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**Alaska Co-ed**

**Tops for STD**

Dayton, Ohio — (NC)—Make room at the top for the female theologians!

An Alaska girl at the University of Dayton has rolled up an academic record that eloquently bids for broader opportunities for lay women in a field once considered virtually closed to them.

Sharon Jager, a 21-year-old theology student from Anchorage, will graduate from the university "summa cum laude." She attained an amazing point average of 3.954 out of a possible 4-point level of perfection.

She is no crusading feminist, but is convinced if there is a role for the lay theologian in the Church, it is for the woman as well as the man. She may well reach that place some day as among her ambitions is studying for a master's degree in sacred scripture at St. Louis University.

**Program Approved**

Washington — (NC) — The U.S. Labor Department has approved a \$1,246 program for Sacred Heart Hospital, Eugene, Ore., for six weeks of training as nurses aides of 10 trainees.



**Family Reunion**

St. Louis—(RNS)—Sister Jacqueline Grennan, president of Webster College, St. Louis (second right), has a family reunion with some of her cousins at the annual Family Week observance at the Catholic college. Shown from left are: Sister William Clare Grennan, a teacher in Florissant, Mo.; Miss Phyllis Grennan, senior at Webster College; Mr. Grennan, father of Phyllis; Mrs. Lucile B. Gordon, a nurse at the college and Sister William Clare's sister; Mrs. Philip Grennan; Sister Jacqueline, cousin of Mr. Grennan; and Sister Matthew Marie Grennan, a teacher in El Paso, Texas, and Mr. Grennan's sister.

**Mixed-Marriage Changes**

(Continued from Page 1)

op should refer the matter, with all details, to the Holy See.

Clearly it is the intention of the Holy See to respond favorably to such cases where the good faith of the appellant is beyond question.

Probably the Catholic party in such cases will be exhorted in strong terms to do all that is possible in absence of any formal or informal promise in the interest of the Catholic education of the children. It is believed in some informed circles that by reserving decisions to itself the Holy See wishes to guarantee uniformity of practice at least at the start.

It may come as a surprise to many to learn that specialists in canon law in Rome do not regard such a concession as either new or revolutionary in itself. Such a discipline has long been in force in some Far East countries such as Japan and also in the Middle East.

It has been applied without publicity also to some Scandinavian countries.

The startling departure of the new instruction, according to the canonists consulted by this correspondent, is that what has hitherto been regarded as exceptional, limited to the "diapora" and in the end only tolerated as unavoidable, is now on the way to being extended to the whole world and in explicit terms.

One argument used to justify the concession has been that the natural right to marry has a preeminent claim in those situations where the usual pledge is impossible even with the best of good will on the part of the non-Catholic party.

The instruction, in addition to being motivated by eucenetical considerations, also faces the fact that mixed marriages are multiplying. As the Vatican decree expressly acknowledges, radical transformations in family and social relations have brought about closer relations between Catholics and non-Catholics with a resulting increase of inter-religious marriages.

**A Step To Unity**

(Continued from Page 1)

In this historic and majestic setting, Pope Paul joined the delegates of nearly 100 other Christian churches as a participant rather than as celebrant of the ceremony.

To emphasize this point, the Pope used the same words everybody else used at the rite. There was no special edition ornately bound as is the usual custom for papal use.

Canon Pawley said he felt "the centuries wash away" as all shared equally in the service — the old divisions and antipathies were at least for that moment forgotten.

They sang, in English, the hymn "Now thank we our God" which was written by Protestant Johann Cruger in 1643. Next they listened to Professor Albert C. Outler from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, as he read in his strong resonant voice the first Scripture lesson from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

The second lesson was read in French by Pere Michalon, successor of Pere Coururier, again a significant choice revealing Pope Paul's approval of that approach to the problem of Christian unity "in the way Christ wishes" rather than the older, and obviously ineffective, insistent appeal to "return" to Rome.

The service concluded with each participant saying the Lord's Prayer, each in his own language.

Canon Pawley said next to him was a Greek priest and near him was a clergyman from India. "Greek and Latin, English and Hindi, French and German — the languages melted together and we knew we were saying one prayer."

