

At Our House®

A Last Look At 'Her'

By MARY TINLEY DALY

"She," the lady mentioned in this column some weeks ago has champions. She has lots and lots of champions, if letters to this column are any indication.

Writers of these letters, bless their hearts, on the whole show an admirable sense of charity. Most letters were frank but courteous, though a few became so charitable that they are a bit carried away. Let's take a sampling:

"I agree in reference to the 'market, beauty parlor, etc. but I do 'end-seat' myself in church for this reason: I have eight children, the youngest being six months. I make up my mind to get to church early to be sure of a seat, no easy task with four grammar schoolers. I feel it is not fair to be crammed in like a sardine with squirming youngsters and men who have been out on the town the night before, when I have truly made the effort to be at Mass on time. I have seen teenagers gather outside church to talk until one minute before Mass begins. I think an article is in order about these offenders. Mrs. D.B."

"Both you and your correspondents might well emulate the 'she' you so uncharitably flout and mind your own business and pay attention to the Mass. Furthermore, some people like to be alone."

"You are right, though, Mrs. Daly. Every woman is another 'she' some are their own. M.M.C. P. S. No, I don't own an umbrella!"

"Miss E.E.R. seems to be the only person of those whose letters were printed who has any sympathy, or compassion, for 'Her.' I should like to shake your hand, Miss E.E.R., and that of your sister and say, 'God love you and reward you for your Christ-like charity to one of His lonely, frightened children.' Mrs. J.J.R."

"As in any situation, there are two sides. For those of us who go to church alone, and early, I fail to see why it is so reprehensible to step out and let someone pass into the pew. Perhaps it has never happened that you are in the aisle seat, and about ten minutes after Mass has started, two or three people push in, shoving you to the end of the pew."

"Now I have no objection to that position, BUT what I do object to, is that these same deadly enemies of your 'Her' will let you crawl over them to go to Communion, and would never think of moving in so that you wouldn't have to crawl over all of them again when you return. Surely this type of seat-hogger is much worse than the other because he doesn't even have the respect for the Blessed Sacrament which would be shown by this little courtesy."

"I would like to see as much publicity given to this horrible 'Her' or 'Them' as is periodically given to the one you wrote about. Mrs. O.B.C."

"Who are you to criticize some poor old lady, who sits on the end of a church pew, with an umbrella, purse and packages? I've done this myself when I was tired. Too bad you had to step over. I usually get out of the bench."

"YOU DON'T sound so hot yourself. You sound like a sloppy housekeeper and careless mother. I remember you wrote about ironing a dress for your daughter on Sunday morning and the sleeve landed in the bacon grease. Also, one of your children had two different socks on. How come? Don't you pair them in their drawer? Also, gathering clothes for the Bishops' clothing drive, you didn't know if you should put 'painted' up stacks in. You must have put some terrible looking crayons for your grandchildren and while you watch television they mark up the walls. You start out to make a cake for the christening and it turns out to be a flop. Why do you call your husband, the head of the house? I called him (mine) 'my husband,' 'affectionately' when I spoke of him. Mrs. C.C.C."

"Both my wife and I read your column in each issue of the paper and find the subjects and their treatment most interesting and helpful."

"I'd like a word here, though, because I like the aisle seat and if I get to Mass early enough, I feel privileged to keep it. If I get out into the aisle to let others in, I do not see how they can complain, and I believe an eminent writer on etiquette would approve. (May I say that I rarely exercise this privilege because two of us getting out into the aisle at a time would look pretty silly.) I do hope that I haven't also filled an additional portion of the pew with personal belongings."

"WHAT DOES disturb me is the person, and the usher who aids and abets (one) who comes late to Mass and crowds into an already filled pew and who has no intention of receiving Holy Communion. Frequently, this same person will not step into the aisle to let others out to receive Holy Communion. Un-Christian and uncharitable though it may be, I don't move very graciously into second place. Mr. O.C.S."

