerusalem — (NC) — A church built by Crusaders within a Roman fortress near here has marked the 60th anniversary of its rededication with a Mass that can be witnessed only in Palestine: a Consular Mass.

The church is St. Saviour's Basilica at Abu Ghosh. The Consular Mass is an institution of the 18th century when the Church allowed special honors to be given at liturgical functions to the representatives of France in the Middle East.

France was the foremost protector of Latin Christianity in the Moslem lands of the East Mediterranean.

Baron Christian de Sainte-Marie, consul-general of France in Jerusalem, was present at the commemorative Mass in St. Saviour's and was accorded liturgical honors.

State To Rate Movie Films

Albany — (RNS) — A bill authorizing the New York Board of Regents' licensing of motion pictures as "acceptable" for children was passed by the Assembly, 125-17, and sent to the Senate.

Under this legislation the division, which now has the power to ban movies in the state on grounds of obscenity, would recommend to parent and civic groups those films which it regards suitable for a young audience.

Opponents attacked the bill as leading the way toward government censorship in all areas of morality. Supporters said it would keep children away from objectionable pictures stressing sex, violence, horror, nudity and drug addiction.

No Title For Trujillo

Ciudad Trujillo — (RNS) — REPLYING TO President magnificent temples you have caused to be built to the honor and glory of God."

Rebuttal came, however, when the N.C.W.C. bureau issued a statement recalling that as recently as Jan. 10 the bishops had complained that the authorities were interfering in religious affairs and conducting an anti-Catholic press and radio campaign. It also recalled that as far back as January, 1960, the bishops issued a pastoral letter protesting a wave of mass arrests of persons suspected of "seditious activities" and charging "flagrant violations of your profession of the Christian faith is to be seen in the human rights."



Cornell Coeds At Cenacle

Cornell University students were on retreat at Rochester's Cenacle Convent Retreat House March 3 to 5. With Jesuit Father William Donaghy who gave retreat conferences are Flora Yap, Marilyn Hannum, Catherine Kostuk, Ruth Sherlock, Sue Spann, Mary Lou Moore and Mary Lane Yingling.

Lutheran Film Rated A-1

New York — (RNS) — "Question Seven," a movie made in Germany for Lutheran Film Associates here, has received from the Catholic Legion of Decency an "A-1" rating with a "special accolade" recommending the picture.

A full-length feature, now being premiered in seven cities in this country and Canada, the movie depicts present day pressures against a minister and his son in Communist East Germany.

In citing "Question Seven," the Catholic film reviewing agency said the movie was a "powerful motion picture" which "dramatizes what is certainly the most vital human problem in the world today — the threat of atheistic tyranny to the freedom and dignity of man."

"EXCELLENT treatment of significant subject matter and a timely universal theme make this a film which the National Legion of Decency strongly recommends to every moviegoer," the agency declared.

The picture shows the experiences of a Lutheran minister serving an East German parish whose former pastor has been imprisoned by the Reds for alleged anti-State acts.

Also dramatized is the spiritual struggle of the minister's young son who is torn between pressures of atheistic education in school and Christian teaching at home. The pastor's problem is heightened by the fact that his son becomes an unwitting

tool of the State in its war of nerves against the Christian Church.

The film was produced for the Protestant group by Louis de Rochemont Associates of New York which in 1954 also made the successful film "Martin Luther" for LFA.

"Question Seven" is the third

successive picture released by Louis de Rochemont Associates cited by the Legion of Decency. The other two were "Embezzled Heaven," a Catholic movie based on the novel by the same name written by Franz Werfel, author of "The Song of Bernadette," and "Power Among Men," a documentary on the United Nations.

Legislature Passes 'Matching' Adoptions

Albany — (RNS) — An adoption bill that had been criticized by Jewish groups was passed by the Legislature and sent to Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller for signature.

The bill sets up a two-stage procedure for non-agency adoptions, those arranged privately between families.

Jewish groups had objected to a provision requiring judges,

"when practicable," to appoint guardians or give children for adoption to persons of the same religion as the child.

The Jewish spokesmen said this violated a parent's right to choose his child's religion. The so-called "matching" proposal was endorsed by Catholic and Protestant groups.

The Governor vetoed a similar bill last year on the ground that it contained a "vaguely worded" section on adoptive children's inheritance rights. This section was dropped from the bill passed this year.

Japan Tops In Vocations

Oakland — (RNS) — Japan was cited by a Maryknoll missionary from that country as having the highest religious vocation rate in ratio to its Catholic population than any other nation in the world.

"There are approximately 250,000 Catholics among Japan's total population of 93 million," said Father Anthony J. Brodnick, M.M., of Oakland. "Yet this nucleus has produced over 400 priests and many more sisters and brothers."

But even with this high percentage of vocations, he said, the Church is registering little impact on the life of the average Japanese.

The missionary listed as major obstacles to Church growth the "inordinate national and personal pride" of the Japanese, lack of interest in religion and loss of spiritual awareness, and difficult economic conditions which make the Japanese work long hours with little remaining time for religious study.

To counteract these obstacles, Maryknollers in Japan have turned to mass communications media, such as radio, publications, and TV, as aids in spreading the faith, he said.

