Pushups at 100!

San Francisco — (NC) — He snuggled comfortably in a well-worn easy chair, puffed his cigar, smiled and commented: "This is my heaven!"

Father George Trunk, who'll be 100 come Sept. 1, was talking about his secondfloor bedroom-study in the gray frame Nativity parish rectory, close by San Fran-cisco's famed Opera House.

There are red geraniums' in window boxes. The walls are decorated with murals ---scenes of snow capped mountains, lakes rimmed with pines, the way Father Trunk remembered his childhood surroundings in Carinthia, a province now divided between Austria and the Slovenian section of Yugoslavia.

Father Trunk always had been handy with a paint brush.

For 22 years, he was pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Leadville, a town high in the Colorado Rockies. While there he covered the church walls and ceiling with paintings from the New Testa-ment.

"The inside of the church needed painting very badly and contractors wanted \$6,-000 so I decided to do it myself. It cost \$78 for scaffolding plus money for the paint," he detailed. The Leadville church now is regarded as a national Solvenian monument because Father Trunk's paintings are considered a fine example of primitive art.

Father Trunk doesn't paint

anymore, but his days are busy. He's up at 6 a.m. each day and exercises for 30 minutes, doing push-ups and bends. Then he says Mass in a small chapel in the Marivity church.

After Mass, he breakfasts and returns to his "heaven." He spends most of the morning at his desk typing a weekly political column for a Slovenian newspaper published in Cleveland.

"Sometimes I feel tired but I start writing and I feel better right away," he said.

Promptly at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., he goes for a half-hour walk.

After lunch, he reads until 2 p.m. when he takes an afternoon nap. His favorite books deal with politics and science.

Father Trunk, a priest for 75 years, attributes his longevity to self-discipline.

"Sometimes I don't feel like exercising in the morning but I make myself get up and do it," he said firmly.

"Twenty years ago, the doc-tors told me to stop smoking and to stop drinking coffee. But I told them I didn't want to live if I couldn't have my cigars and coffee." He also likes a little honey and brandy during the day.

He was active in politics before he came to America and was a delegate from Carinthia to the Versailles treaty conference after World War



Father George Trunk in the rectory of the Church of the Nativity in San Francisco. He is writing his weekly political column for a Slovenian newspaper published in Cleveland. (Religious News Service)

archdiocese.

Old Cemetery Landscaped As Playground

Courier-Journal-Friday, February 20, 1970

New York — (RNS)—The oldest cemetery in New York City, and one of the oldest in the nation, is being transformed into a playground for its neighborhood.

St. Mark's in-the-Bowery (Episcopal) is believed to be the first inner city church in the nation to redesign the use of cemetery space. Among the famous persons buried at the site is Peter Stuyvesant, first mayor of New York.

The crypts and flat gravestones have not been disturbed. There will be a stone-paved area for play, a fountain and seating.

In recent months, St. Mark's has been redefining its relation to its community, once white and affluent but now comprising "mobile" minorities, blacks, Puerto Ricans and hippies.

About 30 teenagers, some with police records, have been hired to do the work. The Rockefeller Brothers Founda-tion contributed \$16,000 to the project. The Neighborhood Youth Corps has agreed to pay the young people and the State Department of Highways donated 20 truckloads of cobblestones.

The church is the oldest place of worship in the city and is an official historic landmark. The cemetery is 300 years old.

CAPITOL HILL 1970 Court Denies Father **Custody of Infant Son**



Q. Has somebody finally come up with a plan to aid the non-public school student that meets all the requirements of the law?

A. Yes. The Speno-Lerner Bill is a major bi-partisan plan that aims to do exactly what is needed: aid the hardpressed parents of the students in the non-public gram mar and secondary school by providing a tuition grant for mar or high school gets a grant based on his net taxable income. The schedule looks like this:

Parent's Net Taxable Income Under \$4,000 \$4.000-\$9.000 \$9,000-\$15,000 Over \$15,000 Top Annual Grant to Elementary Students \$150



school where secular subjects were taught 90% of the time and religious subjects taught 10% of the time would mean a secular cost of education at that school of \$90. Under the bill a parent could get a grant for \$72 (80% of the \$90).

Q. Why the 80%; why not all? A. Because it preserves the

Boston — (NC)—The peti-tion of a 20-year-old unwed father for custody of his illethe child to the Catholic Charitable Bureau on Feb. 3, 1969, thereby delegating all authority over the child, until gitimate baby was dismissed in probate court here on a final adoption, to the agency. motion of the Catholic Charitable Bureau of the Boston

U.S. AMBASSADOR SEES POPE

Judge Robert G. Wilson, Jr., of Suffolk County Pro-Vatican City — (NC) — Graham Martin, U.S. ambas-sador to Italy, was received in bate Court approved the bureau's motion "with relucaudience by Pope Paul VI Feb. tance . . . because I have a 9. It was Martin's first visit to great deal of sympathy with the Pope since arriving in Rome last fall. a man who has brought into this world a human being and wants to provide him a

nome and an education." .The father, Robert Monnar, ST.THOMAS MORE home and an education."

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