



They Look To Future

A mini-graduate looks to the future with confidence (and milk dripping from his chin) at a fete celebrating his completion of Pre-Pre-Nursery courses at The Angel Guardian Home in Brooklyn, N.Y. The courses include such things as hanging up one's clothes and putting toys away, plus neighborhood walks which point out such commonplaces as supermarkets and bubble-gum machines. Instruction is designed to prepare children for the day when they leave the nursery and go into a family setting. (Religious News Service).

U.S. Can't Ignore Its Hungry, Priest Tells House Unit

Washington — (NC) — If the affluent United States fails to eliminate hunger among its poor the country will face the "accusing judgment of history," Msgr. Lawrence J. Corcoran, secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities said here.

Msgr. Corcoran testified before the House Committee on Education and Labor in favor of a House bill to establish a commission on hunger.

He asked that emergency action be taken to immediately feed those suffering from hunger and malnutrition and that the following long-range steps be taken to eliminate the problem:

- Assignment of responsibility to an appropriate federal agency for the distribution of information about hunger and malnutrition.
- Administration of all federal food distribution programs by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
- Provisions in all food distribution programs to assure that the poor will have daily diets of proper caloric and nutrient intake.
- Improvement of public welfare programs to provide an adequate living income for those unable to work.
- Assumption by the federal gov-

ernment of responsibility for full employment of all those able and willing to work.

Msgr. Corcoran noted that recent studies prove that hunger and malnutrition exist on a large scale in the United States. "Despite efforts to discredit or ignore such studies and investigations," he said, "the existence of hunger and malnutrition remains established as a reality."

He said that "next to the fact of the existence of hunger and malnutrition in our country, the most deplorable fact is the lack of awareness and lack of concern about this condition.

"Most of our citizens do not have concrete knowledge about it, and when some bits of information are provided them, they dismiss them as improbable, basing their judgment on the widely held assumption that no one is hungry except through their own fault. This assumption rests upon the further one that there are sufficient opportunities for earning a livelihood or sufficient programs of assistance to make it unnecessary for a person to go hungry.

"Unfortunately," he continued, "such assumptions are not valid." He cited the inadequacy of public welfare programs for those they serve and noted that even such programs reach only one-third of the poor.

N.Y. Crowd Shouts Down Soviet Rabbi

New York (RNS) — A public meeting here addressed by the Chief Rabbi of Moscow, Yehuda Leib Levin, broke up in total disorder when the religious leader could no longer be heard above the boos, jeers, hoots and shouts of 3,000 people.

Officials of the anti-Zionist American Council of Judaism, hosts to the 74-year-old rabbi on his first visit to the United States, decided to terminate his address with one-fifth of the prepared text yet undelivered.

Rabbi Levin had reached a passage in which he tried to explain that Jewish schools in the Soviet Union were closed down because of the apathy of Jewish youth, rather than repressive government controls.

The confusion was so great, and the turmoil of persons moving about the auditorium at Hunter College became so volatile, that the rabbi and his party were unceremoniously hurried off the stage, out a side door, and into a waiting limousine.

After asserting that Jews enjoy greater personal dignity and freedom to practice their religion in Communist Russia than they did under the Czars, the spiritual leader of Moscow's Grand Choral Synagogue attempted to explain how Russia's Jewish youth have been lured away from the synagogues by aesthetic schooling and not by official anti-Semitism.

"Despite the fact that our government does not prevent religious practice, the number of our people grows increasingly smaller; the followers of religion are mostly elderly people who were brought up under the old traditions, who remember still the Torah which they studied in their youth."

According to a prepared English text, the rabbi continued through the uproar: "The young generation in our country is brought up atheistically, has a passive attitude toward religion, and has not the slightest picture about our religious literature, which was created in the course of thousands of years.

Charge of Heresy Against Jesuit Called 'Unjustified'

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — The Catholic Theological Society of America has rejected as "unjustified" the charge of heresy made by Archbishop Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio against Father John L. McKenzie, S.J.

The archbishop made his charge in a letter dated Oct. 30, 1967. His charge was based on passages in Father McKenzie's book, "Authority in the Church."

Father McKenzie is a biblical scholar and theologian as well as the author of several scholarly books and articles.

The Catholic Theological Society of America at its annual meeting here issued the following statement:

"At the request of John L. McKenzie, S.J. the Catholic Theological Society of America, through its officers and board of directors, took under study the charge of heresy leveled against Father McKenzie by Archbishop Robert E. Lucey in a letter of Oct. 30, 1967 on the basis of certain passages in the book 'Authority in the Church.'"

"After a careful study of the relevant passages in the book, the officers and board of the Catholic Theological Society of America have concluded unanimously that the charge of heresy based on these passages is unjustified."

NCC Issues New Booklet On Mixed Marriages

New York — (RNS) — A booklet on Protestant-Catholic intermarriage issued here by the National Council of Churches stresses that Protestants must approach the subject with an awareness that the Catholic Church is continuing to review its position.

"If I Marry a Roman Catholic," by Dr. L. Foster Wood, is a revision of an earlier Council publication.

An insert in the booklet quotes from material recommended by the Family Life Bureau of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

A large segment of "If I Marry a Roman Catholic" is devoted to explaining the Catholic position on mixed marriages, especially in the raising of children.

