Mixed Marriages: Ecumenical Boom?

lic marriages, which until now have been a religious battle ground for the churches, just may hold the blueprint for interfaith peace and eventual church unity, according to a Protestant Catholic couple.

The couple - Paul Simon, a Lutheran, and the former Jeanne Hurley, a Gatholic set out to write a book of do's and don'ts for mixed-marriage couples because everything else they had read was "negative, carping, and unduly partisan."

The result, "Protestant-Catholic Marriages Can Succeed," not only offers suggestions ranging from religious instruction of the children to religious art in the home, but spotlights the potential ecumenical value of mixed marriages...

Although families and the individual churches have discouraged mixed marriages, they do exist and are likely to increase, the authors. But rather than looking upon Protestant-Catholic marriages as "a mon-ster to be feared," such marriages should be regarded by the churches as "an opportunity tto heal the wounds of Christendom," the Simons contend.

For in a Protestant-Catholic marriage, "their common commitment to Jesus Christ, sealed by Christian baptism, unites them more effectively than any doctrinal difference may divide · them.

Seeing Bright Side

On the family level, this can promote-ecumenical understanding, starting with a thankfulness "for the heritage of faith that could produce such a lovable person as your partner." On the church level, mixed marmixed marriage.

Admitting that their sugges tions for religious harmony in celebrate our faith together in the family were not offered "to please either Protestant or Roday, enriched by the added diman Catholic theologians," the mensions our differing backmodating your church practices grounds bring to our situation. to each other a little without sacrificing a worshipful experi ence, you immeasurably speed reconciliation on issues more basic to theologians."

thing that can happen to an in- about his or her religion. terfaith marriage is for one of the partners to become indif- Where there is little differ than a weak Catholic.

marriage ordinarily should begin under religious auspices if there is to be a sense of Christian direction in the home,"

Books, newspapers and periodicals of both faiths should be read regularly by both partners, the authors note. "The Protestant-Catholic home has added reasons for learning as much about church history, tradition and thinking. This will tradition and thinking. This will as a doctor, as a lawyer, as a a medical-mission priest who town, and was director of labor-come largely from the printed college professor, as a husband, had returned from the Orient atories at St. Vincent's Hospital

word."

Attending services at the partner's church at least twice a year is recommended, but above all, the partners should become deeply involved in the activities of their respective in the service of the rung, who had just retired from the Orient in New York.

The priest introduced Dr. Fordinal rung, who had just retired from the Orient in New York.

Later, in addition to his position at Hunter College, he was pei, Formosa. The cardinal entition at Hunter College, he was pei, Formosa. The cardinal entition at Hunter College, he was pei, Formosa the cardinal entition at Hun activities of their respective priesthood, and by the grace churches, whether it be serving on school or hospital committees, working with the poor, or ther Fordrung, a man who looks to the control of their respective priesthood, and by the grace pleting his studies at a semi-pleting his studies at a semi tees, working with the poor, or helping to organize interracial councils. Often, both partners signor all his life and who celecan work on the same church brated his first public High ing as the U.S. representative preme Court. committee, since no "doctrine" Mass Jan. 21 at Fordham Uni- of the Cardinal Tien Medical

versity, where he was a member Center, for which he will raise of the Class of 1911.

As a priest, Father Fordrung believes his legal experience funds, give lectures and encour-"If Christianity is viewed of the Class of 1911.

_etters to the Editor

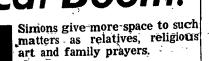
I was very much interested and the priesthood seemed to in the appearance in your offer the best all around possipaper, issue of Jan. 19, page 13 bilities to help stricken people," an Irish-Catholic mother who of an account of our Round Father Fordrung commented. had come to America as a 13-Table in Philadelphia, under the heading "Dialog Group Dates from 1928."

The article was in an abridged form received by you from the NC News Service and, in abridging it, some remarks of mine which I consider very important were omitted.

quote from the original article one of these omitted portions: In answer to the question whether the Round Table's members think that \ similar groups should be established, I

"Possibly so, but there should be certain conditions, especially now that some 'emerging laymen" are assuming the position of spokesmen for the Church and entering fields of theology and morals beyond their com-petence. They give the impression of confusion in the Church. A discussion group should be in close touch with discussion authorities interested in ecumenical movements, and if the group discusses doctrine, there should be a priest present it all

> John B. Gest Philadelphia, Pa.



In-Laws, Art, and Prayer

As for opposition from rela-Neither should they forget "the Neither should they forget the myth" that people who married outside their faith came from homes where there was divorce, unhappiness, family fights and they oung within their own religious groups. Inter-faith marlack of affection. The parents lack of affection. The parents riages of Protestants are more greatest challenges for both par mon approach to the issue. ed about their own "reputation" volving Catholic or Je wish than about a child marrying an partners.

