

# Area Teenagers Speak Out

How do Rochester-area teenagers spend their leisure time? Do they have definite opinions about beach-going, type of music, psychology? Is the Beatles' sort of "music" in or out? How do they really feel about religion? Who are the people they admire enough to imitate? Is "himself" disgusting, dignified, or unwarmed when "herself" changes hair color or wears a wig? Does military like it or lump it when my lord arrange his locks a la femme?

2400 high school people expressed themselves on these and 28 other issues in a recent survey conducted here by psychology students at Saint John Fisher College. The students worked under the direction of Sister Mary Peter, RSM, the sister and lay teachers in Adolescent Psychology at Catherine McAuley College.

Students from 17 public and 9 private schools, including one of the public school, participated by checking a rating scale, which, in the interest of candor, they were told not to sign.

When asked what was the most remarkable thing they had learned, the Fisher students said they had been most impressed with how much work is involved in conducting a poll; they have increased respect for opinion analysts.

One student, Michael Pribelich, said he spent about 40 hours tabulating the results of the 300 inventories he had administered. "But when I completed my psychology professor assigned this from another assignment. But the poll was an interesting experience. I would do it again, even though I can see where that sort of thing drives people to inventing their own answers."

"Some of the young people's comments were rare," Ronald Ventura, another psychology student remarked. "I expected to find the fellow who, after a warlike glance over the Beatles' record, 'Let's face it, Dad, you had your funk in your day too.' Since Ronnie's day has not exactly dawned, he had reason to be amused."

What do teenagers as a group do most from their parents' teachers? Recognition of their increasing maturity. This emerged as the most highly valued factor analyzed in the survey.

Next to being treated as an adult, the thing teens want most from their parents is the keys. 80 per cent of them are enthusiastic about driving a car, less than 5 per cent feel any reluctance whatever toward taking the wheel.

The third highest ranking factor was enthusiasm for sports. 81 per cent of local teenagers are excited about athletic activities, either as a participant or as a spectator.

How do they stand on racial integration? It looks as if inter-cultural relations would improve considerably if our local teenagers had their way. 80 per cent wholeheartedly support integration; 12 per cent are fence-sitters; only 8 per cent are segregationists.

Mob psychology, as exemplified by beach-going lawlessness, was sanctioned by a negligible 3 per cent. However, a neutral block of nearly 40 per cent had no strong feelings for or against this way of "acting out" tensions.



ONE OF THE SUBJECTS of the Teen-Age Poll is Julie Mehan, a sophomore and cheerleader at Our Lady of Mercy High School and Student Government representative. St. John Fisher College students James Snyder from Elmira and Michael Irving from Skaneateles were both opinion-takers in the survey.

What do they think of teenage marriages? Almost three-fourths of our local youngsters take a dim view of adolescent weddings. 8 per cent give their blessing; 18 per cent are neutral witnesses.

How about the glass and the word, traditional symbols of adult prerogative? Both rank high on their blacklist. Two-thirds of our teenagers consider youthful imbibing a menace: 6 per cent sulk up stoutly for the bottle; the other 28 per cent can take it or leave it.

Smoking is likewise under a cloud for a solid majority. 60 per cent don't give a puff for it; 22 per cent love it as the air they breathe; 28 per cent won't open their lips on the subject.

Both sexes frown upon boys wearing their hair a la femme; the girls damned it with faint praise, since only 6 per cent said they find it attractive. Similarly, both boys and girls cast a disapproving eye on dyed, bleached, or false hair, although masculine blackblacking is greater than feminine. 76 per cent of males said, "Nay," compared to 64 per cent of females. "It's a break to be a brunette for a week," wailed one glamorous teen whose eight-inch beehive was too white to be right. "I found out it's true what they say: blondes have more fun."

What is the current status of the Beatles? Almost half of local teenagers are emotionally uninvolved one way or the other. About 30 per cent, mostly girls, still think they're the greatest; 22 per cent, mostly boys, have had it. Reactions range from the gamut from such unbridled endorsements as, "The best music I have ever heard or hope to hear," to "Pure, undiluted sapinosis." One opinion was simply, "Yeah, yeah, yeah."

Do the present trends in clothes styles please? Apparently. Only 15 per cent find fault. 46 per cent subscribe with pleasure. The other 39 per cent are presumably thinking of other things.

Is TV popular with our teens? Never doubt it. It's important to 59 per cent of teenagers; 9 per cent are glad when the set blows a tube; the other 32 per cent protest it vehemently.

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cent claim they don't give a damn on what's on the other side of the screen.

Do teens read newspapers and periodicals? 59 per cent say they do, but apparently their interests are somewhat provincial, leaning only 40 per cent toward it. It is important to keep up with the international scene. However, among the better students 81 per cent read the news; 72 per cent have their eye on the whole world.

