

The psychiatrist's son was skipping rope with the little girl next door. His father was tinkering with his car nearby. Suddenly the boy gave his playmate a violent shove and knocked her off her feet.

BOOK SHELF

Chesterton

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA Namareth College

Chesterton Man & Mask, by Garry Willis. Sheed '61. Appendix of notes and index. 243 pp. \$4.50.

There are brilliant young Catholics at Yale, and sometimes they cause trouble. This one, Garry Willis, is evidently going to cause a very useful kind of trouble; he is entering on a career of making people think.

His book on Chesterton is clever, not merely because the young scholar who writes it has found the right English for his every idea, but more important still, because he knows his subject, his man Chesterton, each work of his.

He has sat down with the products of each decade of Chesterton's life and sounded them independently (a thing Chesterton himself did, fairly and squarely, with every man's book).

Because Mr. Willis knows, through honest scrutiny, he can answer the critics of the prosecution ("Chesterton is negligently good, an idle optimist, a decadent, hiding behind nonsense, a pagan, a crypto-Puritan, Chesterton is no poet, artist, no philosopher; a fine philosopher and nothing else.")

THE RUTHLESSLY systematic defense is fascinating, honest, fresh. It is presented in four parts: Isolation, 1874-1899; Controversy, 1900-1912; Vigil, 1913-1921; Incarnation, 1922-1938.

These pursue the lonely youth; the man in his delighted escape into reality and a vocation to defend it; the successful

man with his loyalties to live for—his brother Cecil hopelessly entangled in the Marconi case; his wife from whose spiritual life his own was diverging; his country's problems—and then the great final years of full Catholicism when, armed with the joy of Mary and of Christ, he returned powerfully, masterfully, to the insights and apocalypses of earlier years and set them forth in better poems, essays, stories than ever before.

This triumphant fact-finding and idea-recognizing constitute a real Chesterton Renaissance. One sees the seriousness of that seemingly light attack, the "rhythm of development" in Chesterton's method; "The whimsical opening is not an accident or journalist's trick; it is Chesterton's response to reality, a response of wonder at the oddity of being . . . (they) have the mark of jester, one who comments on the immediate situation with a detached irony and objectivity of amusement. . . . The rhetorical release at the end of the wave's movement represents the moment when, by argument and irony and laughter, Chesterton reached the point where he can use the mantle tone. . . ."

The very last page says (and seventeen other chosen quotes are skipped to reach it): "There has always been reason to call the artificial jester a 'natural' fool, even when it was considered a mark of royal courage to expose oneself to the continual scrutiny and comment of a mind made agile by playfulness and lack of 'normal' ambition.

The intellect which sharply limns issues is a challenge, and there may be truth in Belloc's claim that the future reception of Chesterton's work would be one norm for judging England's willingness to think. For the jester is not only the corrective anti-type, but the test of the mind. He is Touchstone."

The ten pages on The Ballad of the White Horse must be mentioned; they find depth in the poet, range in his judgment of men, that no previous criticism has discovered. And the practical value of noting, for instance, that some of the most-anthologized essays are not the best, having been written for The Illustrated London News under the ban of not mentioning politics or religion, may hint at the quality of sheer information provided here.



Comics Against Communism

St. Paul — (RNS) — A campaign to fight Communism with comics has been started here by the Catechetical Guild, the world's largest publisher of Roman Catholic teaching aids. The cover of its first comic book, "The Red Iceberg" is shown here. This comic book is intended to show the aims and methods of Communism in an easy-to-understand way. The initial printing of 250,000 copies is to be followed this fall with the publication of another comic book telling how to combat Communism.

Mexicans Warned On Red Gains

Mexico City — (RNS) — Lenten pastorals issued by the Catholic hierarchy in Mexico have placed strong emphasis upon what was termed "the Communist threat" and "Communist infiltration" within the Mexican republic.

Jose Cardinal Garibi Rivera, Archbishop of Guadalajara, was joined by other Mexican archbishops and bishops in concentrating their pastorals on the problem of Communist gains here.

THEIR LETTERS stressed the dangers of a society which is atheistic and abandons the teachings of the Church.