Concerning religious art, the simons see no reason why a Catholic wife should not hang a picture of Mary in the kitchen a picture of Mary in the kitchen a Catholic with the should not hang a picture of Mary in the kitchen a Catholic with the catholic catholic with the catholic cath and the Methodist husband a picture of John Wesley in his study. But in a Protestant Catholic home, the husband and wife In some sections of the coun-"should agree on any picture try, Dr. Sanua found, half the before it goes up," and "both Christians marry outside their partners should attempt to un-own churches. His figure for derstand what is great about Jews is 17 per cent, nationally. the persons the partner wants pictures of. .The Protestant The Catholic and Jewish hopefully may come to want a mixed rn arriages that fail

other times of the day, among create extra problems. the latter the prayer of St. Francis ("Where there is Martin Luther."

of suggestions to both Protes as in their religious training. tant and Catholic churches, with the observation that the

viction to have charge of the Catholics — and there is even raised as Protestants. religious instruction of the chil-less excuse for people to divide dren, the Simons argue that if, families in such a way, ironicalfor instance, an active Meth-ly and tragically doing it in the odist mother or father must (as name of Christianity," the

"The churches should look to Catholic, that child will prob the Protestant - Catholic marter to rear a strong Methodist than a weak Catholic.

Strengthen sitself and approaches a little more closely the type of unity for which

mitted-to practice before the

insemination and in speaking

out on other moral-legal mat-

"I feel I had as happy a mar-

riage as any right-minded man

could expect to be granted by

of life in marriage. Each voca-

tion carries with it counter-bal-

Father Fordrung is now serv- New York bar and the U.S. Su-

age doctors and nurses to give may be helpful to him in fight-

He speaks of the tuberculosis, ters. "I can take a stand on law

worm infection, exposure and and medicine and they can't

from both heat and cold, trains adopted children, Father Fordkilling kids he played with "be rung thinks he has something

"A sense of compassion was Heaven," he said, "but I am sad-

I think that is what eventually hood should think he has a

led me to the priesthood," Fa- greater freedom for fulfillment

The eldest of 10 children of ancing responsibilities, frustra-



ECUMENICAL AUTHORS Paul and Jeanne Simon with their two children. The couple met while both were members of the Illinois House of Representatives. Mr. Simon is now a State Senator. Both parents are active in their respective churches.

-as it must be—then we can other than her own.

Abouth The Children, Undoubtedly the most controversial suggestion the Simons have to offer concerns the religious education of the chil-

the Simons wrote. "But if Chris- ing mother to bring up her chiltianity is much more than that dren in a church affiliation

current Catholic Church law in- Simons wrote. sists) rear a child as a Catholic

- if the partner is a "weak' But rather than opting for religious "indifference, as the children should be brought up Catholic, that child will probable children should be brought up Catholic. "Attitudes are caught, itself. In the process of catholic than the children should be brought up Catholic." above seems to imply, the in the faith of the partner who not taught," the Simons con-Simons stress that the worst is more active and more serious tend, Suggesting that it is bet- faith marriage, the church

New York—William J. Ford-rung felt that everything he him into the priesthood was a rung studied at Fordham, Co-

had learned in his long life - long conversation in 1960 with lumbia University and George-

Father Fordrung believes he some of their time and skills to ing legalized abortion, artificial

hood and how, after a promi- crippling accidents he has wit argue that I don't know what nent career as a doctor he nessed in Formosa and thinks I'm talking about," he said.

life to "the diseases of the soul" impoverished "Hell's Kitchen," Having been married for 33 as well as to diseases of the where he remembers deaths years and having raised four

His wife, Charlotte, died in cause the tracks were our play to say to priests who want to

the religious life. But there was being developed in me then and dened that anyone in the priest-

is probably the oldest person to the people of Formosa.

wishes to devote the rest of his back to his youth in New York's

Fordrung - then professor of tenement fires and "two boys I physiology and health at New grew up with who went to the

York's Hunter College — began electric chair."
considering Pope Plus XII's

"I've seen a lot of suffering ther Fordrung said.

1954 and not long afterward Dr. ground," families losing lives in be married.

be ordained, but he is more in-

terested in telling you how his

whole life led him to the priest-

plea to widowers to consider

something else, he said.

the partners to become indifferent about his own religion.
In fact, the Simons advise, a dren in her faith, since it is "less of a problem now" and they too often are unwilling to take practical steps."

