



**THE
SLOT MAN**

Carmen Viglucci

I had occasion recently to substitute for a CCD teacher and although I cannot claim to have filled his shoes very well it was nonetheless an interesting experience, at least for me.

The children were fifth grade age and were expecting to have that particular class devoted to some handicraft work in addition to their regular lessons. Instead they were stuck with a newspaperman whose last great handy accomplishment was closing the bathroom door so his wife couldn't hear the faucet leak.

But the regular teacher's lesson plan was so well-organized that it gave me at least a takeoff point, even though a story on outer space eventually developed into a discussion of nuclear weaponry. Some of the kids knew more about the technical aspects of such than I did but eventually I brought them up short.

One boy said, "But what's all the worry about nuclear bombs anyway? No one would ever want to drop one."

I reminded, "But one nation already has."

The children looked quizzical — they weren't too sure about my credentials to begin with.

"Yes," I continued, suddenly feeling the flash of enthusiasm

that good teachers, I suppose, experience regularly, "and does anyone know which nation it is?" I gave the proper pause that I remembered from Bill Stern's Colgate Shave Cream Show.

I could see the names of countries rolling through their minds, but before any slander would be committed, I told them:

Surely, their expressions told me, I was daft. So I finished up with, "And not just once, but twice."

My lesson for the day: Teaching sure gives you plenty to think about.

Father Joseph Reinhart is back from Rome where he conferred with worldwide leaders of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. The December issue of Catholic Digest includes on Page 99 a reprint of a Courier-Journal article by Father Robert McNamara of St. Bernard's Seminary on alcoholic priests and altar wine. Congratulations to Immaculate Church in Ithaca for the extensive survey undertaken to learn attitudes of parishioners on a wide range of theological issues.

A touch of class: Harry J. O'Donnell, who has served three New York State governors, Thomas Dewey, Nelson Rockefeller and Malcolm Wilson, will be leaving state government when the new governor, Hugh Carey, takes over. In a memo to all publishers and editors of weekly newspapers, O'Donnell simply says, "I want to express to all of you my appreciation for your patience and tolerance in putting up with us and to assure you that we tried, at all times, to cooperate quickly, accurately and with sensitivity to the fact that the press secretary's office is primarily a service office." Would that others in similar capacities knew this.

Bolivan Bishops Question Repressive Government

La Paz, Bolivia [RNS] — Bolivia's Roman Catholic bishops have seriously questioned the more repressive military rule imposed by President Hugo Banzer following a recent attempted coup and particularly criticized press censorship and the suppression of trade unions and professional groups.

Joining their voices to an earlier statement of their Justice and Peace Commission, which was not published due to press censorship, the bishops' expression of concern was published in *Presencia*, influential La Paz daily.

The three bishops are Bishop Augustin Jesus Lopez de Lama of Cochabamba, Auxiliary Bishop Adhemar Esquivel Kohonen of LaPaz and Auxiliary Bishop Andrea Bernardo Schierhoff of LaPaz.

President Banzer's post-coup "new order" extends military rule until at least 1980, canceled the promised 1975 general elections, and placed severe restrictions on all Bolivians. The freedom of political parties, trade unions and student groups — gradually curtailed since President Banzer seized government control in 1971 — has been abolished following the attempted coup in Santa Cruz, capital of Bolivia's rich oil and cotton province.

In their statement on behalf of Bolivians "who have no voice," the 3 bishops hit hard at press censorship and the suppression of unions and the leadership of professional associations.

"There cannot be peace and discipline unless it is based on justice," they declared. "There cannot be order imposed by force and pressure and administrative moralization if the means of communication do not operate normally."

"It is possible," the bishops added, "that some sectors of the populace by not having access to clear and exact information do not conscientiously notice the cry of those who have no voice." Perhaps life is more comfortable if they do not hear those cries, they said.

Among the voiceless, the bishops included the workers, miners, campesinos (farm workers), political prisoners and the poor. "Our pastoral mission demands that we approach the weak worker, the campesino, the miner and the people in the street of our cities and that we listen to them," they asserted.

"There cannot be juridical reform unless the worker is free, justly compensated, and his dignity respected both as a person and in his right to join unions and associations for the protection of his welfare," the bishops said.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Leo J. (Helen) McDonald of Clover Park celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 30 with a Mass at St. Thomas More Church and a party at the Springhouse. The McDonalds were married Nov. 27, 1924, at St. Bridget's. They have two daughters, Mrs. John P. Milne and Mrs. Justin Allchin, and nine grandchildren.

Dangerous Toys Depots Opened

A campaign to round up dangerous used toys and get them out of circulation once and for all was started last week with the opening of 10 special collection centers in the Rochester area. Parents and day care center staffs were urged to inspect the toys on hand and turn in all that are unsafe in any way.

John Van Buren, information officer at the Monroe County Department of Health, pointed out that toys thrown in the rubbish easily can get back into the hands of children. Toys brought to the collection sites "definitely will be destroyed," he said.

The program, thought to be the first of its kind in the nation, was undertaken by the health department and the Consumer Association of New York, with the help of the City Fire District.

Dan Berrigan At Detroit U.

Detroit [RNS] — Father Daniel Berrigan, SJ, the poet and social activist, will teach at the University of Detroit during the next term, according to Father Thomas E. Porter, SJ, acting dean of Arts and Sciences at the Jesuit institution.

As visiting professor in the Department of Religious Studies, Father Berrigan will teach a class in religious studies for graduates and undergraduates, and will offer a literature class for undergraduates in the recently inaugurated cross-disciplinary program for liberal arts students.

During the 1973-74 academic year, Father Berrigan was visiting lecturer in the Department of Religion at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada.

and six towns and villages. It complements the retail store survey that the health department and the consumer group are sponsoring for the third year.

The agencies recommended discarding toys that are broken beyond repair, that have sharp or splintering edges, protruding points or small, removable parts, defective electrical toys, rattles and balls containing unknown fluids, anything with peeling paint that might contain lead, and projectile shooting devices. Such toys put approximately 1,500 New York children in the hospital every year, and sometimes the damage is permanent, according to Dr. Glenn E. Haughie, health director.

Collection depots will be open from a 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily through Dec. 20 in city fire houses at the following locations: University near Culver, North Goodman near Central Park, Gardiner near West Avenue and Dewey Avenue near Bryan.

The Market Street fire house in Brockport and the Greece town highway garage at 697 Long Pond Road will accept the toys 24 hours a day. Other sites are the Henrietta Town Library, the Ogden Town Hall, the Perinton Recreation Center in Fairport and the Webster Town Hall, during regular operating hours.

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