

**Editorial**

**Our Mission**

The 138,600 missionaries serving across the world have never asked for your gratitude. Indeed they have sought out their roles and are happy to serve God and man. Their work is their thanks.

The zeal and optimism with which they work, whether in underdeveloped nations, Pacific islands, or the unfavored parts of our own country, are reflected in accomplishment.

They are now helping 49,400 native seminarians, and are responsible for 100,000 schools, 1,000 hospitals, 2,374 orphanages, 867 homes for the aged and 844 mission dioceses. And all of this bolstered by spiritual love and care for all God's children.

When we contribute to the Missions, 51 per cent goes to foreign missions in Asia, Africa, South America and the Pacific islands; 40 per cent goes to Home Missions in the United States, often in areas which otherwise would not have a single resident priest and often in towns where the Catholic Church is not otherwise represented; 9 per cent goes to the Near East missions in the Holy Land and parts of India.

Some examples of how money has been spent:

\$1,000 went to equip a dispensary; \$2,000 to a hospital in West Africa; \$6,000 to aid in repair of earthquake damage.

Some areas where funds are needed:

Indian seminaries are crowded to capacity and are turning away priesthood prospects; in some Latin American cities, open sewers line the roads and homes are tiny shacks, six of ten children die before they are six years old; in one African country there is one dentist serving a million people; there are 5,000 Catholics for every priest in Latin America; and the gravest need is for an African clergy.

We already have the indispensable item — people who are willing to devote their lives. This dedication can not be bought and paid for. What is needed are the things that have price tags — building materials, books, bulldozers, medical supplies and equipment. The rest of us can supply this.

In World War II, during those dark days for England, Winston Churchill turned to the United States and begged, "Give us the tools and we will finish the job."

So, too, the missionaries throughout the world look to this land with the same request. We cannot afford to let them down.

The collection Saturday Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20.

**One Small Step For Mankind**

Congratulations to the Ibero-American Action League and to the boards of election in Erie and Monroe counties over the agreement to place Spanish-English interpreters in 21 voting districts that have five per cent or more Puerto Rican population.

Translations of propositions and instructions also will be posted to insure equal voting rights for Puerto Rican and other Spanish-speaking citizens.

This represents a step forward but is still only a small beginning. It must be remembered that Puerto Ricans are American citizens by birth and thus entitled to every right given by the Constitution.

While the election boards have seen their responsibility, many institutions are lagging pitifully. Institutions such as hospitals, courts, social service agencies and police departments have either ignored the legal and moral rights of Spanish-speaking citizens or have paid them half-hearted service. Some have filled the gap, so to speak, by using existing bilingual employees to provide translation services as needs arise — at no increase in salary. Both jobs often suffer.

The election board decision qualifies as a model. The board will hire and pay translators for the specific jobs. This is the kind of professionalism needed if the Spanish speaking are to enjoy their constitutional rights, so often disregarded by the very institutions established to secure them.

**Opinion**

**On Examination Of Conscience**

Editor:

At the recent forum held on the United Farmworkers Union Gallo boycott, Mr. Frank, the Gallo winery vice-president, called upon the audience to consider carefully all of the facts and to examine their consciences on the morality of supporting the boycott. He also mentioned that "innocent" people could be hurt by such a boycott, such as the "human beings" in Rochester whose entire living depends on the sale of Gallo." (quoted in the Democrat and Chronicle, 9/20/74)

Mr. Frank admitted that none of his children had ever worked in the fields, whereas Ms. Huerta (the vice-president of the United Farmworkers) stated that some of her children started working in the fields of California at the age of nine.

I would simply comment that one's perspective, (especially as formed by experience and economic class) and personally held values have a lot to do with conscience decisions, probably more so than the "facts."

Mr. Frank is concerned with the effect of the boycott on business, as a member of the local Boycott Support Committee. I am working to reduce the sale of Gallo wines because I believe that justice for farmworkers is more important than the profits and good jobs of businessmen.