Staying almost clear of the too many religious leaders seem birth control issue, because it willing to pray, but for which is "less of a problem now" and they too often are unwilling to take practical steps." couple should never choose a civil ceremony as a compromise usually the mother who "plays because they expect some take practical steps." between their two churches. "A the dominant role in rearing change in Church law soon, the (Catholic Press Features)

Former Doctor, Lawyer

Becomes Priest at 73

Mixed Marriages A Thorny Problem

Courier News Summary

in mixed marriages to under might within an carry a migh stand that "centuries of love risk of divorce, according to a in that of their mother, or crelessness between Protestants new report from a psychologist ating a non-religious atmosphere at New York's Yeshiya Univering the home, often fail because tween Pope Paul VI and Ecuintervention by the Pope, was tional scars on their families. Sity.

The result, reportedly after tween Pope Paul VI and Ecuintervention by the Pope, was the preparation of a compromise they create confusion and inspiritual leader of Eastern Ordocument by the two agencies, Dr. Victor Sanua interpreted

stable, he found, than those in-

Madonna around—Luther did "founder less often on a direct cussion groups are still being the recent Synod of Bishops in by Catholic spokesmen, at the The Simons offer an appen-clash of convictions than on the established. dix of "prayers acceptable to Protestants and Catholics" for use at the dinner table, at bed-time for the children and for create extra problems.

Church and family pressures potential difficulties in mixed to the children and for create extra problems.

ty to heal the wounds of Christon on Sunday morning, religious attitudes. Under these work together in providing counsel for the partners of the mixed marriage might well be divisive," ceedingly able and under the second of mixed marriage as the similar to those of the Catholic church about them, and then fight about them.

Churches have done little about in gious training of children, lem. Orthodox regulations are marriages.

Churches have done little about in gious training of children, lem. Orthodox regulations are marriages.

Churches have done little about them, and then fight about them, and then fight about them.

Churches have done little about them arriages a scrious plots of mixed marriages.

"There is little excuse any often broken. One report, said For Jews, as for other small gregation, the Unity Secretariat dividuals and on ecumenical rewhere for the old-fashioned re Sanua, disclosed that in half the minorities in a pluralistic soci-said that it would prepare a lations. ligious wars which have been cases involving Catholic-Protes ety, mixed marriages represent As for allowing the partner waged in communities the world with the strongest religious conver between Protestants and protections and protection of the partner waged in communities the world tan mar riages the children were a serious potential threat to protect the partner waged in communities and protections are protected by the partner waged in communities the world tan mar riages the children were a serious potential threat to protect the partner waged in communities and protect the partner waged in communities the world tan mar riages the children were a serious potential threat to protect the partner waged in communities the world tan mar riages the children were a serious potential threat to protect the partner waged in communities the world tan mar riages the children were a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat to protect the partner was a serious potential threat threa

group identity.

Various "solutions," such as allowing the child to choose his

side their religion, one of the theologians to work out a coments and the religious bodies is

subject focuses on the Catholic ence, for Vatican discussions on mixed marriages were con-Church because of several interacting factors: its large and Churches and the Lutheran widely distributed membership. World Federation, for more the stringency of its traditional than a year.

He described mixed marriage as "a danger to the Faith" and urged strong regulations against Church because of several inter with the World Council of sidered decidedly negative. riages and the fact that Catho-

lic attitudes are changing. and non-Catholics on mixed mar. formed experts. riages has been in progress at the highest levels for over a

and "The Morning Prayer of either or both parties are a successive Catholic gestures to points of view. Originally, a reduction of restrictions will not source of conflict in the raising also made it clear that they exerced Congregation for the Doc- A corollary is the view that the One chapter includes a series of children in general, as well pect still further liberalization trine of the Faith (formerly the ecumenical advances to be gain Orthodox Churches, in areas Holy Office), without consult ed from easing mixing marriage His investigation found that where they are a small minor ing the Secretariat for Chris requirements outbalance negative, as in the United States, find tian Unity, an agency deeply in tive effects. the observation that the pre-marital promises on remixed marriages a serious probwelved in discussions on mixed

COURIER JOURNAL

Topic Under Discussion separate paper on the subject tives, the Simons ask couples in mixed marriages are increasingly common and carry a high stand that "centuries of love risk of divorce, according to a light control of their father and girls of thein

security in the children, he said spiritual leader of Eastern Or-document by the two agencies, thodoxy, it was reported that a document which one observer "Since we have seen that many the two religious leaders dis called the most impartial posiyoung people today do not find cussed the establishment of a tion paper presented at the it objectionable to marry out Catholic-Orthodox committee of Synod.

