

Free Consent For Marriage

Washington — (NC) — The National Council of Catholic Women has called upon the U.S. government to encourage adoption by the United Nations of a draft convention on free consent to marriage. The appeal was made by Mrs. Arthur L. Zepf, NCCW president, in a letter to Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

BOOK SHELF

Father Baker

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA
Nazareth College
Anderson, Floyd—Father Baker

There are few joys as keen as encountering a person who lives up to God's demands on him. In this simple life of Father Baker, servant of God, and of Our Lady of Victory, any reader will experience that joy. Once his priestly life had begun, it seems unlikely that Father Baker mentioned himself to God at all; there are no interruptions, no ups and downs of the spirit to be explained.

There is just a record of steadfast charity, from day to day, from year to year, the record of a soul lost in God and in the service of his neighbor.

Some of the crests of the high waves of that charity can be described — they cause a natural eloquence in their chroniclers. The Buffalo Times carried, for instance, this summary of the facts in its editorial on Father's death:

"To the hungry during his ministry he fed 50 million meals. During the depression at one time he was serving more than a million meals a year. He gave away a million loaves of bread. He clothed the naked to the number of half a million. He gave medical care to 250,000 and supplied medicines to 200,000 more. Three hundred thousand men, women and children received some sort of education or training at his hands. A hundred thousand boys were trained for trades. Six hundred unmarried mothers in their distress knocked at his door and did not knock in vain. More than 6,000 destitute and abandoned babies were placed in foster homes. . . ."

That record covers forms of charity unlike those of Francis Xavier, but the two must have been much alike. When Father Baker was criticized in his nineties, for giving Negro converts twenty hours of instruction in as many days and then baptizing them, he commented in his favorite way, in the form of a question: "Did St. Francis Xavier give all those people over in India a full course of instruction before he baptized them?" Easy to see he had big models, big hearts, in mind.

Of course, money to give away has to come from somewhere. The channel of incoming money was always the same: from the people, through Our Lady. And after he had solidly established his many institutions of charity, she helped him build a two-million-dollar basilica to satisfy her ardent love for her — one of the world's greatest shrines of Mary.

The book is packed with incidents, many of them quite



Daw Drug Company Award
Phillip Panfil, Daw Drugs vice president, received the 1961 "Health Service Center Award" from Stanley Halbreich, president of the Vitamin Capsule Corp. The drug chain operates 36 stores in the Rochester area and has six more under construction.

Aid To Red Nations Said Flop

Washington — (NC) — The senator who introduced an amendment that would bar government aid to communist-controlled countries said here that U.S. aid to Yugoslavia and Poland has been "a gigantic failure."

Sen. Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut said in remarks supporting his amendment: "After spending billions to prop up the Tito and Gomulka regimes, the net gain to the free world has been zero. Yugoslavia remains a Red dictatorship, strengthened and made more gramscian by American aid, brutally oppressing its people. . . ."

As for Poland, the Senator stated, "the longer our aid has continued, the more subservient to Moscow the Gomulka regime has become, and the more venal and repressive toward its people, its press, its churches, its schools, its academic world and all elements of its society."

Sen. Dodd's amendment to the Senate foreign aid bill (S. 1983) would bar use of U.S. funds to aid Albania, Bulgaria, Communist China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, East Germany or any nation controlled by any of these countries.

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By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

What a marvelous thermostat exists in the human body! It regulates food, blood and heat in all parts of the organism. The right arm is never heated 20 degrees more than the left; food does not give increase to the left cheek to the detriment of the right; an even body temperature is sustained in every cell and member. This is what is known as the catholicity of the human body: life is in every part of it that it may grow harmoniously and as a unit.

The Body of Christ, which is the Church, also has an automatic regulator which supplies what is needed to each part of it. That is the Holy Father. He is the visible means of keeping the Church catholic. A few months ago we had the honor to offer His Holiness a small offering (really small). He asked: "Do you give this for a special purpose, or may we use it as we see fit?" Our answer was: "Your Holiness may decide." His gratitude centered principally on the manner of giving, as he expressed regret that so many donors tell him what to do with their gifts, where to spend them, as if he did not know the needs of the Church better than they! Then, speaking of his Society for the Propagation of the Faith, he voiced the hope that the faithful would give to it "first and principally," in order that he might make an equitable distribution to the missions of the world.

Then the Mystical Body will grow proportionately in all parts of the world. We will not have the Church in the United States rich and the Church in New Guinea poor; we will not have American missionaries favored and Dutch and Irish missionaries impoverished; we will not have some societies growing fat while others become thin. All must grow, develop and expand, each receiving from its friends a supply for its seminaries and missions. But, as the Holy Father said, he must be given your sacrifices "first and principally" that he may be the Holy Father to all — "Holy" because he is the Vicar of Christ, "Father" because all missions and all societies belong to him.

There is satisfaction for the ego when we decide where our money will go, but there is greater joy when we make an act of faith and allow the Holy Father to decide. Our Lord told us that our left hand was not to know what our right hand did in the way of charity. The best way to keep the secret from the left hand is to be catholic. Help everybody — everybody. And who has the interests of everybody at heart except the Holy Father? Send your sacrifices to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and we shall forward them to the Pontiff that he may aid all the missions of the world.

GOD LOVE YOU to L.D. for \$5 "In appreciation for prayers that resulted in the conversion of our family of nine." . . . to Mrs. R.J.B. for \$5 "Our home was broken into last night, but the robbers were surprised before they could take our savings. This is in gratitude." . . . to M.M. for \$2 "I am eight years old. This came from making and selling pot holders. Instead of a new doll I know you can feed real babies that are hungry."

As you pray the multicolored WORLD MISSION ROSARY, remember that the white decade is offered for the Holy Father. Then remember that the Vicar of Christ has said that The Society for the Propagation of the Faith is to be "first and principally aided." Send your request and an offering of \$2, and we will send you the WORLD MISSION ROSARY.

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Clergy, Nuns Told

Team With Laity

Notre Dame — (NC) — Religious superiors were urged by a Bishop to provide lay people with the opportunity and encouragement of playing their role in the Church's mission.

Calling attention to the emergence of the laity in the apostolate of the Church, Bishop Leo A. Pursley declared: "We cannot too long delay our adjustment to their presence and their participation in that divine mission."

The Bishop of Fort Wayne, South Bend told the National Congress of Religious that while the proper role of the laity must be defined "more clearly and completely," many lay people are already engaged in Church work and many more are eager to join their ranks.

"We shall not lose face, status, prestige, uniquely and irrevocably ours by holy orders or religious profession," the Bishop said. "If we take the hand of our lay brother in Christ and show him how he can help us in our work."

THE PRELATE spoke to about 1,500 priests, brothers and sisters who are major religious superiors from across the country. He addressed the opening key session at Notre Dame University.

Earlier, Valerio Cardinal Valeri, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Religious, presided and preached at a Solemn Pontifical Mass in Sacred Heart Church marking the formal opening of the Congress.

Bishop Pursley said the spirit of the world "is always a rough, ruthless and relentless antagonist to spiritual truth."

To keep that spirit completely out of religious life is "a plainly impossible task," he said, unless community mem-

Encyclical Ready Soon

Washington — (NC) — The "Mater and Magistra" encyclical of Pope John XXIII will be available in an 80-page booklet by September 1 from the Publications Office of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The office said individual copies will cost 30¢. Fifty or more copies will be 24¢ each and special rates will be given on 1,000 copies. Orders may be made from the NCWC Publications Office, 1312 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

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