Superior students likewise put a higher value on good literature. 71 per cent are eager to select it, compared to 29 per cent of the unselected sample. As might be expected, the better students are more enthusiastic about school work, 62 per cent manage to derive some joy from it, whereas only 30 per cent of the total group seek any pleasure from the grind. The high achievers have a more favorable perception on higher education, too. 71 per cent of them favor it, compared to 59 per cent of the total norms group. Girls are significantly more desirous of a college education for their marriage partner than are boys.

School spirit is another matter, however. Differences are negligible between the scholar and the student. Teenagers on the whole boost their school with heartening loyalty. 71 per cent are enthusiastic; only 8 per cent are negative. The ones who spatter the ink at night, no doubt.

The area in which our young people seemed least able to commit themselves was conservatism in politics. A large neutral block of 63 per cent was attributed by many teachers and students to lack of clearcut comprehension of what political conservatism really is. Perhaps in this our teenagers do not stand alone.

Opinion seems divided in the matter of the advisability of holding a part-time job while in high school. Almost a third say it's a good idea, slightly more a third think it's a bad idea, another third say it's arbitrary.

What traits do they admire in their instructors? Understanding, ability to inform, respect, and interest in the student's welfare. In that order. A surprising number of students put firm discipline and high academic standards among their expectations in a teacher. A few, of course, want more leniency and better dispositions.

Who are the people our Rochester teenagers admire enough to imitate? Overwhelmingly, the first choice for both boys and girls was the Kennedys, the boys electing their late president John Fitzgerald Kennedy, and the girls Jacqueline Kennedy.

Their second choice, likewise overwhelming, should be of considerable interest to parents. The persons they want most to be like are their own mothers and fathers.

I tell you what, it makes you think aren't they the dearest kids, after all!

What value does religion hold for our local youngsters? Of those sampled, 68 per cent are committed to deep religious sentiments; 22 per cent have no convictions either way; 10 per cent disavow religion. The apathetic spirit is even less conspicuous; only 21 per cent want to spread their religious beliefs; 18 per cent eschew the evangelist mentality; 61 per cent have no thoughts on the subject.

How do these people who have grown up in the era of modern art feel about it? Very cool. 71 per cent have a detached, indifferent frame of reference; 19 per cent admire it; 10 per cent protest it vehemently.

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## Radio Rosary Aids Talks On Liturgy

A series of informative talks or changes to begin in the ceremonies of the Mass Sunday, Nov. 29, is broadcast each Monday and Thursday evening on the Family Rosary for Peace radio program at 7 p.m.

Father Joseph Brennan of St. Bernard's Seminary will speak this evening after recitation of the Rosary on the topic, "What is a Congregation?"

Others speakers in the series and their topics will be: Monday, Nov. 23, and Thursday, Nov. 26—Father Benedict Ehmann, "Lighting of Reading" and "Singing or Praying?"

Monday, Nov. 30, and Thursday, Dec. 3—Father William Shannon, "Entrance Rite of the Mass" and "The Liturgy of the Word."

Monday, Dec. 7, and Thursday, Dec. 10—Father Albert Shannon, "Preparation of our Gifts" and "The Eucharistic Prayer."

Monday, Dec. 14, and Thursday, Dec. 17—Father Charles Curran, "Eucharistic Banquet" and "Thanksgiving and Dismissal."

The Rosary program is heard nightly at 7 p.m. on Rochester radio station WSAW and Auburn's WMBO-FM.

**Exhibit Slated At St. Anthony's**  
Elmira — Sacred Heart Men and Holy Name Society members of St. Anthony's church will sponsor a special exhibit to be held in the parish center, Front Street, Saturday evening, Nov. 21, starting at 7 o'clock.

Daniel Lust and James Szabo are co-chairmen. The public is invited.

**Elmira Little Theatre Marks Twenty Years**  
Elmira Little Theatre will open its twentieth year by presenting "Majority of One," directed by Karen Featherman, at the Southside High School on November 27, 28, 29. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m.

Brief ceremonies on Saturday evening will salute the twentieth anniversary.

Tickets are available at the following places: Crusade and Smith, W. Water St.; Holiday House, Hoffman St.; Brooks Clothing, E. Water St.; Jerome's, Elmira Heights; Panosian's, S. Main St. and Fletcher's Piano and Organ. Or you may call RE 2-9578.

The Little Theatre will be conducting tryouts on Dec. 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. at the home of

**Forty Hours**  
Devotions of the Forty Hours will be conducted in these Churches of the Diocese of Rochester:  
Sunday, Nov. 22 — St. Jerome, East Rochester; St. Francis, Geneva; St. Anthony, Elmira.