It notes that a papal decree of March 18, 1966, modified slightly the stand of the Church by permitting a non-Catholic party to a mixed marriage to give oral promise to raise children. The matter was left up to the local bishop as to whether such a promise would be required in writing.

The same decree gave bishops the

right to consent to a non-Catholic minister's participation, through a message of prayer, in a mixed marriage ceremony at a Catholic church.

When a non-Catholic in a marriage cannot in good conscience make a promise to raise children as Catholics "provision is made for appeal to higher authority."

Dr. Foster says that problems in mixed marriages cannot be minimized. He says that 15.2 per cent of Protestant-Catholic marriages were found to be "broken" in a survey of 12,000 youths asked about the domestic status and religious affiliation of their parents. The survey was originally published by the American Council on Education.

It was found that 6.8 per cent of homes where both parents were Protestant were "broken," and 6.4 per cent where parents were Roman Catholic. Where there was no religious connection, 16.7 per cent were broken.

The booklet and the insert are being distributed by the NCC's Commission on Marriage and the Family. Fifty thousand copies were issued.

Church - Goes Less Biased?

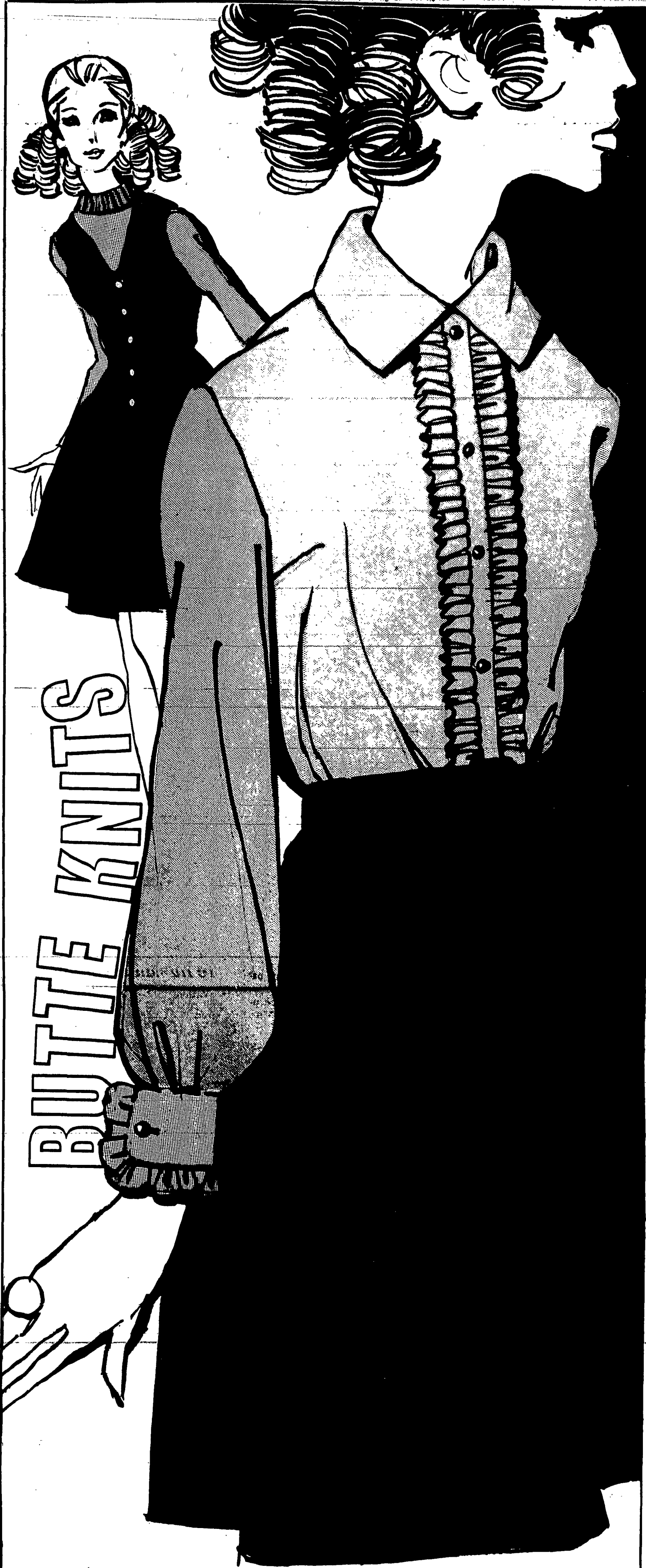
Minneapolis — (RNS) — Most Minnesotans consider regular church-goers to be less prejudiced than non-attenders, according to the Minneapolis Tribune's Minnesota Poll.

The poll found that most state residents reject the conclusion of sociologists Charles Glock and Rodney Stark that churches unknowingly are a primary cause of prejudice in the nation.

Sixty-two per cent of those surveyed said they believe regular church-goers are less prejudiced than inactive members.

Only 10 per cent hold the opinion that active church members are more prejudiced than non-attenders, while 19 per cent do not feel there is any difference between the two groups.

Over-all, 25 per cent of the people questioned said they agree with the allegation that churches are a cause of racial prejudice. Twelve per cent neither agreed nor disagreed.



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