

### Catholic Press Gains, Near 29 Million

New York — (RNS) — Total circulation of 156 Roman Catholic newspapers in the U.S., Canada and West Indies now stands at 6,256,489, a gain of 4 per cent over last year, according to the 1966-67 Catholic Press Directory.

Last year, the directory, published by the Catholic Press Association here, reported 153 Catholic papers with total circulation of 6,009,815.

The directory this year lists a total of 386 Catholic magazines in North America with a 22,888,235 circulation. This represents a decrease of 23 magazines since the last year and a 2 per cent drop in circulation. However, gains were registered in the circulation of magazines not accepting advertising and for professional and business journals.

Combining all Catholic papers and magazines results in a total of 542 publications and a circulation of 28,944,724.



### Plan 'Turkey Trot'

Members of the committee of Carmel Ladies Club make plans for a "Turkey Trot" Dance to be held at Mount Carmel High School on Friday evening, Nov. 25. In photo are: Mrs. Frank Marullo, co-chairman; Mrs. Thomas Spadafora, Rev. Timothy Donahue, moderator; and Mrs. Harry Smolake, president of the Club. (Farby Photo).

### New First Communion Method

## Faith of Families Strengthened

York, Pa. — (NC) — The home preparation system under which parents help their children make ready for first Communion has resulted in the Christianization of entire families, a nun-edicator said here.

It has made fathers, mothers, and children live their religion more fully, said Sister M. Alphonsus, principal of St. Bernard Elementary School, New York. The Sister of Charity described the first Communion instruction plan at a two-day conference here for teachers of the Harrisburg diocese.

She said she did not originate the program but has established it in several parishes in the past six years.

Before the parents were asked to help prepare their children for Communion, "religion was something from 9 to 9:45 in the mornings," Sister Alphonsus said. "It wasn't carried home."

"There was no mention of religion in many homes. Why? Because the parents thought you (the teachers) were doing it and they didn't have to do it," she said.

"Many of them had not done it. They fell away from right living . . . and were unconscious in many cases of the bad example they were giving to these youngsters," she continued.

Sister Alphonsus said now when parents are called on to teach, "they cannot face their children in this if they don't live it, and they begin to examine their consciences."

"They begin to see why they lost so many years of this in their own homes. They find out that possibly this is the reason there has been conflict in their

homes — why there hasn't been happiness in their homes — and all this begins to go around until there is a complete change in a home and in many homes," she said.

Sister Alphonsus said that in one year in one parish the following results were accomplished:

- Two or three parents involved in mixed marriages began taking religious instructions, and some later entered the Church.

- Persons who had been careless even about attending Mass began to go to Communion with their families.

- One man who had been away from the sacraments for years was overjoyed when he returned to Communion to hear his son say, "Now you're really my daddy."

Sister Alphonsus said the plan is strictly voluntary and is carried out by the teacher and parents in cooperation with the pastor.

Under it, each parent of a potential first communicant is invited to help in the educational process and is given a fairly simple six-page lesson outline. If a parent needs help, he or she is invited to talk with a family trained previously for the project. The talks are on a parent-to-parent basis, with no teachers or priests taking part.

The mothers and fathers then take the lessons home to the children and start to bring religion into their conversation, trying to be matter-of-fact rather than preachy.

The parents' role is, and should be, much more impor-

tant than that of the teachers in transmitting religious truths, Sister Alphonsus said. She added that the schools have "usurped" the teaching function that rightly belongs to the father and mother in this matter.

Some aspects of the program she advocates might be considered startling.

For example, the parents decide for themselves when their children are ready for Communion — and each child is tested individually by the priest, with the parents present.

The children are then encouraged to make their first Communion individually when they please without the traditional special clothing and the two-day procession.

"They come where they should come — between their fathers and their mothers — to the Communion rail," Sister Alphonsus said.

She said, however, that for those who prefer it, the traditional Communion garb is permitted, but families are encouraged to sit together in pews and to receive communion together.

### Anton Pegis

## Noted Thomist Due at Fisher

Dr. Anton C. Pegis, noted Thomistic philosopher, writer, and editor, will speak at St. John Fisher College, Thursday, Dec. 1, at 7:45 p.m. in St. Basil Hall auditorium under the joint sponsorship of the Fisher Philosophy Department and Philosophy Club.

