

COURIER-JOURNAL

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'Seeing' Cloudy in '76

New York (RNS)-- Predictions from the nation's "leading psychics" have become an annual new year ritual in some quarters.

Headlines about the "Startling Predictions for 1977" greet supermarket shoppers at periodical racks next to the checkout counters.

But who remembers the forecasts made in January, 1976?

To stimulate one's memory, these are some headlines from the Jan. 6, 1976 issue of the National Enquirer, which published the predictions of "10 leading psychics":

Nelson Rockefeller Will Become President

An Amazing New Cancer Drug...

Weddings for Jackie AND Caroline...

Kissinger Will Lose his Job—And Wife...

Of 58 specific predictions made by 10 psychics, 54 were wide of the mark. A sample of the misses:

- Pope Paul will resign.
- Richard Nixon will make a slow climb back to power.
- President Ford will be shot in the left shoulder or arm while attending a convention in a Western state.
- A truce will halt the

violence in Northern Ireland.

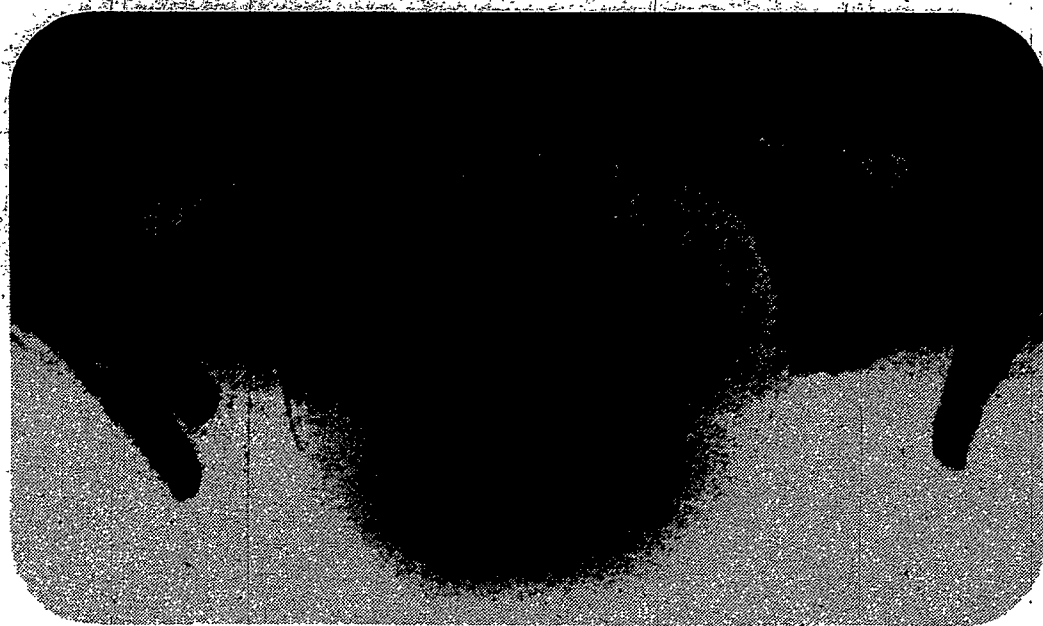
• A terrorist bomb will wreck a federal building in Washington, D.C. in January or February.

• An Easter disaster—an earthquake—will hit Las Vegas, Nev.

• Death will take a top member of the Kennedy clan around February.

• And the all-time perennial favorite: a visit from beings from outer space.

Four of the 58 predictions may be said to have come to pass, if one stretches the point. One psychic predicted that "a leg injury will end Joe Namath's



football career" — a safe enough prediction.

The three other "accurate predictions" also fell into

the odds-on favorites to occur category—health problems for Redd Foxx of "Sanford and Son," heavy layoffs of city employees in

cities facing fiscal problems; and a divorce for Liz Taylor and Richard Burton.



Esteban Solis, left, of Washington, D.C., talks with a group of Spanish-speaking Rochesterians about the church and their community. Solis works with the United States Catholic Conference. The Sunday night meeting at St. Francis Xavier was sponsored by the Spanish Apostolate.