The actual presentation of the paper, however, was described to encourage young people to marry within their faith," Dr. Sanua concluded.

A committee of this sort late as far from impartial. Paolo Cardinal Marella's introductory discussion of the paper was seen Preparatory Commission. Simi-in some quarters as virtually an Widespread discussion of this lar groups have been in exist attack on it and his own views

In the U.S., during the past such marriages year, Catholic theologians have held national-level talks with among Catholics as recently as This point of view, prevalent Dialogue between Catholics Orthodox and Presbyterian-Re- a generation ago, has apparent ly lost much of its influence in The topic was one of the most areas with a large nonyear, and new theological dis-most lively on the agenda of Catholic population. Statements Rome. The Synod confrontation Synod and since, have differed gave an interesting index of sharply from the attitudes ex-Most Protestant Churches, how opinions on the subject pressed by Cardinal Marella. The points of opposition reduce

themselves basically to two: marriages during pre-marital The working paper on mixed 1. That mixed marriages as counseling, but place no formal marriages presented at the already so prevalent that strin-But he also noted that strong restrictions on it. In general, Synod was itself the product of gent measures against them religious ties on the part of their spokesmen have welcomed interaction between divergent have proved ineffective, and a

Objecting to the document wise good marriages, can have prepared by the Doctrinal Con-excellent effects, both on the in-

CLIP and SAVE

Current Film Ratings National Catholic Office For Motion Pictures

CLASS A. Section 1 - Unabjectionable for General Patronage the World rontier Hellcat Bullwhip Griffin
Canyon
Charley, The tunesome
Cougar
Clambate
Cool Ones, The
Countrown
Did You Hear the One
About the Traveling
Salest ady?
Doctor Doolittle
Double Man
Double Trouble
Endless Summer The
Enter Laughing
Fasiett Guitar Alive
Finder's Keepers
Frozen Dead

Gnome-Mabile, The Gentle Giant, The Happiest Millionaire, The L Deal in Danger, The L Deal in Danger, Is Paris Burning?
Jack Frost (Rus.)
Jungle Boot The Last Safari, The (Note: Formerly rated 'C', The Last Safari in a revised version is now reclassified A L.)
Man for All Seasons Midsummer Night's Dream, A Monkeys Go Home

Palaces of A Queen
Reluctant Astonaut, The
Return of the Gunfighter
Russion Adventure, The
Seven Guns for the
'McGregors
'Sound of Music
Sulfivan's Empire
Tammy and The
Mittonatie
Tarzan and the Great
River
Tarzan and the River
Tarzan and the
Valley of Gold
Terrornaus, The
That Tennessee Beat
They come from Beyond
Space
Thoroughly Modern Millie
Thunderbirds Are Go
Time For Burning, A
Track of Thunder
What Am 1 Bid7
Young Americans

frozen Dead	Monkeys Go Home	-			
*This film is recommende entert-minment.	ed to the patronage of the	entire family as superior			
CLASS A. Section 2 -	CLASS A. Section 2 - Unobjectionable for Adults and Adelescents				
Battle	Hombre	Scorpio Latters, The			
-Big-Gi ₹γ	Hastile Guns	Sergeant Ryker			
Brides of Fu Manchu, The	Hour of the Gun	Secret War of Harry			
Brown Eye-Evil Eye	Hew to Sugged in	frigg: The			
Camelot	Business Without	Sea Pirate, The			
Chubaseo o	Really Trying	Sharlow of Evil			
Come Spy With Me	In Like Flint	Shameless Old Lady,			
Counte * point	How I Won The War -	The (Fr.)			
Deadly Bees, The	Jokers The (Br.)	Thirty is a Dangerous			
Defector The (Gr)	Jack O. Dismonds	Age Cynthia			
Don't Look Back	Killers ?	To Sir With Love			
Easy Come, Easy Go	La Vie de Chafeau	Tohruk			
Eight on the Tam	Long Duel	25th Hour, The			
Far from the Madding	Mummy's Shroud	Up the Down Staircase			
Cowa	Man Who finally Diad-	Up the MacGregors			
fust to Fight	The	Volley of Mystery			
five Edition Years to	Nated Among The	Wart Unt Dark			
Earth	Wolves	Warning Shot			
fathorm:	Operation Kid Brother	Way Out			
fearless Vempire	One Mittion Years BC	Way West, The			
flim Flam Men, The	O S.S. 117, Mission	Wild Wild Planet			
fort Utah	for a Killer (Fr.)	Whisperers The			
Girl ared the General	Perils of Pauline	Who & Minding The Mint			
The	Poppy Is Also A	Young Gr's of Roch			
Gone With the Wind	Flower The	I fact The			
Gunfig at in Abilene	Projected Man, The	Young Warriors			
Guess Who's Coming to		Yn Yo			
Dinner	Rohbery -				
Hellbernders, The	l _	ı			
CLASS A, Section 3 — Unobjectionable for Adults					
Accident	Funny Thing Happened	Professionals The			
Assignment to Kill	On the Way To the	Quiller Memorandum.			
Bang, Bang You're Dead		the state of the s			
Berserk	Frankenstein Created	Rage			
D- D- Th-	rrankenstein Creater	I D at an Cuntat Cities			