In his lecture, "Who Reads Aquinas?", he will analyze the state of philosophical culture today and offer proposals for an ideal contemporary Christian culture. The public is invited. Admission is free.

Now professor of the history of philosophy at the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto, Dr. Pegis served as president of that institute from 1946 to 1954. He also taught for six years at Marquette University and for nine years at the Fordham University Graduate School.

He was editorial director of the Catholic Textbook Division of Doubleday & Co. from 1952 to 1961 and at one time was a consulting editor to Doubleday's Image Books Division.

Among the monumental works he has edited are "Essays in Modern Scholasticism" (1944), "Basic Writings of St. Thomas Aquinas" (2 vols., 1945), "The Wisdom of Catholicism" (1949), "An Introduction to St. Thomas Aquinas" (1949), "A Gilson Reader" (1957), and other books.

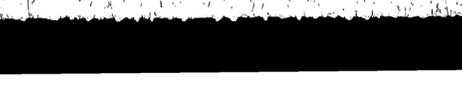
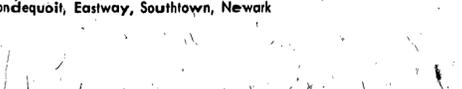
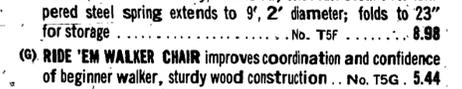
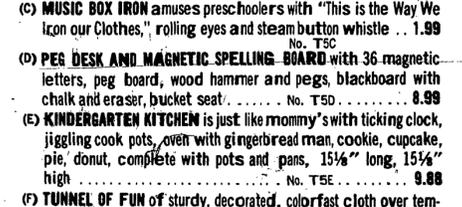
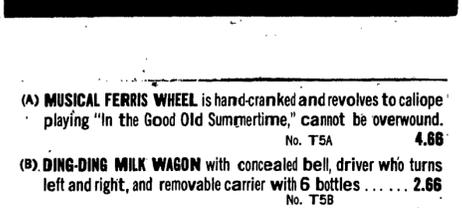
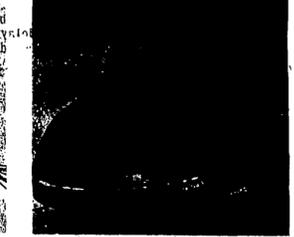
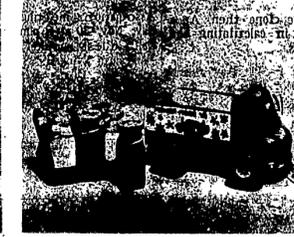
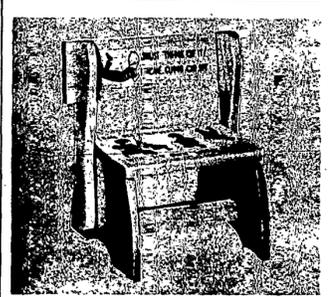
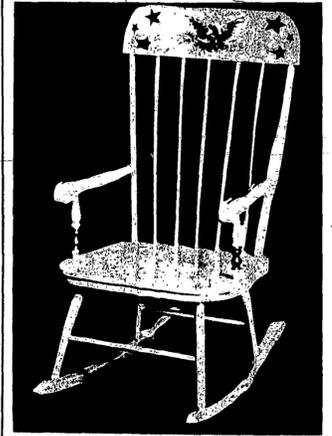
His own writings include "St. Thomas and the Problem of the Soul" (1934), "St. Thomas and the Greeks" (1939), "Christian Philosophy and Intellectual Freedom" (1955), "The Middle Ages and Philosophy" (1963), "At the Origins of the Thomistic Notion of Man" (1963), "St. Thomas and Philosophy" (1964), and numerous articles in philosophical journals and other periodicals, including "America" and "Commonweal."



DR. ANTON C. PEGIS

A native of Milwaukee, Dr. Pegis received his B.A. and M.A. degrees, as well as an honorary LL.D., from Marquette University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a member of the Medieval Academy of America, and of the American Catholic Philosophical Association, which he served as president in 1946. His sons, Charles and Richard Pegis, are members of the St. John Fisher faculty.