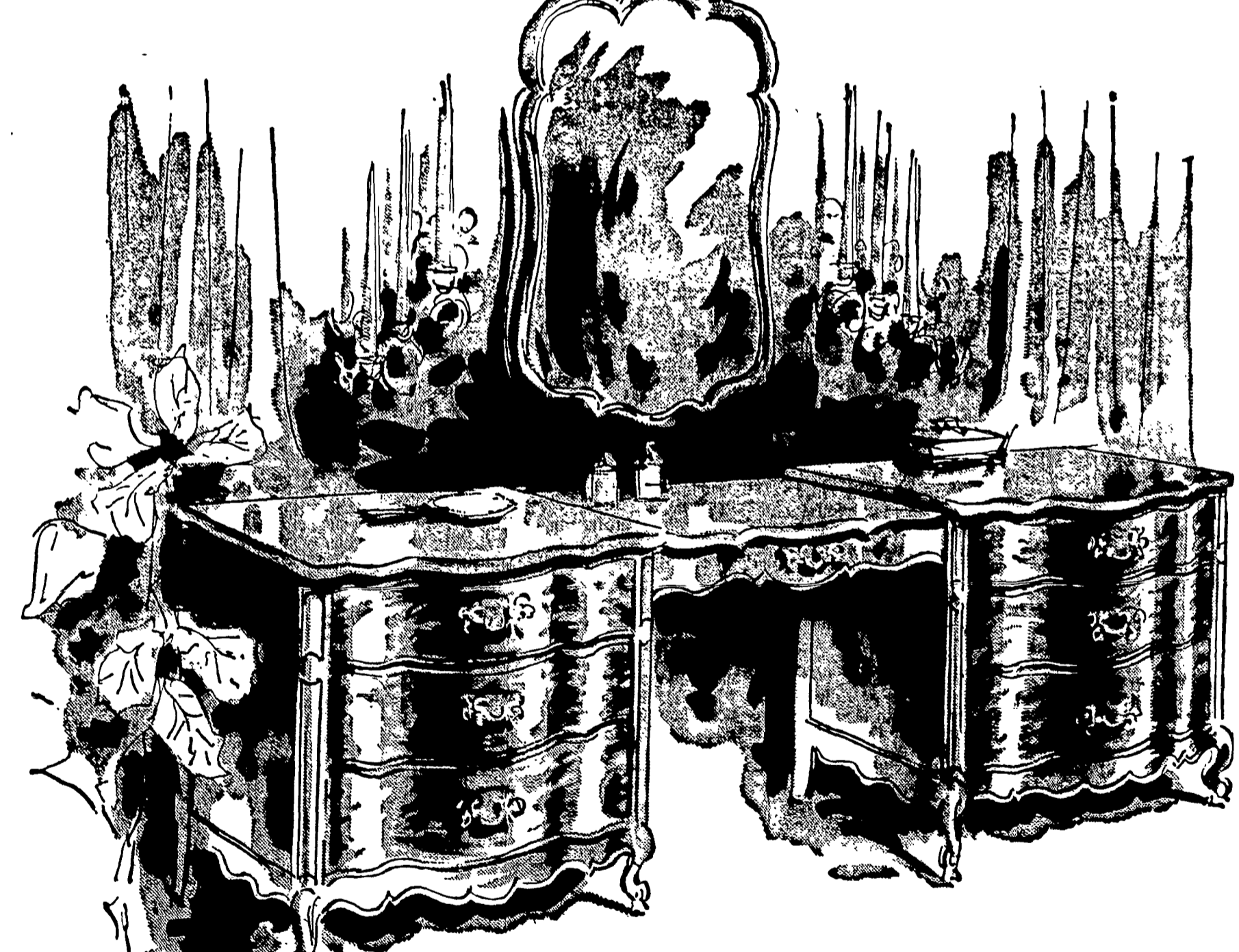
170 In Corning Card Party Draws

Corning — One hundred and seventy persons attended a card party recently in St. Mary's School gym sponsored by the Rosary Society.

Prizes, awarded by the Rev. John Lynch, moderator, went to Angelo Buffomante and Joseph Paris Sr.

Mrs. Paul Quattrini presented a gift of appreciation to the Rev. Thomas Watt, former moderator, who will leave soon to become curate at West Wat-

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'Abolition' Film Said Distortion

Oklahoma City — (RNS) — The Oklahoma Courier, official weekly of the Oklahoma City-Tulsa Roman Catholic diocese, assailed the controversial anti-Communist film "Operation Abolition," declaring the picture contains "distortions so blatant and so extreme as to produce the net effect of lie."

In an editorial the paper said the motive for making the movie — to alert Americans against the Communist threat — while worthy was not a sufficient reason for "mishandling the truth."

Distortions in the picture, the weekly said, result from changing the sequence of events surrounding hearings of the House Un-American Activities Committee in San Francisco last year to such an extent that the documentary "this is to be a true account" of what occurred.

Noting that some opponents of the film "have become so incensed" that they have demanded the committee's abolition, the Courier urged that the Congressional group be continued.

"Operation Abolition," which was made for the committee, depicts a student demonstration at the San Francisco hearings. It contains scenes which are not true, the paper said.