nenneanders, the	١ _	1		
CLASS A, Section 3 - Unobjectionable for Adults				
Accident Assignment to Kill Bang, Bang You're Dead Betserk Bo Bo, The Busy Body, The Caper of the Golden Bulls Conrice Casino Royale Chappequa Chuta Comedians, The Counters from Hong Kong	Funny Thing Happened On the Way To the Forum, A. Frankenstein Created Woman Funeral in Berlin Games Grand Prix Haill Masta The Happening Hawaii Hills, Run Red The Honey Pot Hotel Hot Red To Hell	Professionals The Quitler Memorandum, The Rage R of on Sunset Strip Pough Night in Jerich St Valentina's Day Massacre Sandra (Ital) Shoot Loud, Louder stand (Ital) Study in Terror, A (Br. Sweet Love Bilter Ta's of the Cork		
Craiy Quilt, The Danger Route Day the Fish Come Out. The Deadly Affair, The Devil's Own The Divorce American Style El Greco Eldore-do Stylina Madigan Externs marting Angel Eye of the Devil Litwilky For a Few Dollars More Penelope	Hunt. The Island of Terror Island of Terror Journey to 5h 10h Kill A Dragon King of Hearts Long Ride Home Love Ins Made in Italy Man and A Woman. A More then a Miracle Night of the Senerals Not With My Wife You Don't House	Taming of the Shrew Theif of Paris This Sperial Frencis Tight Makes Out Tohy Rome Tripla Cross Two For the Road Trunk to Cairo Up To His Ears We Still Kill the O Way Where The Buildts Fly (Br.) Upper Itand, The You Only Live Twice		

Cl.ASS A. Section 4 — Unobjectionable for Adulta, with Reservations. These films require caution and some analysis and explanation as a profession to the uninformed against wrong interpretation and false conclusion.

Anniversary, The A Morden for a Prince Birds, Bees and the hirds, Bees and the flattensBonnies and Glyder
Cool Fland Luke
Dirly Dozen, The
Family Way, The
Flame and the Fire

Hawks and the Sparrows, The Incident, the Lord Love a Durk Marat Sade Moment of Truth, The

Strangar Tho --Taboos of the World This Sporting Life --Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? Young and the Willing. The toure a B g Boy Now Queens
Space Flight I C
Swinger, The
Three Bites of the Apple
This Property is
Condemned
Thunder Alley
Time of Indifference
Tarn Curtain
Two Weets in Sentember
Valley of the Dolls
Viking Queeth, The
Viscount, The
Waterhole #3
Way Way Outl
Welcome to Hard Times
Whot Did You Do nithe
War Daddy?
What a Way to Go
What's New Pussycat?
Who Killed Tedy Bear
Wicked Dreams of
Wild Angels. The
Woman Times Seven

CLASS B - Objectionable in Hired Killer Rined Killer
King's Pirole, The
Man Called Dagger, A
Matchless
Murderer's Row
Navaho, Inc.

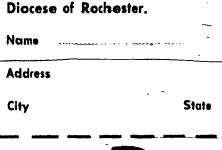
Africa Addio Arrivederci, Baby American Droom, An Beautiful Swindlers. The Biggest Bundle of Them All, The Blue Mar, The Born Losers Champagne Murders, The ne Tust Ones, The versant with Death, Devits Angets
Don't Make Waves Emily
Fisher of Dollars
Dattor, You've Got to
be Kidding

Blow Up _ Carmen Baby Dear John Hell's Angels

Navaho Joe
*Once Before † Die
On Dad, Poor Dad,
Mama's Hung You in
the Closet and I'm
Feeting 50, Sod
Paula Schultz Pistol for Ringo (Ital.) Pistol for kingo (1861.)
Point Blank
Prehistoric Women
Pretty Polly
Producers The
Ride to Hangman's
Tree, The
Rose For Everyone, A
Shuftered Room The
Sleeping Car
Murder, The Guide for The Married

CLASS C-

Reflections in a Golden Eye The Trip



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