"It all indicated to me," Canon Pawley said, "the extent and the depth of what the Council had accomplished."

His visit to Rochester was at the invitation of Mrs. Harper Sibley who had attended several sessions of the Council of Rome and met many of its principal participants.

He is the author of a book, already out of print, "An Anglican View of the Vatican Council" written in 1962 and is now at work completing a book which will chronicle his attendance at the Council.

He is the chairman of Archbishop Arthur Michael Ramsey's special committee for relationships between the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches.

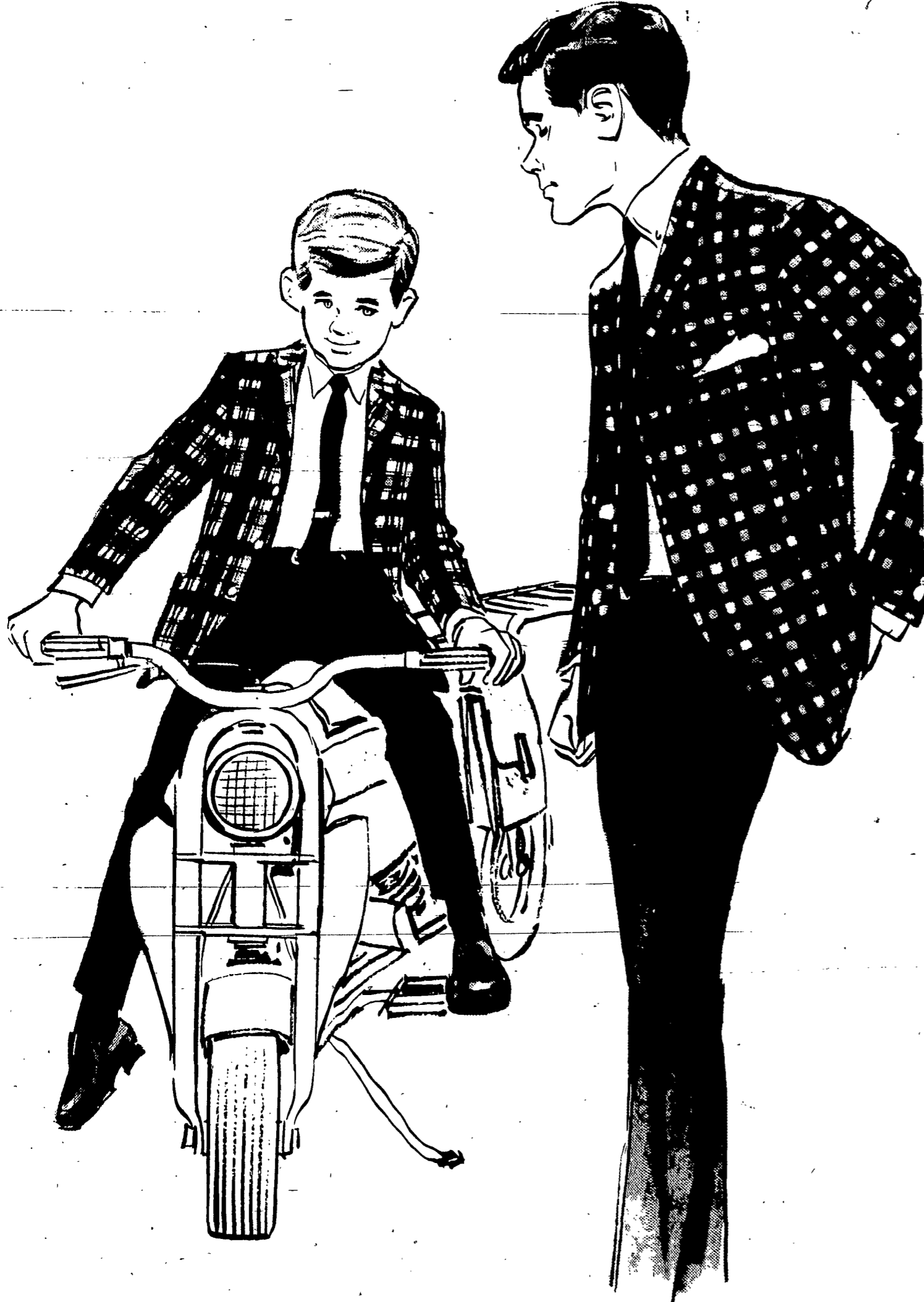
Archbishop Ramsey of Canterbury was in Rome this week to meet Pope Paul at the Vatican and to push forward on the road to religious unity, a goal the two prelates have obviously long sought to attain.