U.S. Bishops Name Panel to Study 'Action' Proposals

Washington — A U.S. Catholic bishops' task force, set up under the chairmanship of the president of the bishops conference, has begun to evaluate recommendations stemming from the October 1976 "Call to Action" conference in Detroit.

Headed by Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati and including several chairmen of committees of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB), the task force will review the final report of the Detroit conference and report to the NCCB Administrative Committee in February. The

full body of bishops will consider the recommendations May 3-5 in Chicago.

The "Call to Action" conference drew some 1,300 bishops, priests, religious and laity to Detroit to formulate a pastoral plan for social action. Cardinal John Dearden of Detroit, its chief organizer, will serve as liaison between the bishops' panel and the Detroit conference. He has called "Call to Action" "eloquent testimony to the Church's vitality and diversity."

The conference, however, has been criticized by other leading churchmen as "not

truly representative" of American Catholics.

Serving with Archbishop Bernardin are Cardinal John Carberry of St. Louis, Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, Coadjutor Archbishop John Maguire of New York City, Bishop James Rausch of the NCCB and all members of the NCCB Research, Plans and Program committee.

Also on the committee are Cardinal William Baum of Washington, Bishop William McManus of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Bishop Joseph McNicholas of Springfield, Ill., and Archbishop John Quinn of Oklahoma City.

DSC Asks Questions On Process

BY MICHAEL GRODEN

A lengthy dialogue, between sisters and James Noonan, administrative assistant to the bishop dealing with the validity of the entire consultative process took place at the Jan. 8 meeting of the Diocesan Sisters Council (DSC).

The debate centered around a newly proposed diocesan insurance plan. The pastoral office is now looking into two plans proposed by Lucas & Dake, the current insurer, and Callagher-Bassett-Co., who insure 45 other dioceses in the United States.

At the December meeting. Continued on Page 2

Ray Repp

By MARTIN TOOMBS Southern Tier Editor

His 'Best' Song Yet to Come

Ithaca—Ray Repp's compositions include such well-known songs as Here, Oh Lord, Shout from the Highest Mountain, and Sons of God. He has published 100 songs, and recorded five albums for F&L Publications. But, he says, his best song is "the one I haven't written yet, probably. Someone else would have to decide that."

The prolific composer will give the critics sufficient songs to choose from. Repp noted that "I have a number of songs I'm working on now. In fact, I have about 150 or 200 that I'm in the

process of completing, and I'm excited about a number of those. Some day I'll have the time to actually finish them. They're more exciting to me than any of those I've written in the past."

Repp first lived in Ithaca five years ago, he said, when he was a guest artist at Cornell University. After a year in New York City he returned to Ithaca, where he works in the Tompkins County Headstart Program.

In addition to the 100 published songs, several others are finished but not yet published, Repp said. "My first album was recorded in 1965," the 34-year-old Repp said. "I guess

I was writing a couple years prior to that."

Commenting on the songs he has written, Repp noted that "I've recorded a lot of songs that aren't necessarily religious, at least in vocabulary. But I think religious is somewhat of an ambiguous term. I'm not so sure that any song that professes a legitimate human emotion or value isn't capable of being used in a 'religious' context. To that extent, I don't feel that any of my songs have been dishonest; at least I have not known of it at the time. So to that extent I think they have all been religious in some way.

"In fact, very little of my music did I ever intend to be used in Church. But Churches somehow feel that if Ray Repp wrote it, it must be a religious song, so we'll use it in Church. As an example, one song is called Apple Pie. The refrain is 'Apple Pie, martini dry, with Old Glory waving high, golly ain't we lucky to be free.' It's used in a lot of churches, and I say, well, that's interesting that people identify with that. That makes me pleased that they do identify with it, but if they didn't identify with it, it wouldn't upset me. Maybe the tongue in cheek involved in the song is more to

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Father Robert McNamara settles into his chair at St. Bernard's Seminary. The diocesan archivist, historian, and writer talks with the Courier-Journal's readers on Page 15.