



# TEENAGERS WANT TO KNOW

By FATHER MARTIN, C.S.S.R.

**Dear Father,**  
I am writing to you in last desperation. I can't stand living any more. It seems that wherever I look I see cruelty and misery. I find that I hate every one, including myself.

There is never one minute of happiness in my life. I feel so distant from God and at times I think that even He hates me. I feel trapped like a caged animal. I feel anger and hatred all the time.

I want to do something good with my life and I want to help make this world a little better, but how can I when I feel as I do. Please give me some advice soon. I don't want to live a life of waste and hatred.

BETH

**Dear Beth,**  
If you examine your life closely I am sure you will remember many moments of happiness. As you struggle through your teen years and seek maturity and adulthood, life can seem very depressing. Now you begin to see things you never really noticed as a child. Cruelty and sufferings are some of the hard realities you now have to face. As long as man exists these problems will be with us.

The real mark of your maturity will be how you handle these problems. If you let problems defeat you then you are not realizing your full potential as a human being. But if you rise above these various problems that confront

you, then you are ennobling yourself as a human being.

Your first concern has to be a trust in Almighty God and His Divine Providence. Everyday renew your confidence in God that He knows your problems and the problems of the world. God Himself assures us that He will give us all the strength we need to lead a good life.

There is cruelty in the world and much suffering because so many men forget about God and His love and the obligation to love their fellow man. God has given man a free will and He will not interfere with what He has given man. It is up to man to use that free will to honor God and to do good in the world.

Another help for you would be to discuss your problems, feelings, and moods with a competent person. When you get down it's often hard to see things clearly and settle our own problems. An understanding person can often help us to come to grips with our problems.

I am printing the beautiful prayer of St. Francis hoping that if you say it everyday it will help you to get out of yourself and be a comfort to you. May it also inspire you to do something good with your life and to make the world a little bit better.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there

is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

**Dear Father,**  
I enjoy reading your teen column. There is something I don't quite understand. There has been a young woman, a Jehovah Witness, coming to our house about twice a month.

I'm 16 and I never thought I was doing something wrong. You see, she was selling two small religious magazines published by the Jehovah Witnesses. I don't believe some of it, but I read them. She asks for only a contribution of a dime.

A very dear friend came over and we started to talk about religion. I happened to mention the young woman and my giving her a dime for a contribution. He said that it wasn't right or I'm not supposed to support another religion. Father, am I doing wrong?

When I was told this, I answered, "Christ had no differences." We Catholics ask for support and so do others. Is it wrong to contribute to another religion? It was we humans (men) who made the differences.

What should I do? Also, is there any law in the Church that says it is wrong to do this? God never made any

differences and I don't see any either.

ALENE

**Dear Alene,**  
Catholics may not engage in the formal religious activities of another religion. If we firmly believe that Christ founded only one Church and believe that the Catholic Church is the true religion it would be a contradiction for us to believe that another religion could also be true.

I would like to take up your point that God never made any differences; that they were made by man. God did make differences. Read the Old Testament and you will see that God made differences. He demanded that the Chosen people adhere to true worship. And Christ, of course, founded only one true church. The differences in religion, as you say, were made by man. But we cannot follow the religion of man. We must follow the religion of Christ.

Many Catholics make contributions to other religions, but these contributions are for charitable purposes and not to propagate the other religions. Protestants do the same for Catholic charitable causes. Certainly this is allowed because the purpose is to honor God by helping others. But no one who has the conviction that his religion is the correct one can endanger that religion in any way. This holds for Catholics and Protestants.

Buying the Jehovah Witnesses' publications, I believe, contributes to the support of that religion. Therefore I would advise you not to buy these publications. You did not do wrong in reading these magazines just out of curiosity, but a continual reading of them could pose some real dangers.

Be kind to your friend, invite her in for a cup of coffee and so forth. I believe she will admire you for your own religious convictions when you explain your beliefs to her and why you do not care to buy her publications. May God bless you.