Cardinal Garibi's message, read in all churches of the Guadalajara archdiocese, called on Catholics to fight Communism and live within the dictates of Christianity.

The cardinal begged for a "solid union of all Mexicans" in order to present a strong front against Communist infiltration in the republic. Calling attention to the tactics of trained Communist task forces, he warned that Communist agents are playing the role of "avengers" of the masses from "social injustices."

Communism's real objective, the prelate asserted, is the "diabolic goal of destroying all religions and effacing from the world the idea of God."

In his pastoral, Archbishop Antonio Gulzar y Valencia of Chihuahua, criticized Mexican business leaders for overlooking the dignity of the worker. He asserted that they lack "comprehension of the needs of the worker."

His statement attacked Mexican businessmen for apparently being more preoccupied with material gain than with spiritual profits and treating their employees as "slaves" rather than "brothers" who serve their interests.

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GOD LOVE YOU! By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

Has the role the laity played at the first Easter ever been noted? They were the first at the tomb early on Eastern morn: "Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome came with spices to anoint Jesus." The fact that they brought spices to anoint the Body of Jesus and their worry about who would roll back the large stone in front of the tomb prove that they were not expecting the Resurrection. Finding the tomb empty and "the stone moved away from the tomb door," Mary Magdalene came running to Simon Peter and that other disciple whom Jesus loved, saying, "They have carried the Lord away from the tomb and we cannot tell where they have taken Him."

The laity were the first to witness the bare fact of the Resurrection, a privilege which shall never be taken from them. And although the laity were not expecting the Resurrection any more than Peter and John, they nevertheless set these Apostles in motion. Speaking lightly, it was they who told Peter to get a move on, to investigate the facts and then to make the official declaration that Christ had risen.

From that point on in history, both the hierarchy and the laity have functioned as a unit. That is why we find Scripture at one time describing the faithful as "those who were with the Twelve" and the Apostles as "those who were with Peter." In modern language, the bishops are with the Holy Father, the laity with and under the hierarchy governed by the Vicar of Christ.

The Easter lesson for this year of 1961 is this: Beloved laity, blessed people of God! You are called to a more communal life with the Church. There will be moments when your sanctity will be a goal and a spur to us priests and bishops; you will even "force" us into action as Magdalene moved Peter. But it will always be Peter and the Apostles who will give you the authority to work. You good people have a desire for sanctification, a yearning for dedication, a passion for apostolate which many of us in the Church have not yet tapped or utilized. But now "Peter and those who were with him" summon you to a share in our apostleship. We want you to be catechists, that is, teachers of the unbelievers; we summon you to the missions, especially those of you who have skills.

What is the government doing with its Peace Corps except imitating in a secular way what the missionaries of the Church have been doing for twenty centuries? The government wants you to help people in the name of America; the Church calls you to save people in the name of Christ. The government wants you to volunteer; Christ called you to offer yourself as a soldier of Christ on the day of your Confirmation.

The dead are everywhere in the world—dead in sin, entombed in ignorance, buried in want, sepulchered in loneliness. The Church needs you, under Peter and the Apostles, to teach them, to heal them, hospitalize them that the Risen Christ may make their tombs empty, that they may walk in the newness of the joys of the Resurrection.

Will you join a Christ Corps? Will you pay your way to the missions and back? But you must have skills—as a nurse, a teacher, an electrician. Send us your name and qualifications and we will give your name to a missionary bishop who in turn will contact you. Our address: 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York.

GOD LOVE YOU to Mrs. J.E. for \$2 "In thanksgiving for the graces we have received in the past. . . . to M. for \$10 . . . to B.V.O. for \$5 "E made out my own income tax return and saved the fee I would have had to pay an accountant."

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N.Y. or your Diocesan Director, Rev. George S. Wood, 80 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.

Korea GI's Join Jesuits

Seoul — (RNS) — Four young Korean Army veterans, including two named John Kim, have left here to enter a Jesuit novitiate in the United States, and Thomas Lee.

One of the John Kims and Thomas Lee belong to well-to-do old Catholic families in Korea. Anselm Min is one of three Catholics in a large Korean family, while the other John Kim and his entire family were converted by a Jesuit priest.

