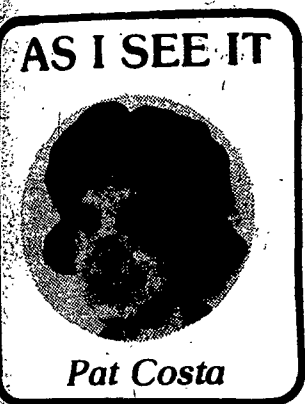




Veterans Elect

Ralph Edwards, right; a member of Sacred Heart Post, Catholic War Veterans, is the new commander of the Monroe County CWV. Shown with him, from the left, are Jim O'Connor, outgoing commander; Father William Endres, chaplain, and Joe Schmidt, recently-elected CWV Veteran of the Year for 1976.



AS I SEE IT

Pat Costa

The color television scrambled its signal and then extinguished itself in the middle of the Grammy Awards and as a compulsive viewer who hates much of what is on TV I was torn between wild joy and a feeling of great deprivation.

Had the set blown during the middle of summer when it is possible to work in the garden until dusk and still take a leisurely stroll around the neighborhood before settling in for the night, there would be no problem.

In this climate, however, where blizzards are possible through April and sub-freezing temperatures are more than probable, a television set, even one which spouts inanities 95 per cent of the time is not a bad thing to have.

As cable subscribers, we have become even more dependent on the tube than we might normally be. The first move every morning is to turn to Channel 5 which gives the time, temperature, humidity, wind chill factor, etc., plus a forecast for the next two or three days.

In addition, we have become addicted to New York City commercials, as seen on Channels 9 and 11 (WOR and WPIX). The sponsor's messages from the Big Apple are earthier, cruder, schmaltzier and more insulting to the rest of the country. There is one for Savarin coffee, for example, that tells New Yorkers that they are not like other coffee drinkers. The implication is clear. Coffee manufacturers can foist off weak will on other parts of the country but New Yorkers demand a strong and potent brew.

We also are mad about the alternate viewing on Channel 6 from Ottawa early in the evening. The news and sports commentators there wear carnations and rosebuds in their buttonholes and engage in even sillier repartee than the denizens of local stations.

Resolution in Works To Call for ConCon

A legislative resolution, sponsored by Assemblyman Henry W. Dwyer of Nassau and, among others, Rochester's Gary Proud, to call a constitutional Convention for the purpose of preparing a human life amendment to the Constitution, is expected shortly to be introduced into the New York State Legislature.

The resolution reads "Whereas, The Congress of the United States has not to date proposed, subject to ratification, a Human Life amendment to the Constitution of the United States; now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, that the legislature of the State of New York, pursuant to the Legislative Resolution, hereby makes application to

the Congress of the United States to call a Convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that would protect the life of all human beings including unborn children at every stage of their biological development.

The resolution further states that it would itself constitute a "continuing application for such convention" until two-thirds of the States have made similar applications and the convention shall be called by Congress.

Proud, who calls himself a "newcomer" to the Albany legislative process, is uncertain when the resolution will be formally presented to the assembly.



Antique Show

Preparing for Holy Cross Parish's seventh annual Antique Show and Sale are (left to right): Madeline Colline, Joan Powers, Kay White and Peggy Roach. The show and sale are slated for Saturday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event is to be held in the school auditorium.

Vatican to Beam TV via Satellite

Rome (RNS)—The Vatican has acquired the right to transmit television programs in Italy by way of satellite.

A leading Italian daily paper, Corriere Della Sera, said that a Vatican delegation, headed by Father Sabino Maffeo, Vatican Radio's technical director, had just returned from an international conference on radio and television transmission via satellite at which the right of the participating countries to transmit through a stationary satellite was recognized and frequencies were assigned.

In the past, the Vatican has maintained that it could not afford to go into television production but the use of a satellite to beam programs is a less expensive operation than using transmitters on land.

The Vatican's main interest in attending the conference was in acquiring the right to transmit programs should this become necessary.

A Vatican Radio editor told RNS that for the time being, the Vatican would continue to work through Rai, the Italian radio and television station, in producing programs of a religious nature.

Until now, the Vatican's relationship with Rai has been good. In the past Rai was dominated by Christian Democrats, a Vatican-backed political party, and this was reflected in the political slant of the television programs. Now that the Socialists and Communists have an increased share of political power, this dominance has been challenged.

The Vatican Radio editor said that as long as the Vatican was able to cooperate with Rai there was no need for it to

produce its own television programs.

Corriere Della Sera said that recently, the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano had begun to criticize the increasing use of the Italian equivalent of "four-letter words" and the "leftist content" of some programs.

According to the Vatican newspaper's television critic, "Rai-TV is like a child who, to prove his independence, has begun to use bad words."

Veterans Aid Extended

Elmira—The Veterans Omnibus Health Care Act of 1976 will expand some medical benefits and services for qualified veterans according to Sarah F. Bisbee, director of the Chemung County Veterans Service Office.

Civilian health and medical services were extended to dependent survivors of veterans with a permanent and total service connected disability who die of a non-service connected cause; previously the coverage was extended only when the death was service-related.

Included among the new benefits is coverage of veterans with a service connected disability rated 50 per cent or more for outpatient care. This is an extension from the previous limit of 80 per cent.

Veterans and dependent survivors who would like further information on the new coverages can contact Ms. Bisbee, 410 E. Church St., Elmira, 737-2966.

I do not pretend to miss most of the sports shows but I have grown accustomed to reading the Sunday Times with the roar from the bleachers ringing in my ears and the News of the Week in Review to say nothing of the Leisure-Arts is simply not the same when perused in an electronic vacuum.

We are aware that there are still people who regard TV as a cultural copout and or a force for evil. There are those who would not have a set in the house or if they do they pretend they never watch it. These video virgins claim they were pressured into buying a set by their children but said children are then limited to an hour per week viewing time. Television, they intimate, is an imperfect medium for imperfect people. And they will not sully their reputations by watching even selected shows.

That's like saying you cannot admire roses because they have thorns, won't eat corned beef and cabbage because it smells up the house or won't teach your children to speak because eventually they'll talk back to you.

Television definitely has its faults. And right now I miss all of them.

LENTEN SPECIAL

Father Sebastian Falcone of St. Bernard's Seminary will speak at St. Augustine's at the 9:30 Mass every Sunday morning in Lent, and at 11 a.m. will give a lecture on one of the Call to Action topics. The school children, meanwhile, will have their own 9:30 Mass in the hall, and there will be Bible school for pre-schoolers from 10:30 until noon.

GLEE CLUB TOUR

The combined glee clubs of St. John Fisher College will sing at St. James Church in Albany Sunday afternoon, March 6, and then tour Connecticut, performing 10 concerts in eight towns and cities. The chorus of 22 men and 16 women is directed by H. Wendell Howard, professor of English.

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