Well, I guess this is it as far as "She" is concerned. "She" will straddle white lines in parking places, usurp undue space in the bank, and the super market, take all the good magazines in the beauty parlor, let bus passengers stand while she and her belongings take up space.



Parish Choir Recorded

Monsignor Charles Shay and Donald Meminger listen to new record of Holy Rosary parish choir just released by Gregorian Institute of America, Toledo. The recording includes Monsignor Shay's Golden Jubilee Mass of last June and a selection of Christmas carols. Record is available at \$4.95 at the parish Pew Rent Office. The choir is scheduled to sing at St. Bernard's Seminary High Mass Sunday, Nov. 25, and to present a carol concert at the Midtown Plaza Hall Tuesday evening, Dec. 11, and a WRVM radio program on Dec. 23.

Arts Telecast Lists Casals

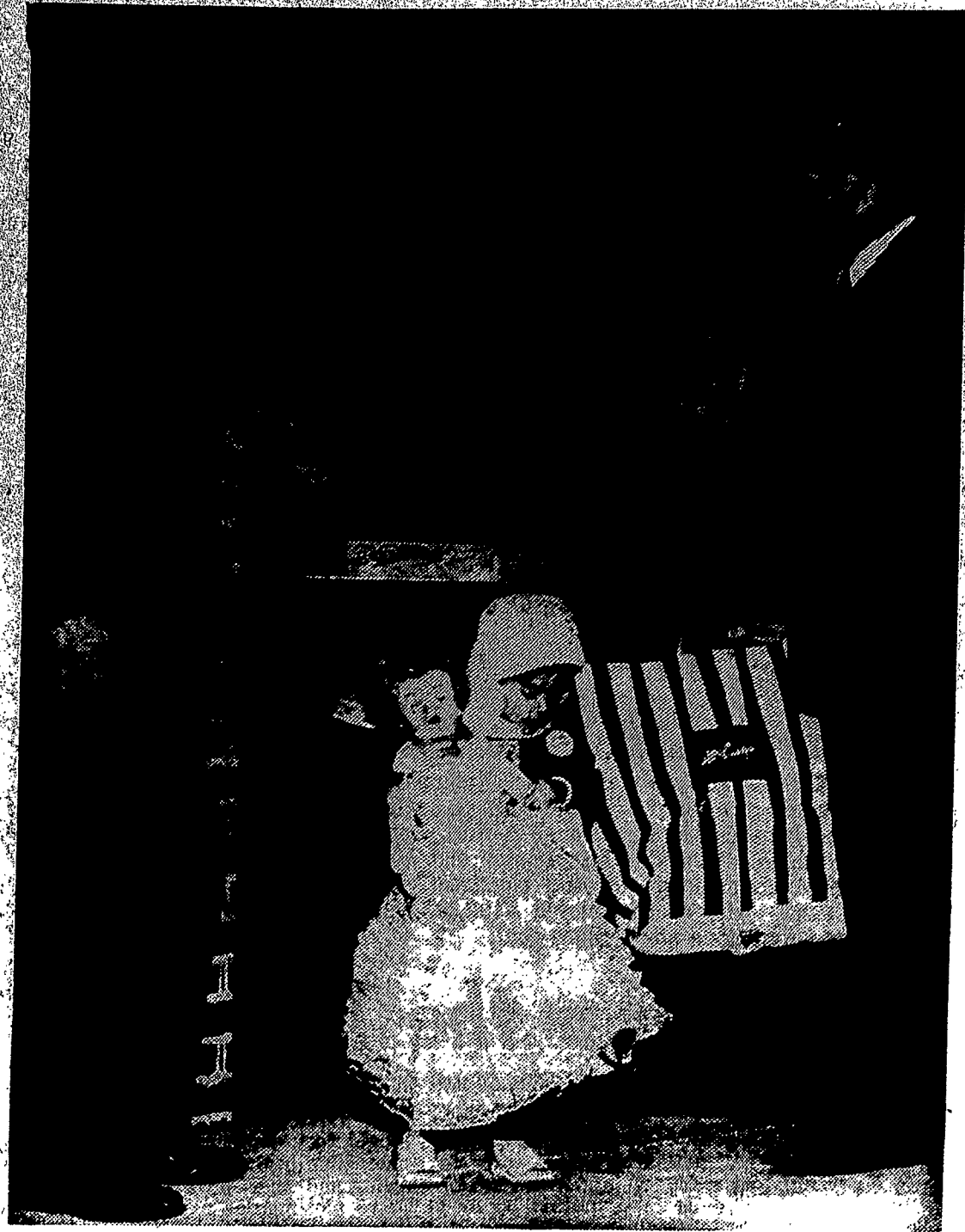
When Pablo Casals, dean of concert cellists, offers a performance on the Pageant of American Arts closed circuit telecast, Thursday evening, Nov. 29, Rochester audiences will have the rare opportunity of hearing the debut as a conductor of one of the most beloved figures of music.

Casals, after a lifetime as concert cellist, will step to the podium for the first time and present in the telecast Bach's "Orchestra Suite in D" from which suite the popular "Air for the G String" has been derived.

The Nov. 29 telecast is the project of the National Cultural Center of Washington, D.C. and its sole "hearing and seeing point" in western New York will be at the Hotel Manger. In as much as the telecast is a benefit for the National Cultural Center and its branches ninety-five percent of the work is volunteer, and locally under the aegis of the Schumann Memorial Foundation.

But when "She" (though her age was never mentioned) end-seats herself in church, she becomes automatically a "poor little old lady."

We are truly grateful that charity extends to "Her" no matter what her age, when "She" is in church.



Toys For Needy

CHILDREN JOINED Rochester Firemen's "Stream of Toys for Needy Tots" at McCurdy's Elm Street entrance on Saturday. Fire trucks were on hand to carry contributions to the firemen's toy distribution center, and Santa Claus made a spectacular entrance through a third floor window of McCurdy's via a fire ladder. Last year, toys donated to and distributed by firemen made Christmas merrier for 2,300 Rochester and area children. This is the fifteenth year of the collection. Contributions can continue to be made at McCurdy's, where a bin has been set up near the Elm Street entrance. Everyone is asked to give unwanted, unused, outgrown toys that can still be enjoyed. It will help if they are tagged for boy or girl and the age they appeal to.

Sr. Rose Ellen Listed For Social Studies Talk

Sister Rose Ellen, department chairman of social studies at Nazareth Academy, will speak through supervisor visitation. Sister Rose Ellen is a member of the State Regents Board, and serves as a consultant in Foreign Area Studies. Sister M. Edwardine of St. Agnes High School will accompany Sister Rose Ellen to the national convention.

INVITED to speak by Isidore Starr, vice-president of the National Council, Sister Rose Ellen is one of four panelists who will discuss Teacher-Supervisor relations in social studies.

Her talk will emphasize the role of the school supervisor as a liaison between the teachers and the State Education Department, noting the uniquely close relationship existing between parochial schools and the Education Department in New York State as regards social studies.

Parochial school teachers, usually assigned places on top state committees, maintain state standards in their schools.

Sister will further discuss the part of the supervisor in the carefully planned orientation program for new teachers, especially lay teachers in Catholic schools. Evaluation procedure outlined for the supervisor include inter-classroom visitation by the teachers, and an em-

Family Rosary Radio Program

Friday, Nov. 23 — Lester Burke, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Saturday, Nov. 24 — Ralph Fischer, St. John the Evangelist, Greece, accompanied by employees of Building 23, Machine Shop, Kodak Park.

Sunday, Nov. 25 — William McIntyre, St. Mary's.

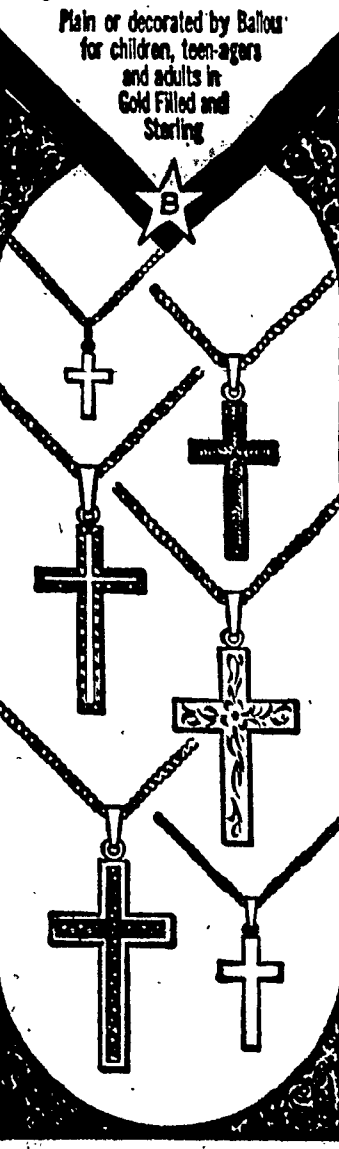
Monday, Nov. 26 — James D'Amico, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Tuesday, Nov. 27 — A representative of the Better Men's Club.

Wednesday, Nov. 28 — George Pappert, Jr., St. Andrew accompanied by Holy Name Society of that parish.

Thursday, Nov. 29 — Carl Trott, St. Andrew accompanied by Laymen's Retreat League of that parish.

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IRAQ: ABRAHAM'S HOMELAND

RICH IN HISTORY is the country of Iraq. There we find the traditional site of the Garden of Eden, the ancient city of Nineveh, and Ur of the Chaldees, first home of Abraham the Patriarch.

Remember the story of the three children in the fiery furnace? The scene of their trial was near a city called Kirkuq. Today in Kirkuq, in the Archdiocese of Mosul, 450 Syrian Catholics have been trying to make do with a chapel which is two small rooms in the priest's home... Only about 120 persons can crowd in, all of them standing. They have collected some funds for the building of a new church, but not enough... They are very poor, but the Church they want to build will be 20 yards long and 12 yards wide. Their congregation is increasing... Will you make a sacrifice this Advent to help them get together \$2,000 to complete their Church? ... They promise remembrance in Masses for their generous benefactors. You can send any amount... Do it now? Thanks.

A SHARE IN HEROISM

The great Indian leader Ghandi once said: "The political and journalistic world can boast of few heroes who compare with Father Damien of Molokai. It is worth while to look for the source of such heroism". We know the source of Damien's magnificent work for the lepers of Hawaii—love for all men as sons of God. Some day he may be canonized for his heroism which caught the whole world's attention... Can you imagine yourself following in his footsteps? In a very real and helpful way, you can... Join our Damien Club and send a dollar each month. The sisters and priests who work with these sick people are burdened with indescribable difficulties. Yet now we know that with proper care and medicine these sufferers can be helped... Remember the story of St. Francis of Assisi. One day outside the city gates he bent down from his horse and kissed one of these sufferers... Then he saw it was Christ he had honored!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

On your shopping list make a note about our beautiful CHRISTMAS CARD WITH PRESSED FLOWERS FROM THE HOLY LAND. Every cent you send us will be used for the mission and we will send cards to your friends telling them your offering was made as a Christmas gift for them... Maybe you would like to enroll one or more friends as members of our Association. They will participate in the work of the missions and in the graces of 15,000 Masses of the priests we aid... Remember our mission priests! Your Mass stipends are their sole support very often.

THIS ADVENT, please remember the Arab Refugees—a million of them—who are in such need! Through no fault of theirs, they find themselves living in tents, dependent on the charity of people like yourself... Displaced in the war between Israel and the Arabs, their problem has never been solved. A \$10 FOOD PACKAGE will keep a family for a month... We will send you a Rosary of Olive Wood from the Holy Land as a token of gratitude from them for one of these food packages.

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