

WEE PALS



by Morrie Turner

TEENAGERS WANT TO KNOW

By FATHER MARTIN

Dear Father,

I am in love with a great boy. He's everything a person could want except for one thing. Father, he's got a great inferiority complex! What can I do to help him get over it?

BOBBIE

Dear Bobbie,

The best way to help a person over an inferiority complex is to encourage the person, especially to use his God-given talents. Help him to accomplish things so that he can get over his diffidence. Help a person in public. Help him to meet people, introduce him right away in a public situation to people you know and he doesn't. Don't let him stand in the background.

In the final analysis, of course, a person has to be willing to overcome the inferiority feelings himself. Some people love to indulge in self-pity and it can be very difficult to help them. Some times a good talk with a person can help, pointing out this factor to him — that he has to help himself and make

a genuine effort to overcome his problem.

A person should be made to realize that God has given him a certain amount of talent and that he has to use it. Usually when a person realizes this then he begins to acquire a certain satisfaction with the things he accomplishes. He begins to feel more secure, he begins to accomplish more things, and he begins to lose his inferiority.

Once we begin to live up to our potential, we become much more secure human beings.

Dear Father,

Father, I am sorry to say I am a person who has no friends. My greatest hope and most repetitious prayer is that God will show and inspire in me the way of having as well as being a friend.

I have tried whenever possible to do small favors for people; to make them feel needed, and compliment them whenever I can. Above all by trying not to give the impression that I am God's gift to this earth.

I guess I am not the most interesting person. I don't go out because I am ashamed of being alone. When other guys get together, they talk about the fun they had last night. All I can do is listen.

I pray to God for one person who can confide in me and I in him.

Father, how can I be the kind of person that God and other people would be glad to call by that unreadable title, "Friend."

TOM

Dear Tom,

Perhaps you are trying too hard. Sometimes when we try too hard, we become artificial in our mannerisms and

personality. This can turn people off. Try to be yourself. Once you are and with all your good qualities, you certainly are going to be a friend to other people.

I also suggest that you force yourself to associate with other people your age. Just being with other people, listening to their viewpoints and expressing yours, joining in their activities will be a tremendous help to you. Why not invite an acquaintance to your house occasionally or ask him to go to a movie or ball game with you, or join you for a pizza. There may be people who want to be friends with you, but perhaps can't break the ice to get to know you better.

Majority Opposes Abortion on Demand

Boston—(NC)—Most Americans oppose abortion on demand, Msgr. Paul V. Harrington told Boston nurses at the New England Federation of Catholic Nurses' Guilds at the Statler Hilton Hotel here.

"There are many irresponsible statements made and many unwarranted conclusions drawn by those who favor a change in our law," he began.

"There is much dishonesty, deception, intentional clouding of the issue, begging of the question, erroneous and distorted information and emphasis on immaterial and irrelevant matters to the exclusion of a consideration of the

central problem by those who propose a liberalization of our laws and a legalization of abortion," Msgr. Harrington asserted.

He advised the nurses to be careful, lest they be fooled into being persuaded that there is a large segment, even a great majority, of citizens who favor liberalized abortion laws.

"However, the real truth is that only a small percentage of our population really favor abortion on request," he stated.

"The proponents are loud and vocal; they make a lot of

noise; they control the media of communications. The leadership is very active and energetic but they convince only a small percentage of the peoples of these United States," Msgr. Harrington said.

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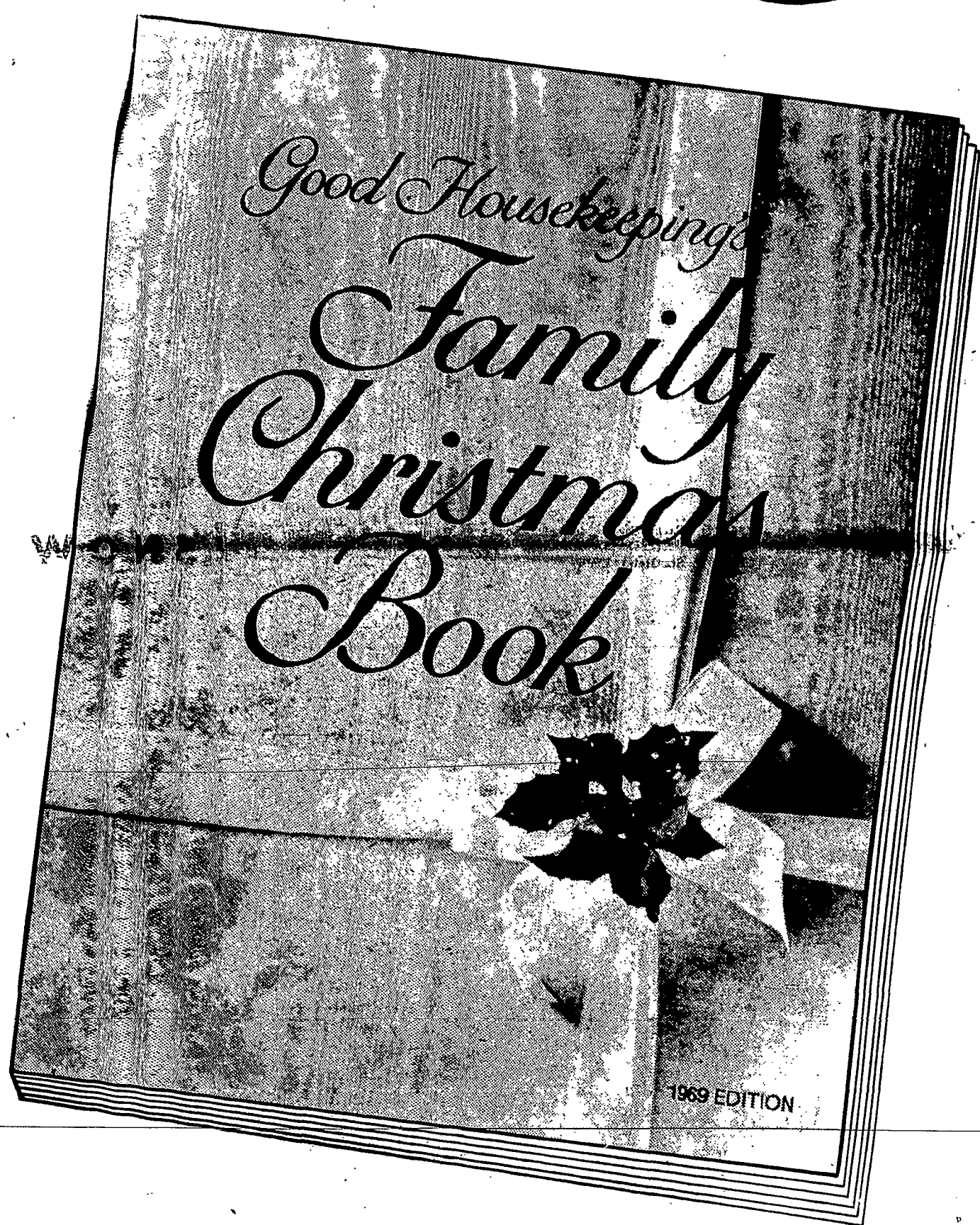
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Confrontation

