

GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

How different things might have been! So often, after reading history, do we say this. Take, for example, St. John Chrysostom, one of the greatest saints in Church history. Famed for sanctity and eloquence, at the age of sixty he was seized by imperial officers at the instigation of jealous brethren. The moment his ship left the harbor en route to exile, he looked back and saw his cathedral in flames—the fire starting in the pulpit from which he so often had preached.

Once in exile in a foreign land his mind turned toward the foreign missions. He induced a hermit to forsake contemplation and put his pietry to work in Phoenicia, Arabia and the Orient. He wrote to an abbot urging him to send monks to pagan lands, and to a wealthy friend urging him to support the missionaries. Though a prisoner, suffering the most vile persecutions which led to his death, he was like Paul in prison, seeking to bring Christ to pagan lands.

If Chrysostom had been allowed to propagate the Faith as he desired, if his schismatic followers had loved the missions as they did intrigue, one wonders if Moslemism would ever have destroyed the Faith in those very lands. Had the foreign missions been more Christianized then, the history of the world would have been changed.

We are at a similar moment in history. His Holiness is begging us to support him, that he may send missionaries to Africa, Asia and other parts of the world. If we fail this time, not Moslemism, but Communism will take over these areas. While the government spends billions of dollars on foreign aid to save these peoples from Communist rule, what are we doing to save their souls?

We Catholics give an average of 27c per year to the Holy Father for his 200,000 missionaries. The government gives \$66 per person in one country of Southeast Asia! Remember—what the world will be tomorrow depends on us today. Communism grows less by its own propaganda than by our neglect. As our Lord told Pilate about Judas: "He that delivered Me unto thee hath the greater sin." Pilate sentenced Him to death, but the defection of an apostle was stained with the greater guilt.

Oh! what a burden is ours! What responsibility! May the Holy Spirit inspire you to not deliver Christ over to the modern Pilates in Africa and Asia. By sending your sacrifices to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith you are supporting the Holy Father in his role as the Visible Head of the Church—the Church which seeks to be ever more catholic, to help and care for others in body and soul.

GOD LOVE YOU to J.S.K. for \$2 "Enclosed please find \$2 for the Propagation of the Faith; I saved up and hauled away 1000 lbs. of scrap paper at 20c per 100." ... to M.R.H. for \$50 "I am sending this for two favors received." ... to A.M.A. for \$104 "Enclosed is my month's social security check. I am sending it in grateful thanksgiving for ten years of an active and normal life after a cancer operation, and for the fact that I am still able to hold a responsible position at the age of 73."

Send us your old gold and jewelry — the bracelet or ring you no longer wear, last year's gold eyeglass frames, the cuff links you never liked anyway. We will resell them and use the money to aid the missions. Your semi-precious stones will be winning precious souls for Christ. Our address: The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York.

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, the Rev. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester 4, New York.



To Honor Bishop Kearney

Crocifisso Societa officials Saturday will be his first

Joseph Favasuli, Andrew Gelli visit to Rochester.

and Peter Rotolo plan program

for organization's dinner at

The Crocifisso Societa, a fra-

Powers Hotel to honor Bishop

Kearney Saturday, Sept. 16. Asso-

ciated with Rochester's Mt.

Carmel Church, is marking its

SPEAKER AT the event will tenth anniversary.

be Bishop Joseph M. Pernicone,

a native of Sicily and now an

Toastmaster at the banquet

Auxiliary Bishop of the New will be Very Rev. Charles Lav-

York City archdiocese. He is ery, C.S.B., of St. John Fisher

also pastor of Our Lady of Mt. College. Civic and religious

Carmel Church there. His com-

leaders are scheduled to attend,

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Procreation Oversold

Stress on Size Creates Hazards

St. Louis — (RNS) — Roman Catholic parents have been oversold on their procreation responsibilities and under-trained in the responsibilities of upbringing their children, the Rev. William J. Gibbons, S.J., said here.

Father Gibbons, visiting professor of sociology at Fordham University, criticized textbooks still in use in some Catholic schools which emphasize procreation alone as the primary end of marriage.

"The education and welfare of the children are equally important as the primary end of marriage," Father Gibbons said at the Convention of the American Catholic Sociological Society. "Pope Pius XII made this quite clear," he noted.

As a result of the over-emphasis on procreation, some Catholic families are attempting to rear more children than they should, the priest-sociologist said.

"There has been too much of the emphasis on rights and privileges in Catholic thinking, and topic 'Reproductive Performance of American Catholics—Facts and Hypotheses,'" admitted that the average American family has three children, in comparison with three and a half children for Catholic families. But it does not follow that large families are enabling Catholics to gain in the rest of the U.S. population.

The Jesuit, speaking on the establishment of mutual marital relationships which will benefit the lives of the children as well as the lives of the husband and wife," he stated.

A Catholic married couple that Catholics are "gaining" on cannot merely refrain from using artificial contraception, Father Gibbons added. They must also think of the welfare of their potential children, and that involves foresight," he declared. There is no ideal number of children for all families, Father Gibbons observed. "Some women will go crazy with two children," he said.

"You have to take into account the physical and mental health of the parents, their economic condition, and the society in which they live. When you have such problems as crowding, lack of jobs, and so forth, you need to retreat."

Many Catholic families are employing periodic continence to limit their families, with more or less success, the sociologist declared. New means of solving the problem of self-determination of the size of the family are within sight for Catholics through medical discoveries which fix the exact time of fertility, he added.

Estimating that 40 per cent of all Catholic parents are

COURIER-JOURNAL Friday, September 8, 1961

Bible Experts Elect Officer

Cincinnati — (NC) — Father Bruce Vawter, C.M., professor of Sacred Scripture at St. Thomas' Seminary, Denver, was elected president of the Catholic Biblical Association of America at its general meeting here.

There is no real evidence to show that the Catholic rate of growth is larger than that of the general population, the sociologist said. He declared that some of the "most Catholic areas" have extremely low birth rates, while some heavily-Protestant areas, such as the South, have the highest birth rates.

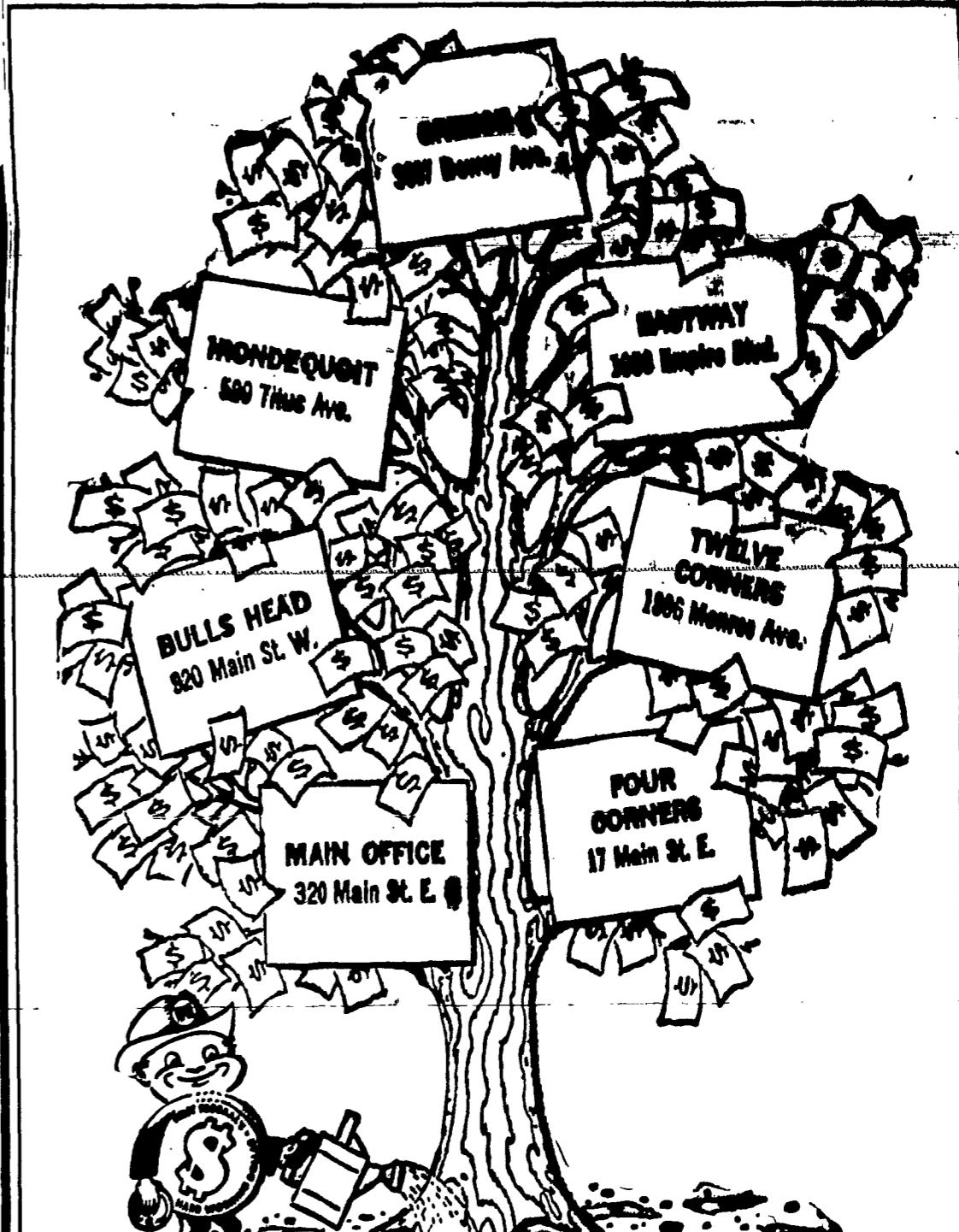
Father Gibbons acknowledged that official Catholic directories reflect substantial increases in the percentages of Catholics in America but he attributed this to compilation of more accurate statistics than formerly.

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