Seton Hall To Expand

South Orange — (RNS) — A 180-acre tract of land in Saddle River, N.J., is being purchased by Seton Hall University here for the erection of a branch of the Catholic school.

A spokesman said the 11,000 student university was acting to meet the need for higher education and to participate in the growth of Bergen County where the land is situated.

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Obedience, Discipline

Coach's Counsel to Pupils

Washington — (NC) — Al Severance, one of the nation's top basketball coaches, advised high school athletes to develop the qualities of obedience and discipline to fit themselves for college and later life.

Retired after 25 years as

coach at Villanova University, he dispensed the advice to eight squads of the nation's top high school basketball players assembled here to compete in the eighth annual scholastic basketball tournament staged by the Knights of Columbus and Georgetown University.

Severance, who spoke at a dinner honoring the players, defended college athletic scholarships. He said: "With all the extra work he puts in playing a sport for the prestige of his school, a boy deserves a scholarship." He said there is nothing "better to fit a young man for any walk of life than the combination of a Catholic education and character-building athletics."

"It matters not," he told the high schoolers, "how good are your reflexes, how great your ability as a rebounder, how accurate your aim as a shooter, how swift your speed. All these fine qualities are nothing unless you learn two things in college and in athletics—obedience and discipline. It's these, more than any other qualities, which fit you for the role you choose to fill in later life."

UN Health Agency Votes Down Birth Control

New Delhi—(RNS)—A resolution endorsing planned parenthood as a preventive health measure was defeated by a vote of 31 to 18 at the 14th World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization. There were 25 abstentions.

The resolution was presented by Ceylonese and Norwegian delegates to the assembly, but was effectively opposed by representatives from Spain, Belgium, France and Portugal who argued that the world agency should not concern itself with a matter involving the religious beliefs of people in several member countries.

Norwegian proposal would have put the world agency on record as favoring planned parenthood to protect a mother's health. It also sought that the agency gather information on planned parenthood for presentation to next year's assembly.

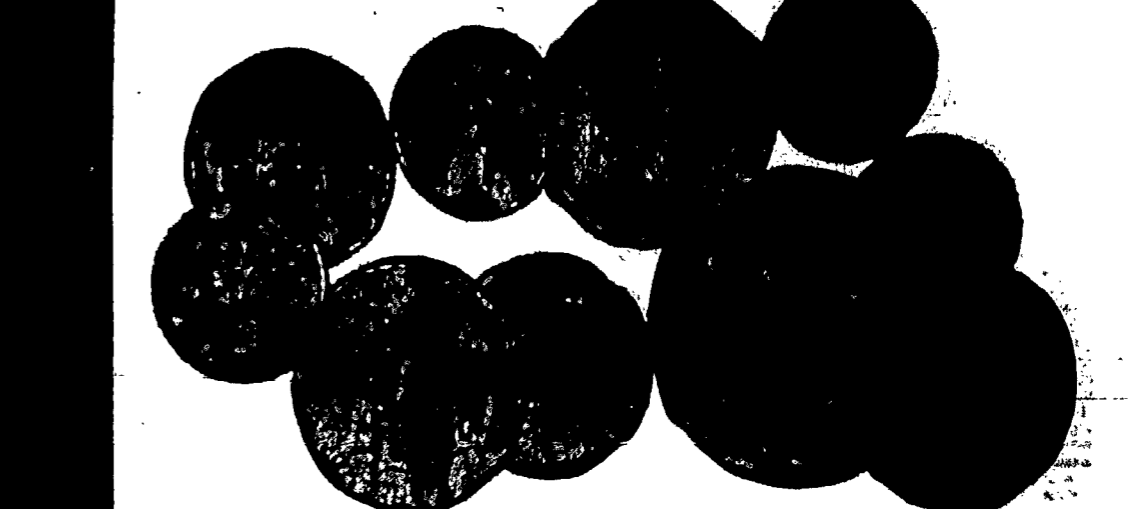
A prominent delegate to the assembly was Mrs. Angela Sonagere, Indian representative of Catholic Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference.

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