## Granite Caves Hold Family Trees

Salt Lake City — (RNS) — One of the highlights of the first World Conference on Records here was a trip up a tree-lined canyon to four massive tunnels cut into a granite mountain.

Inside the tunnels, roofed by 700 feet of rock and reinforced with steel and concrete, are three bank vault doors, one weighing 14 tons. Behind the doors, safe from natural or man-made disaster, are the millions of volumes of genealogical records which are tied to the religion of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon).

The vaults were constructed by the Church's Genealogical Society to protect the records, as Mormons believe that the family unit can and does extend beyond the grave.

"Family relationships," the Church teaches, "were intended to be eternal and not for the period of mortality alone."

Worthy Church members who are sealed together by proper priesthood authority are not married only "until death do you part." The husband and wife and children born to this union may remain together throughout eternity as a family unit, provided they continue to live righteous lives in love and harmony.

The Church gathers the records, a spokesman explained, in order that religious ordinances might be performed by proxy for members' ancestors. For that to happen, correct genealogical trees must be constructed — thus the storage vaults.

In Salt Lake City, a Genealogical Society library keeps some 8 million sheets, listing parents and families, and a 36 million card index file. Microfilm viewers are provided for public use, as are 90,000 manuscript histories and publications. The microfilm collection is the equivalent of more than 3 million volumes of 300 pages each.

and the collection continues to grow.

In connection with its own work, the Genealogical Society has sponsored the World Conference on Records: "Records Protection in an Uncertain World." Participants from 32 states and 22 countries attended.

## Bible to Be Used In Sex Ed Course

Minneapolis — (RNS) — A new senior high school sex education course that draws heavily on the Bible will be offered this year by hundreds of congregations of the American Lutheran Church (ALC).

The course emphasizes sexuality as a "gift of God" and stresses the non-biological aspects of sex, according to the Rev. Norman Wegmeyer, ALC parish education leadership development director.

Materials for the 13-session course include a 95-page instructor's guide, student texts, pamphlets and folders, a series of pictures, wall charts and suggestions for supplementing these with magazine articles, works of art and literature.

The course states that "God created sex to be attractive, fascinating, thrilling, exciting, mysterious, powerful and revealing."

It notes that sexual practices and responses vary and that in the development of mankind "no single normal standard has ever existed that can be made to apply to civilization as a whole."

References are made to the love story in the Song of Solomon, the expression of love between Jonathan and David, and the definition of a universal love of mankind in I Corinthians 13: "So faith, hope, love abide, these three: but the greatest of these is love."

Among other references cited are the story of Lot and how his daughters bore children by him; of Joseph and the attempt of Potiphar's wife to seduce him; and of the love affair between David and Bathsheba. Course materials speak of the

terms used in the Bible for sexual intercourse as "to know," "to become one flesh," "to lie down with."