Corporate business practices as well as the life-style of the wealthy and comfortable (which probably includes most U.S. citizens relative to the rest of the world) cannot remain untouched by the struggles of hungry and oppressed peoples.

As it says in the Scriptures, "He has filled the hungry with good things and has sent the rich away with empty hands." As we sing it on the picket lines, "Which side are you on?"

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**Criteria Questioned**

Editor:

It was with great disappointment that I read Father Cuddy's criteria for a "good religion course," that being "knowledge and practice of the Rosary and the Angelus" (Courier-Journal, 8/25/74). Of course, Jesus would have failed the test, as well as His mother and the apostles and all the early Christian saints.

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What's a missionary gonna buy with my Dad's quarter?

My presumption has been that Religious Education has based its content on the Good News of Jesus as found in the Gospel. I don't know if Pope Paul meant his words to be used as the criteria for Religious Education, but I do know that the American Bishops at their National Conference in 1972 addressed themselves directly to this question when they wrote:

"Thus one crucial measure of the success or failure of the educational ministry is how well it enables men to hear the message of hope contained in the Gospel, to base their love and service of God upon this message, to achieve a vital personal relationship with Christ, and to share the Gospel's realistic view of the human condition which recognizes the fact of evil and personal sin while affirming hope."

As one who has worked for several years in the Religious Education Ministry of this diocese, I will admit the lack of a totally effective tool to measure the presence of Faith, Hope and Charity in another's life, but then, Jesus himself died without having proof of success.

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**Misquote Lives On**

Editor:

In his Oct. 2 column, Father Henry Atwill says, "Jesuit Father Joseph O'Rourke continues to serve as a director for a group called Catholics for a Free Choice, an organization which thinks Catholics ought not to try to enforce their moral opinions against abortion by law onto other people — which is in complete accord with the publicly stated thinking of the late Cardinal Richard Cushing of Boston. Now Father O'Rourke is an outcast for baptizing a child whose mother made the mistake of agreeing with a dead Cardinal."

Cardinal Cushing's "publicly stated thinking" mentioned above refers to a statement the Cardinal made several years ago when the Church supported efforts to repeal the Massachusetts contraceptive ban. "Catholics do not need the support of civil law to be faithful to their own religious convictions, and they do not need to impose their moral views on other members of society."

The quote was taken out of context and was used in 1967 by the Los Angeles Times to support its own arguments for abortion law changes.

Cardinal Cushing at that time sent a letter to the paper reiterating his opposition to relaxed abortion laws and charged he was misquoted.

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The paper acknowledged its error, saying a "secondary source book" had not made clear the context of the Cardinal's words.

In his letter, Cardinal Cushing said, "Let me make perfectly clear that I am not in favor of the so-called liberalization of the abortion laws."

"... In the case of abortion, the public's interest in the health and welfare of the mother is matched by its interest in the health and welfare of the child and it is the responsibility of society to safeguard both interests."

"When I say Catholics do not seek to impose by law their moral views on other members of society I do not mean to imply that American citizens because they are Catholics should stand idly by and permit the enactment of immoral laws or the repeal of laws that have for their source and support generally accepted moral and ethical principles."

The acknowledged misquote by the Los Angeles Times continues to appear in the abortion controversy. I trust that this letter will help to correct the error.

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**'Apple's Way' Defended**

Editor:

In reference to As I See It by Pat Costa, Courier-Journal 9/25/74:

Here she goes with her little bow and arrow, her target again "Apple's Way."

The way I see it, she'd better "take a peek" at many more TV programs, too numerous to mention, which are in need of her attention and appraisal. With all its minor frailties, let "Apple's Way" survive. It will do no harm to any "real family."

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Opinions to the editor should be addressed: Letter to the Editor, Courier-Journal, Richmond Building, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. They should be no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed double-spaced. Names and addresses should be included. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters.