

Two Cardinals Die, One Sick

The angel of death took his toll in the Vatican's College of Cardinals this week.

Cardinal Gaetano Cicognani died Monday, Feb. 5, and Cardinal Teodosio de Gouveia died the next day, Feb. 6.

American Cardinal Aloisius Muench was also reported in serious condition in Salvo Mundi hospital in Rome.

Cardinal Cicognani, 80, was head of the Congregation of Rites, long an outstanding Vatican diplomat and a brother to Cardinal Amleto Cicognani who served 25 years as apostolic delegate to the United States.

Pope John attended his funeral Mass held at St. Peter's on Thursday.

Cardinal de Gouveia, 72, was archbishop of Lourenco Marques in Mozambique. For many years he was the only Prince of the Church in Africa. Mozambique is still a colony of Portugal.

The two deaths leaves the College of Cardinals with 78 members.



Easter at Lourdes during Europe Tour

One of the high points of a pilgrimage to the shrines to Europe to be led by Father Alexander Stec will be Easter Sunday ceremonies at Lourdes. Easter morning Mass will be said in Lyons, stronghold of the faith since the second century. The tour extends from April 11 to May 19. Details available from Father Stec or the Courier Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester.

'I See Nothing Wrong With Early Dating If Parents Are Watchful'

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

What's wrong with early dating and mixed parties if parents carefully supervise the affairs and always know where their children are? I've read some of the articles you have written on this subject and feel you take a far too pessimistic view of human nature. My daughters took dancing lessons and had some dates while in grade school so they now know how to conduct themselves at high school affairs. Why can't our young people be taught to enjoy mixed friendships without getting emotionally involved? Many of us mothers feel that they can.



If you have read what I've written on the subject, Joyce, you know how I would answer your last question. Briefly, my position is based on the assumption that you have normal children, endowed with normal human impulses and drives, and consequently prepared to respond normally to appropriate stimuli. If this is a pessimistic view of human nature, I suppose I must plead guilty.

Frankly, I find the current pseudo-permissiveness of many modern parents very strange indeed. How explain their thoughtless promotion or toleration of a type of cross-sex relationships among their teen-age children which they themselves, as experienced adults, could not prudently adopt if they wished to preserve their virtue?

Perhaps research offers us a clue, since it reveals that the very mothers who are most anxious to promote the premature social life of their youngsters are the most reluctant to give them adequate instructions.

Nevertheless, concern for the virtue of chastity is not the only source of my objections to such premature cross-sex association. Is it not paradoxical that just as our highly developed health care is extending the average length of life into the seventies, we are introducing social practices that are bound to limit the serious formal preparation needed to lead such extended lives successfully?

Moreover, although our technically advanced society, faced with ever more complex problems generated by automation, a rapidly growing population, and international strife, requires a constantly increasing percentage of dedicated, highly trained members if we are to survive, we are returning to a kind of biologically oriented primitivism in the training of youth.

The maintenance both of Christian chastity and of a technically advanced civilization has its price in self-control, long years of formal training, and the disciplined postponement of immediate satisfactions for future gains. Only in primitive cultures, and recently in American society, are young people permitted to devote their time and energy to relatively unrestricted cross-sex associations as soon as they reach puberty.

EVEN APART from this wider social view, however, I have special objection to the current premature involvement of young girls in social life. Perhaps for the first time in history, the majority of young women are offered fairly satisfactory opportunities for intellectual development and full participation in community affairs. Although the century-long struggle of the feminist movement was associated with considerable

incidental nonsense, its basic aim of securing wider cultural and intellectual opportunities for women was correct and has now been roughly achieved.

At the same time, changes in the family system and extension of the average age of life expectancy has profoundly modified women's domestic roles and their orientation to the family. Not only is there greater emphasis and need for husband-wife companionship in marriage, but the period of bearing and raising children now accounts for a comparatively shorter portion of their lives.

Hence modern women have need for better preparation and wider interests, and modern society supplies ample opportunities to attain them.

How have American women responded to these changes? Although some have made excellent use of every opportunity offered them, the majority appear strangely unaware of the challenge and have even retreated to an almost primitive definition of feminine roles. To be sure, increasing numbers are com-

pleting high school and attending college, yet they are not really interested in thorough intellectual development... their major concern from grade school on remains the "happiness of pursuit."

Considering modern woman's need for serious preparation and advanced formal training if she is to be a companion to her husband and is to remain reasonably alive throughout her increasingly long life, the reasons for my objections to early dating and premature cross-sex associations should be obvious. Teen-agers have a limited amount of time and energy.

Because the period of formal preparation now required does not coincide with their physical cycle of development, they must be strongly motivated to serious study rather than to social life.

Girls in particular need to be reminded that their normal physical development is no longer adequate preparation for marriage or life, though it may still assure them success in the "pursuit."

Inquiry Class 7 to 300

St. Louis — (NC) — Suppose you're an assistant priest in a large parish, are asked to conduct an information forum and only seven persons show up.

What would you do? That's the situation which faced Father Michael Deegan of St. Pius V parish, and here's what he did: He enlisted a committee of 10 lay persons from such parish organizations as the Legion of Mary and the sodality.

Then he asked them to come up with some ideas. They did, and the following were the top three:

- 1) Get a "name" speaker.
- 2) Get plenty of advertising.
- 3) Call personally on as many people as possible.

"We couldn't call on them all," said committee member John Costello, an editorial writer for the St. Louis Globe Democrat. "But we did call on every mixed marriage couple in the parish. We told them what the forums were, and that we hoped they would come."

ANOTHER parishioner, Bonnie Dewes, immediate president of the Women's Advertising Club of St. Louis, de-

Second Look For Junior Marriages

Bridgeport — (RNS) — Bishop Walter W. Curtis of Bridgeport announced here that couples under 21 who plan to be married in the Church in his diocese will be given a long "second look" because of the rising divorce rate in the area.

This policy will apply to both Catholic couples and those contemplating mixed marriages. Couples under 18 will undergo an even more thorough investigation than those between the ages of 18 and 21, Bishop Curtis said.

THE INCREASE in youthful marriages and an alarming climb in the area divorce rate prompted the tougher policy, according to the prelate.

Although all marriages of Catholic minors are investigated by the bishop, the new plan will be more comprehensive and will include instruction of the betrothed couples.

Two Church laws are the basis for the new policy, Bishop Curtis said. One regulation states that persons should not marry before the customary age of the area in which they live. This usually coincides with the time when a person may obtain a civil marriage license without the permission of parents or guardian. This age is 21 in Connecticut.

However, the marriage is not invalid if persons marry at a younger age, the bishop emphasized.

Also, Church law provides that the bishop should exercise a right and care about minors and their marriages. Each bishop has the authority to forbid a marriage for a time and may insist upon a temporary prohibition.

Religion Prospers In Goa

Goa — (NC) — The head of the Church in Goa has reported that he and the other Portuguese clergymen in Goa are being given full freedom to carry out their duties by Goa's new Indian rulers.

Archbishop Jose Vieira Alvernaz, of Goa, who holds the title of Patriarch of the East Indies, made this statement in an interview at his residence.

NEXT TO the Patriarch's home in Panjim city is a base of the Indian Army, which took Goa from the Portuguese a week before Christmas. But there are no armed guards in front of the residence.

Patriarch Vieira Alvernaz, 64 and a native of Portugal, said there were eight Portuguese priests and about 20 other European priests in Goa. The priests were not interned by the Indians when they were given every facility by the Indian authorities to enable them to carry out their duties.

The Patriarch in another statement said that the relations between Goa's 350,000 Hindus and 250,000 Catholics are excellent. "Up to now, the integration into the Indian federation has not produced any harmful effects on religious life," he said. "Many Indian soldiers are attending Catholic church services."