—Father Henry Aswell

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**Easier Abortion Drive**

**Medical Basis Denied**

By RUSSELL SEHAW

Washington — (NC) — A medical educator said here that proposals to liberalize abortion laws have "little to do with" medical considerations.

Dr. Andre E. Hellegers said the real pressure for changing the laws comes from the desire to legalize abortions which are now illegal. He said this is a social problem which should be dealt with on its own terms and not on "pseudo-medical" grounds.

Dr. Hellegers is an associate professor of gynecology and obstetrics at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and a member of the original papal commission on population. He discussed proposals for changing abortion laws in a lecture sponsored by the Institute of Law, Human Rights and Social Values of the Georgetown University law center.

CURRENT EFFORTS to relax abortion laws are generally based on a proposal backed by the American Law Institute. At present, abortion is legal in most states to save the life of the mother.

The ALI statute would permit abortion also if the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest; if there was substantial risk of impairment to the mother's mental or physical health; or if there was substantial risk that the child would be born with a grave physical or mental handicap.

Proposals based on this measure have been introduced in the legislatures of New York, California and several other states.

Dr. Hellegers criticized the statute's use of such terms as "substantial," "gravely," "impair" and "mental health" on grounds of vagueness. He said the measure would transfer the responsibility of decision from law to the medical profession.

He questioned the motivation for abortion on such grounds as fetal damage and rape. While it is "easier" to claim that an abortion in such cases is for the sake of the child, he said, "honesty" requires recognition that it is actually "for the sake of the parents."

He noted that one of the arguments put forward by those who favor easier abortion is that "the ethical considerations of part of the country should not be imposed on the country as a whole." But, he said, if this argument had been accepted in the area of racial justice, the civil rights bills of recent years would never have been enacted.

He said there is no need for a change in existing laws from the medical profession's point of view, since doctors are able to operate successfully within the "spirit" of the law at the present time.

While proponents of change estimate the number of such abortions in the U.S. at 12 million per year, Dr. Hellegers said, the actual number is probably on the order of "several hundred thousand."

**Expansion of Abortion Throwback to Barbarism**

New York—(ENC)—A public health official claims there is "virtually no need" for abortion as a maternal health measure.

"Rather than increasing the indications for abortion, it seems the time has come to eliminate all abortions," according to Dr. Herbert Ratner, public health director of Oak Park, Ill.

Dr. Ratner expresses his views in an interview on the current drive for relaxed abortion laws appearing in the May issue of Report magazine.

He says the pressure for easier abortion laws arises from a "misguided humanitarian purpose" and adds: "Abortion represents a somewhat barbaric throwback."

**N.Y. Abortion Law Change Opposed**

New York—(NC)—The director of the New York archdiocese's Family Life Bureau said here that "Catholics will object to any widening of the abortion laws."

Father William F. McManus made the statement as a committee of the New York Legislature opened hearings on a bill relaxing the state's legal restrictions on abortion. He said the bill would be "no solution at all" to the problems it seeks to deal with.

Under present New York law, abortion is permitted when necessary to save the mother's life.

THE PROPOSED legislation would permit abortion when the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest; when there was substantial risk of grave impairment to the mother's physical or mental health; or when there was a substantial risk that the child would be born with a grave mental or physical defect.

Father McManus noted that the proposal is "not something cooked up in the mind of a legislative committee" but is "a brainchild of the American Law Institute."

The ALI's model penal code is moral callousness.

"Of course Catholics will object to any widening of the abortion laws," he said. "It becomes increasingly difficult to understand as the hearing progresses the appalling silence about the unborn child's right to live. Abortion of a fetus is considered in the same category as removing an appendix. This is moral callousness."

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