## British Churches Plan Talks On Poverty

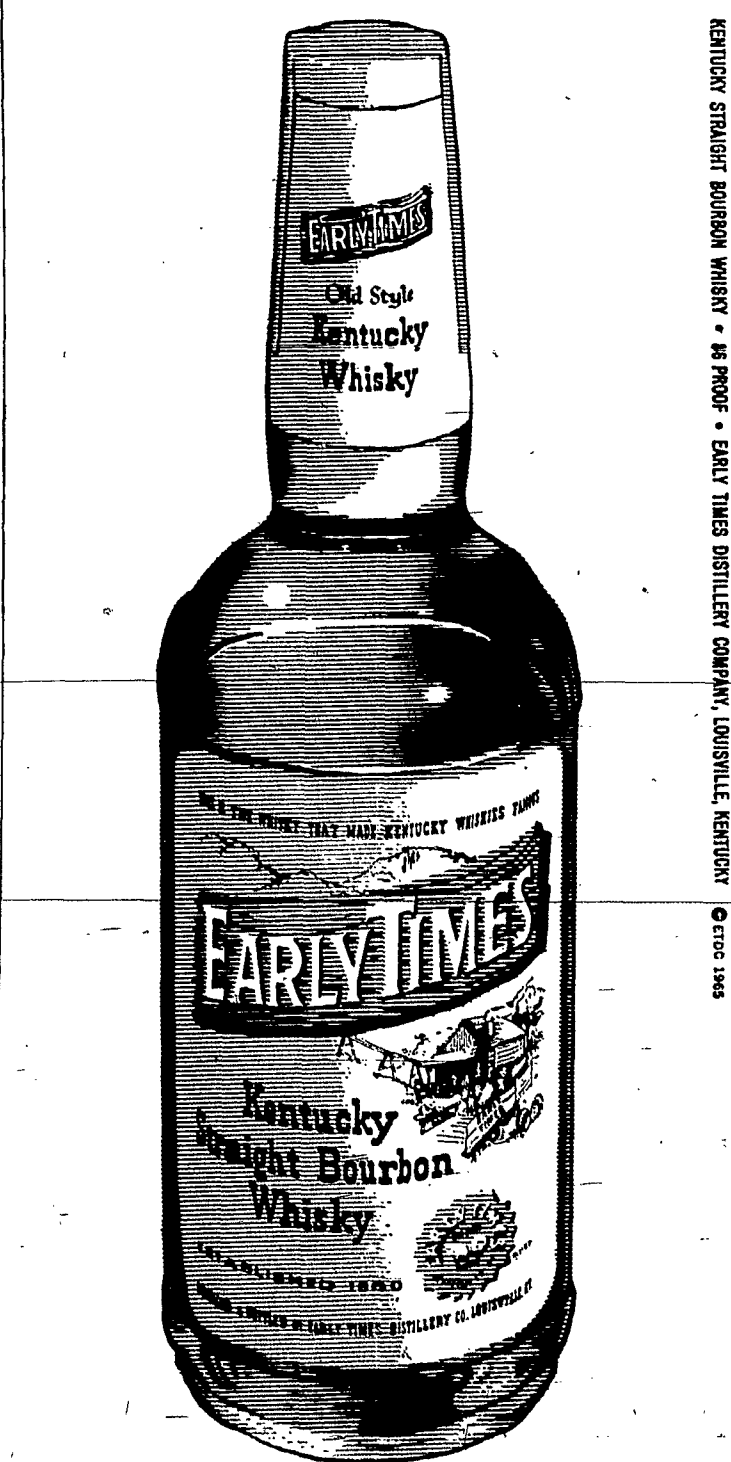
London — (RNS) — Preparations are nearing completion here for what is officially described as the most widely representative Church conference ever held in Britain on world poverty.

It will bring together some 350 people of differing Christian traditions for a four-day gathering beginning Oct. 13 at the Anglican Conference Center at Swanwick.

An announcement described the meeting as "a working conference for Christians in the United Kingdom to clarify their own conception of the Churches' role in overcoming world poverty."

