

Blameworthy

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has backed off on its policy of recruiting agents from among missionaries and journalists. The move came after numerous complaints from Church groups who are still assessing the damage done to missionary work in Third World countries.

While the CIA has been justly the target of much criticism lately, and although the use of clergy and reporters for intelligence purposes is wrong, it hardly seems that the cloak and dagger people should have to take the major share of blame here. For any missionaries or journalists who allow themselves to be recruited stand more reprehensible than even the CIA.

True, as Newsprint, an ecumenical newsletter points out, there has been little hard evidence of recent CIA involvement, yet the allegations may compromise many projects in the fields of education, medical care, refugee aid and community betterment abroad. Again, those who betray their professions thusly contributed at least as much to this situation as have their CIA recruiters.

Ugly Head

Apparently many of the citizens of Milwaukee, that beery town which serves as the backdrop for the shallow likes of The Fonz and Laverne and Shirley of television prime time, match these TV one-dimensional zombies in perception.

Last week the good residents of the national beer capital managed to come up with 4,765 primary votes for a Nazi candidate for mayor, placing this latter-day Hitler third in a field of seven.

True, the great majority of the primary voters, 60,112 or 69 per cent, cast ballots for incumbent Mayor Henry W. Maier. And, also true, Jan Olson, a security guard, finished second with 9,543 votes, thus blocking the Nazi from the April 6 runoff.

However, the fact that Jewish groups had to form a coalition to work against the Nazi and the fact that The Milwaukee Journal had to suggest editorially that those people not voting for Mayor Maier should vote for Olson to block the Nazi, indicates that at least some feel there is enough pro-Nazi sentiment in town to be feared. Especially when the Nazi, Arthur Jones, campaigned on television, seated at a desk with an American flag on one side and a Nazi flag with a huge swastika on the other. Naturally, he described himself as the "white people's candidate."

According to Religious News Service, there is "a small but active group of Nazis in Milwaukee." RNS reports that they marched and passed out literature opposing blacks and Jews. . . however, Milwaukeeans did not seem to take the candidacy of the Nazi seriously.

And the mayor himself, perhaps in true Chamber of Commerce puffery, said that things weren't too bad and that a lot of people voted for the name Jones, a common name which they selected without knowing what the man stands for.

Somewhat all of this has an ominous ring. We think that when an American heartland city can come up with 4,765 votes for an avowed bigot in a light primary vote there is indeed something rotten in the state of Wisconsin. And the time to worry is now.

National Focus

Addendum: In an editorial Feb. 11 we said that what President Ford (or anybody else) says about abortion is not nearly as important as what he can do about it.

Since then a trustworthy source in Washington has informed us that it was not until the day after Ford's now famous interview with Walter Cronkite that his staff called in all the human life amendments under discussion in the Congress.

That seems a rather late date to begin pondering what has become the crux of this life and death issue. It also indicates that his abortion comments in the interview may not have been well thought out. It's befuddling to think of any serious candidate for the presidency just beginning to do his homework on what is becoming more and more a major issue. It is worrisome to think of the incumbent president just getting to it.

If there can be a bright side to abortion, it is that the problem can no longer be swept under the rug — not even under the national carpet of the Oval Room.

Opinion

Modernism Decried

Editor:

I would like to come to the defense of the Traditional Church with a bold stand against Modernism. Although many may believe this is an innovation, an in-thing, Modernism was declared for what is, heresy, in the early 1900's when the "Saint of Our Times", Pope St. Pius X, was confronted with the hidden but effective persecution of the Church. In those times too, it was concentrated, with diabolical cunning, to gain control of the education of the child, because the Freemasons for over a hundred years had made no secret of the fact that their aim and ambition was to destroy forever the Church in France, and they knew that if Christian teaching is denied youth in its formative years, the way is clear for a manhood without religion or morality.

Finally in 1904 all religious teaching was forbidden in the schools. These Masonic enemies had a goal which was the separation of Church and State by the destruction of the Concordat of Napoleon.

The law of separation was passed on Dec. 11, 1905, and "Associations of Worship" were established in each diocese and parish to control Church property and its administration. In fact it was the ultimate goal of the Freemasons to have no Church at all. Later, decrees were issued hampering the work of the priests: they could not enter a hospital unless they had been asked for by a patient, and they were even drafted into the army.