7 Authors Win Awards

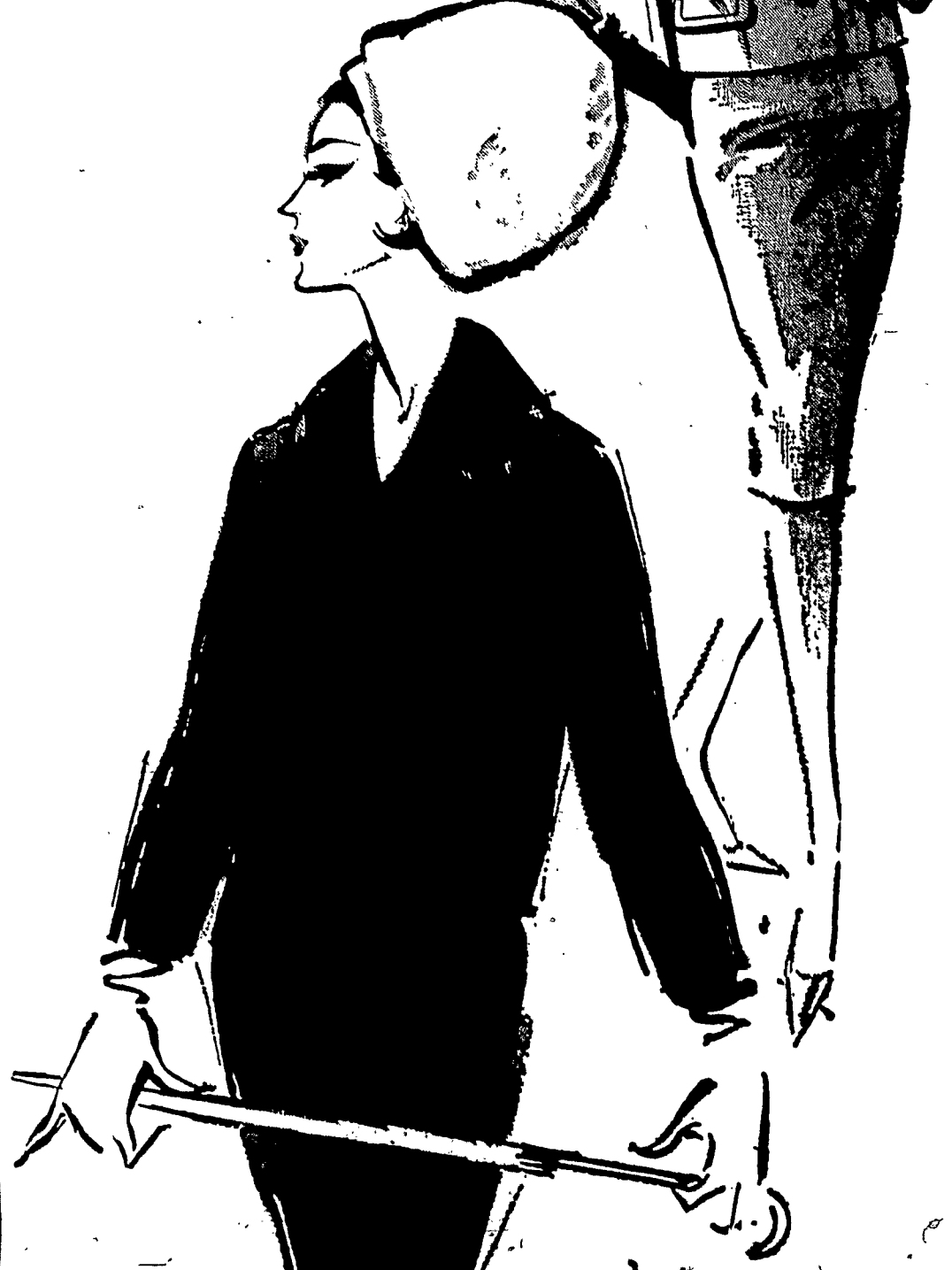
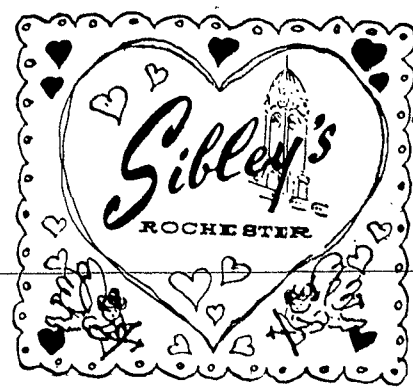
New York — (RNS) Seven winners of the annual Christopher Literary Awards for outstanding books published in 1961 were named here by Father James Keller, M.M., founder of the Christophers.

Six authors and the editor of an anthology of Christmas literature and poetry were cited by Father Keller for "using their God-given talents to produce works representative of the best in the literary field."

Each recipient was sent a bronze medallion bearing the Christopher motto: "Better to light one candle than to curse the darkness."

Award winners were: Bruce Catton for "The Forging Fury" (Doubleday); John Gardner for "Excellence" (Harper & Brothers); William Barbaugh for "Power and Responsibility" (Farrar, Straus and Cudahy); Jacques Maritain for "On the Use of Philosophy" (Princeton University Press); Marion Mill Prelinger for "The Sands of Tamarassat" (Hawthorn); Roland de Vaux for "Ancient Israel" (McGraw-Hill); and editor M. L. Shady for the anthology, "In the Spirit of Wonder" (Panthorn).

The aim of the Christopher movement, founded in 1945, is to "encourage individuals in all walks of life to show personal responsibility in applying sound human and spiritual values to the vital spheres of influence, especially government, literature, entertainment and labor relations."



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