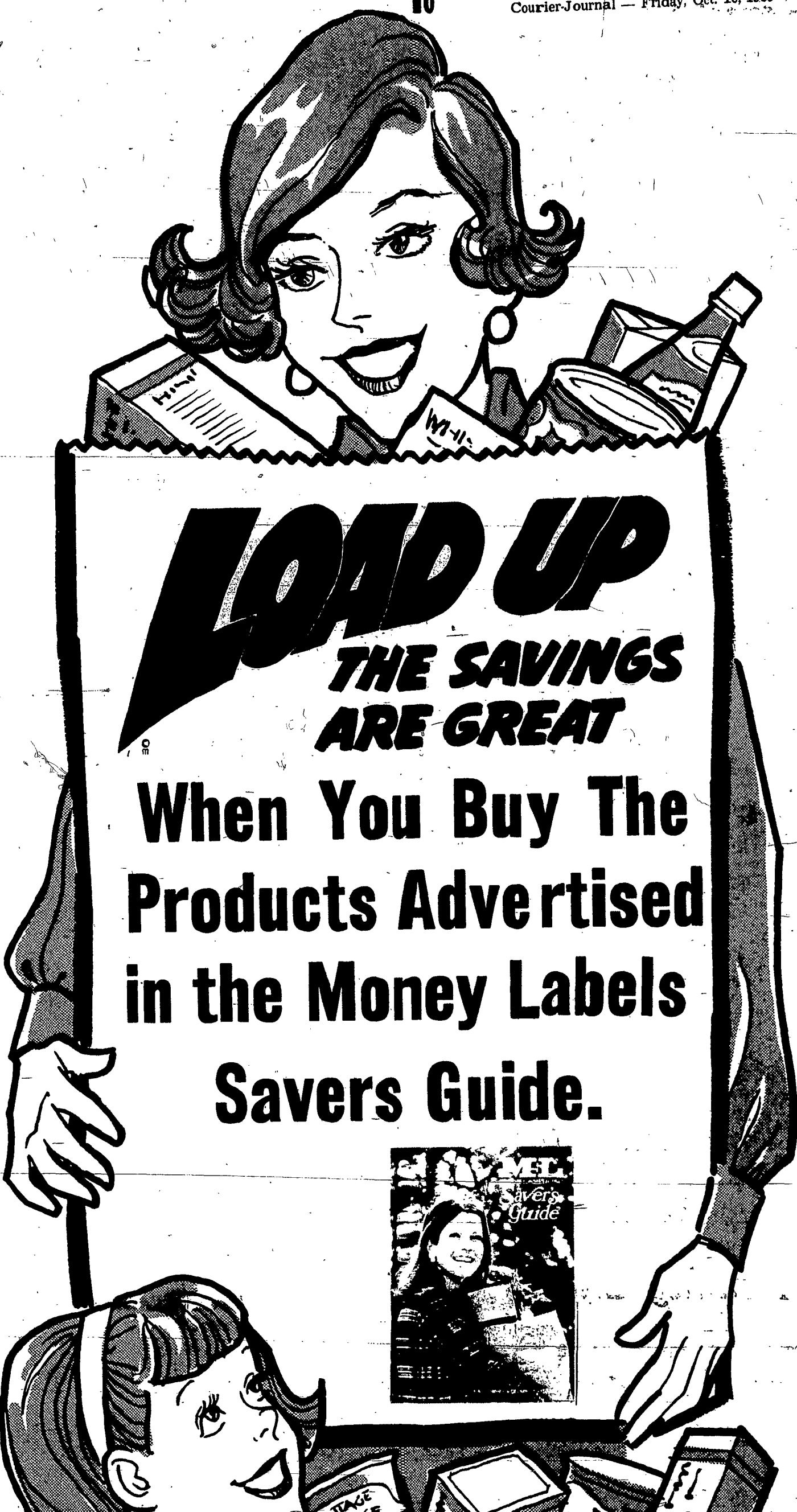
A Declaration on World Poverty will be tied to a nationwide "sign-in" during December. Copies of the petitions will go to all 630 members of Parliament.

The "sign-in" is being organized by the Churches, already every priest and minister with pastoral responsibilities throughout Britain has received circulars requesting that he seek the participation of his congregation. Each clergyman will select a Sunday in December when congregations can most conveniently "sign-in." It will petition greater action on poverty, by Parliament.