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## Glenmary's Rural Ministry to Stay

Glendale, Ohio — (NC) — The Glenmary Home Missioners here made public a five-year plan reaffirming the society's dedication to "the pastoral ministry in small town and rural" U.S. communities.

Father Robert Berson, superior general of the 27-year-old society with headquarters here, emphasized "we do not intend to engage in a pastoral ministry in the much-publicized inner city."

Instead, he said, "We consider it important to keep intact Father W. Howard Bishop's intense dedication to the mission church in town and country U.S.A."

Father Bishop founded the society in 1939 to serve areas which he described as "No Priestland." Today the society has 34 mission establishments in Appalachia, the Deep South, western Kentucky, and the Ozarks.

"Controlled experimentation" will be a major feature of the five-year plan, Father Berson said. The society will help its missionaries in the South to gain approval from local bishops for sound, well-designed experimentation "in the areas

of the liturgy, catechesis, and the priest-worker movement, he said. There is "a great eagerness of many missionaries for experimentation" in these fields, he added.

Father Berson cautioned against experimentation "for which the laity of the parish have not been prepared or which does not have the approval of the local bishop."

Another major thrust of the five-year plan will be ecumenism, the superior general said. It calls for every mission pastor to "make a concerted effort to engage in all the ecumenical activity local conditions will allow, such as joining ministerial associations, promoting interfaith community development programs."

"Our missionaries have a knowledge of Protestantism gained from long association, and they have experience in the very type of cooperative effort and common prayer called for in these days by the Church," he said.

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### What's

**ST. MONICA**, Rochester. Legion of Mary Roller Skating Party for highschoolers 4 to 4 at Olympic Bowl from 2:30 to 5 p.m. Tickets at area high schools. Admission 80¢. Information: Judy Curtin, 6-2054.

**ST. CHARLES BOROJOME**, Rochester. Rosary Society Christmas party Tuesday, Dec. 6 following services at 8 p.m. in school hall. Special guest priests, Sisters, lay faculty. Reservations: Mrs. Mary Noonan NO 3-7174; Mrs. Carolann H. sett, NO 3-7502; Mrs. Donat Boehmer, NO 3-4422. Deadline Nov. 30.

**ST. LAWRENCE**, Rochester. Rosary Society tureen supper Wednesday, Dec. 7 in church hall. Bring own dishes, dish pass or \$1. Mrs. J. Ackema chairman.

**ANNUNCIATION**, Rochester. Rosary Guild meeting Tuesday, Nov. 29 in the church in "What's New" by Mrs. Ruz.



Another week and still the more attention than that. It's a treat to settle back with a cup of CHASE & SANBORN. Chase & Sanborn coffee POP points and save money. Are a few more of the questions that morning coffee and we

Question: Will the list of 'E' to month?

Answer: No, all the products list for the week now thru Marc additions to the sheets provide E

Question: Is it absolutely no month?

Answer: No, but it's recommended at the end of the POP points and save money in sending out

Question: What is a "point" will we receive

Answer: There is no special Awards will be end of each income will be according to the dates. Every reward.

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Is your parish POPPING? We'll give you 200 bonus POP points. What are some

1. A notice in the parish letter.
2. A poster in the church group.
3. An original recipe in member and used in
4. Attractively decorated
5. A special display of store, or other sale.

Of course if your group does such as putting on a POP number of bonus points.

But remember—we have an unless you inform us. So church bulletin, simple fact used to publicize "POP." All valuable bonus points.

To avoid confusion which in this week's POP SHOPPING awarded for and what to list for INDEPENDENT G point out again that you are RONI PRODUCTS. There's cheese, etc. We think you'll them but remember only POP points.

Melt margarine over low heat. Cook over low heat. Smooth and bubbly. Remove to a bowl, stirring constantly. Half of white sauce into egg white sauce. Just before serving Pour over hot cooked rice with parsley and pine nuts.

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Don't forget your POP list. The basement of ST. PETER. Entrance off BROWN ST. 3 to 5 and Saturday from 11 to 5 and Saturday from 11 to 5. Let's go out there. Keep this. Your efforts are going to be or not.