Yet courageously and faithfully, Pope Pius X replied in his Encyclical "Vehementer" of Feb. 11, 1906, wherein he calmly stated the unalterable truths of the Faith — that the Church is the Mystical Body of Christ, divinely established and governed by divinely appointed pastors; that the law of separation ignored that principle and would hand over the effective government of the Church to a group of laymen; that the law was an insult to God and unworthy of France, and would one day lead her to moral and natural degeneracy. His encyclical "Gravissimo Officio" of Aug. 10, 1906, went further and condemned the "Association of Worship" in spite of some bishops and clergy and even cardinals in Rome who were of the opinion that it might be possible to work with the association rather than reduce the Church in France to utter poverty. Pius X replied to his critics

that his task was "to defend God's law and the rights of the Church" and that "it was better to suffer the loss of the churches of stone than the loss of the Church itself." He told the Archbishop of Paris that if he could not exist on his allowance, he would give the office to a Franciscan, who was bound by his Rule to live in Poverty. Result: a complete moral victory though God alone knows the price he paid in utter anguish of mind and heart.

One year and one month later a more deadly struggle was to begin, this time the enemies of what is known today as the heresy of Modernism. In the Sept. 8, 1907, Encyclical "Pascendi", Pius X declared that Modernism was "not so much a modern heresy as a 'synthesis of all heresies' which aimed at the destruction of all revealed religion. It was a masterful exposition of the false principles of Modernism which seeks to find the reason for religion in man's, instinctive need, rather than in objective reality. (Ref. Pope St. Pius X, by Rev. Marius McAuliffe, OFM)

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Birthday Thanks From Girl Scouts

Editor:

On March 12, 1976 the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. will celebrate their 64th Birthday and I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley, to thank all the thousands of volunteers in our five-county area for their continuing support.

If you ever bought cookies from a girl in green, or applauded when they march by in a parade, or are a troop committee member, troop leader, a station wagon driver, if you have ever shared a skill with a troop, if your business, service club, church or school sponsors a Girl Scout troop you have earned our deepest thanks.

The Girl Scouts of today want somewhere to go, something constructive to do and interesting things to learn. Through you they are cleaning up rivers, building mini parks, camping, learning first aid skills, brightening up nursing homes, and becoming "not better knot tyers, but better people, because that is what Girl Scouting is all about.

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Writer Praised

Editor:

My family and I read with great

pleasure Joan Smith's article in the Feb. 25 issue of the Courier, giving news of Brother John Larrere, CSC, former Music Director at Cardinal Mooney High School. Joan so accurately summed up Brother John's enthusiastic and vigorous personality and his unique manner, which endeared him to his students and commanded respect and admiration from people of all ages who knew him and worked with him.

I would like to add a short postscript to Mrs. Smith's story. It was a great joy and a privilege for our sons to have been associated with, and influenced by, this young educator for three years. His system of mutual trust and respect allowed him to establish a unique rapport with his students. The resulting spirit and atmosphere of creativity made participating in music an eagerly-anticipated experience for them and for their classmates. In the process, they all learned much more than music from Brother John.

In his humility, Brother would be embarrassed by these compliments, but nevertheless, on behalf of my family and myself, I want to thank him most sincerely, and let him know that our prayers are with him in his new assignment.

(Mrs.) Marilyn Timmons
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Helping Barefooted

Editor:

Because I think we should all reach out to those who are barefoot and pregnant, I am sending a contribution today to Citizens for a Decent Community, Box 9796, Rochester 14623, an action group chaired by Michael Macaluso. I am also asking Sen. Fred Eckert to call on me the next time he runs for office.

Both Sen. Eckert and Mr. Macaluso, recently distinguished by the Genesee Chapter of N.O.W., have courageously taken public positions against dehumanization which is inherent in pornography, abortion and actual discrimination against women and other minorities.

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They should be no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed double-spaced, with names and addresses. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters.



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"AS SOON AS I PUT OUT THE CANDLES, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO AVOID STATIC ELECTRICITY!"