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Brave® Brand Spaghetti Sauce	All	Twist-off cap	15	Beauty Bath Oil	All	Box top and flap with price circle	60
Total® Cereal	All	Package bottom with price circle	15	Ban® Spray Deodorant	All	Tracing of facsimile of the label	45
Bows®, Bugles®, Buttons®, Oats®, The French Fried Potato Crisp, Hotates, Pizza Spinnin', Whistles®	All	Package bottom with price spot	15	Roll-On Deodorant	All	Box top flap with price circle	45
Krey Hot Dogs, Wieners, Bacon	All	Complete wrapper	10	Dry-Basin Antiperspirant Spray	All	Tracing of facsimile of the label	45
Pure Pork Sausage	All	Complete wrapper	20	Vitalis® Liquid Hairgroom	All except 2's	Paper label	40
Gourmet® Ham	All	Words "Key Gourmet Ham" from label	50	Concentrate Hairgroom	All	Entire Carton	40
Canned Meats (all varieties)	All	Paper label	10	Vaseline® Toothpaste	All except 1.45 oz.	Entire Carton	35
Beechnut® Baby Foods (not cereal or juice)	All	Paper label	2	Colgate 100® Toothpaste	All	Container	40
Hotates, Pizza Spinnin', Whistles®	All	Paper label	4	Rose Lotion Vel® (Liquid)	All	Part of label showing price spot & no. side	20
Junior (all varieties)	All	Paper label	4	Kleenex® Paper Towels	All	Wrappers, including premium seal	10
Diaper Puro®	All	Box top with price circle	20	Pettusian® Wild Berry Cough Syrup	All	Top half of box back (based with "Parent's Magazine" Seal)	25
Mennen Baby Magic® Lotion Powder	All	Container	15	8-Hour Cough Formula	All	Top half of box back	25
Conditioning Oil Bath	All	Container	15	Medicated Vaporizer	All	Container	25
Mennen Sol® Stroke® Menthol-Ice® Lime	All	Container	15	Hetty® Plastic Bags	All	End flap with star shape price spot	15
				Waste Disposal (all types)	All	2" x 4" cutout of upper right corner to include price spot & no. side	15
				Musical Treasures Album	All	Full page ad after coupon has been mailed	50
				LOOK Magazine	All	Full page ad after coupon has been mailed	100
				Magnificat and Courier-Journal	All	Filled in coupon from ad	250

## Junkie

Catholic Press Fea... Bergenfield, N.J. — know drugs and ma cost money," the 11 boy said, addressing tion to a 16-year-old g had been an addict f years. "What did you earn the money f drugs?"

"Well," the girl an "it cost me my self My pride. My digni trust in people, and it cost me the differ tween life and death.

The brief exchang part of an unrehears nar on drugs, held in a middle-income nity in New Jersey a ducted by the Rev. Egan, the famed Priest" who for the years has been helpin habitate drug-addict "Village Haven" hal house in Manhattan.

In the seminar, 11 ers directed question ters Egan and "Tin of the many addic have gone to the pr help.

Excerpts from the follow. Tina: "I wasn't d drugs. I was a slave. I it. I was running fro ity. I couldn't go more. You know, I sit down and listen to talk and say, 'I can't to me.' Some are c day."

Fr. Egan: "Please buy the fact that ev is smoking marijuar say to yourself), 'I body's doing it, and I then I'm queer, I'm a fink, there's so wrong with me."

Tina: "If you're ho marijuana, how can unhooked? Well, y stop if you want to it. I have to kick once y done, heroin? No, h hard. And a lot of p you're out on the stre do it because they do the willpower. All it stop a habit of any willpower. That's wh it 'yourself."

Fr. Egan: "What t place? What has tal place of drugs in y Tina?"

Tina: "You get t people."

Girl: "Does m

## Kearney

Bishop Kearney, Mooney, and McQuai runners all ran in the last Saturday at the nual Baldwinville In Cross-Country Meet.

Kearney took on the half of the 37-school wound up second on powerful Christian Academy team from The Kings scored 8 with Mike D'Erico (O'Connor) (8), Kevin (15), John Terrier (Tom Walsh (31) to Watertown for runner.

Mooney's squad ra bottom bracket and e easy team-win as well the individual t Ben Smith's 12:22 f miles. Behind Smith w



## Don't

From Belgium co beef stew known as made Flamande, a main dish richly with onions and offe ed with beer. In the make recipe witho canned roast beef w reduces the cooking work, greatly witho ficing the traditio taste, and apple juic supplies the typica flavoring.