# The Catholic COURIER

Journal Thursday, November 19, 1964 PAGE 7



Sister M. Cornelius points to Tanganyika on map of Africa to her sister, Rose Alice and her Mother, Mrs. Jean Milliken.

## I Want To See Jack Elmira Mother Off To Africa

What reasons would motivate a housewife and mother who has never traveled more than 100 miles from home to take a trip of thousands of miles to an unfamiliar country in the tropics, where climate, disease, insects and wild animals might all pose difficulties for her?

Mrs. Jean M. Milliken, mother of fourteen, answers this question very simply: "I want to see Jack."

"Jack" better known to our readers as Father Damian Milliken, O.S.B., has been a missionary in Tanganyika, East Africa for the past four years. He is a priest in the mission in Nar

THE MILLIKENS plan to leave Elmira on November 22 on the first leg of their long trip by air to Africa. A week will be spent in Europe, with stopovers in London, Paris and Rome. They will fly from Rome to Dar es Salaam, Tanganyika on November 29.

Much of the credit for making the trip a reality goes to Rose Alice, who has always cherished the hope that she could visit her brother some day. After her graduation from St. Joseph's in August she decided to make her plans definite. Mrs. Milliken then saw no reason why she should not accompany her daughter and the whole-hearted approval of the family.

Among other arrangements which had to be made before the trip was the sale of the family home which had been pending since last spring and moving into an apartment at 712 1/2 W. West Water Street. With this accomplished the Millikens now are devoting their attention to packing and organizing their luggage with the Travel Agency, which is organizing the trip, and getting the last of their immunization shots, including malaria, typhoid and cholera.

How is Father Damian feeling about this first visit of anyone from home? He confesses to being very excited but is trying not to think of anything that might arrive to disrupt the peace it is really due to the fact that he has been in Tanganyika since November of 1960 and that he is due for a home visit of some sort for at least three more years.

Young was introduced by Robert O'Dell, local knight. The breakfast and program followed Mass and corporate monthlong stay in Africa at Communion at the 8:30 a.m. both agree hearts that the Mass in St. Patrick's Church worth it.

Dr. David Kaplan, 1108 Maple Avenue, New and post performance are invited to try out for "The Country Girl" by Clifford Odets, to be presented Feb. 4, 5, 6 at Southside High School.

**Meat OK Friday November 27th**  
Catholics of the Rochester Diocese may eat meat Friday, Nov. 27, the day after Thanksgiving Day.

Bishop Kearney granted the dispensation from the Church's usual law of abstinence.

## Corning Knights Shown Scenes Of Berlin Visit

Corning—Visual contrasts between East and West Berlin were provided for 38 Knights of Columbus and Columbian Squares as they held a Communion breakfast program at the Lodge on the Green.

Robert Young, a member of the Corning K. of C. Council, presented the contrasts as he spoke and showed films of his recent visit to Berlin with his wife.

Young noted that the normal street scene in West Berlin showed large numbers of people bustling about their business, while in East Berlin the Youngs traveled about 18 blocks and in that space saw only 11 cars and about 40 persons.

They went into East Berlin to visit with Mrs. Young's aunt, instructor at the Central Police Academy in Berlin.

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## New Members To Meet On Family Service Board

Elmira — Attorney William D. Burns, recently elected President of the Board of Governors of Catholic Family Service, will preside at the regular bi-monthly meeting on Monday, November 23rd, in the offices of the organization.

Invited to attend are the newly elected members, who will serve for three year terms. They are Dr. Robert H. Huddle, Dr. Adrian P. Hulsebosch, Martin M. Harrigan, Joseph Creighton and Thomas F. Iest. Reappointed to the Board after a lapse of one year, are District Attorney Paul H. McCabe and John V. DeLaura.

Replaced because of expired terms were Mrs. Joseph R. Spiegel, John E. Bacon, George Bragg, Daniel F. Kennedy, Honorable Edward T. Lagoregno and Honorable John D. Frawley. Judge Frawley, however, was elected vice-president to fill the

unexpired term of Mr. Burns. The resignation of Mr. Robert Aber from the Board, because he has left the city, has been accepted with deep regret.

Mr. Bragg will continue to act on the Vincentian Committee and Mr. Kennedy will remain on the Advisory Committee.

The agenda for the November session includes a number of important matters of business and President Burns is requesting a full attendance.

The Reverend Donald Mulvihy, Diocesan Director of Catholic Charities, is expected to attend.

## Fall Dance Set In Horseheads

St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society of Horseheads will hold their annual fall dance Friday, Nov. 20, from 9 to 1 at St. Mary's School Auditorium.

The music will be furnished by the Carlton Dart Quartet featuring Mr. Dart at the piano.

Refreshments will be served at intermission.

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