Principal's Workshop

By JOAN ZUMMO

The recent CCD Principal's workshop at St. John of Rochester parish highlighted a number of problems facing school administrators as well as the many accomplishments they have brought about in recent years.

Addresses and seminars considered the relationship between the CCD principal and other parish factions such as teachers, students, curriculum, parochial school personnel, and pastors. The principal was described as a servant of the parish whose chief resource is the teacher. The CCD principal must be able to direct and guide teachers, provide his staff with inspiration as well as supplies, and keep open and functioning the lines of communication among teachers, parents, students, priests, parochial school staff, custodial and maintenance personnel.

The CCD principal must also be aware of resources available from the diocesan office and other sources.

Specific problems that were considered in individual seminars included the communication problem that often exists between pastor and CCD personnel which the CCD principal should bridge. Another perennial problem is that of finances. It was agreed that the lopsided ratios of aid to parochial

schools as compared to all other parish and Diocesan programs should be considered.

Also discussed were practical suggestions for running open house programs, sending periodic reports to parents, holding parent meetings, having teachers contact parents personally for various events and other means of parent involvement.

Principal-teacher relationships were discussed under headings of recognition and appreciation (of teachers' and helpers' families as well as teachers themselves), operational support such as from paperwork, A-V support, material and information availability, theology formation (through faculty meetings, speakers, advanced workshops).

In order to meet this variety of needs it was agreed that continuing cooperation among principals from different parishes is essential and consideration should be given to the idea of forming a principals' association, perhaps with regional divisions.

It was also generally agreed that every parish needs a professional religious education coordinator — someone to work full time at the many varied tasks facing the CCD principal and other religious education personnel in the parish.

Woman Priest Issue Renewed in Sweden

Vaxjo, Sweden—(NC)—The 10-year-old struggle over women clergy in the Lutheran state church has flared up again in a dispute between a bishop and the rector of his cathedral.

Bishop David Lindquist of Vaxjo in southern Sweden has announced that he will ordain 25-year-old Miss Inger Svensson, daughter of a clergyman of the diocese, to the ministry in Vaxjo cathedral on Dec. 20. This is to be the first ordination of a woman in the Vaxjo diocese, which is regarded as a traditionalist and "high church" diocese. (The "high church" movement advocates a liturgy and church practices that closely resemble those of the Roman Catholic Church.)

The Rev. Gustaf Adolf Danell, rector of the Vaxjo cathedral parish and a leader of the "high church" movement in the country, has said he will not open the cathedral for the ordination. He has opposed women priests for a decade and until now has been able to prevent their introduction into the diocese.

A few other dioceses, like Strangnas, west of Stockholm, and Visby, on the island of Gotland in the Baltic have remained without women priests. These dioceses are regarded as places of refuge for young men entering the ministry who do not want to cooperate with the women ministers who now number about 20 in Sweden. (The first was ordained in 1960.)

Bishop Lindquist intends to ordain nine candidates, including Miss Svensson, in Vaxjo on Dec. 20. Three of them, however, have declared that they refuse to receive the ordination together with a woman, and for that reason, will go to Strangnas or Visby.

According to Svenska Dagbladet, Stockholm daily, the situation at Vaxjo, in which the cathedral rector refuses to open the building for his bishop, is unprecedented.

The canon lawyers of the diocesan chapter of Vaxjo are trying to solve the problem, but have said that it may be necessary to consult the government.

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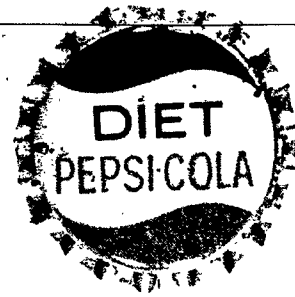
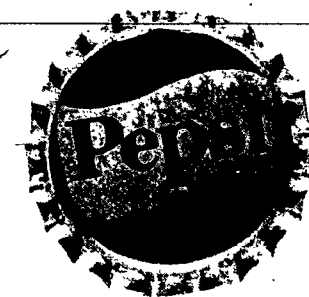
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