

Abuses Continue Say Nestle Critics

Washington (RNS) — Despite claims to the contrary, the Nestle Corporation continues to break the World

Health Organization's infant formula marketing code, says the group which initiated the world Nestle boycott in 1977.

Shroud

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fantastic cooperation from the Church — they never hindered our work, leaving us completely unguarded in a room with the shroud." There was, though, a militia force standing guard outside the building, Miller added.

Miller's work with the group was centered primarily on the study of negatives that might reveal qualities of the shroud not visible to the naked eye. He insisted that the objective of the researchers was not to dramatize the existence of the cloth.

"That had been done in 1930 when the shroud was first photographed," Miller said. "We wanted to provide an extensive data base for further researching."

Work has continued on the shroud since, Miller said. Scientists have been seeking to take a small bit of the cloth to date it using a radio-carbon method perfected by Harry Gove, professor of physics at

the University of Rochester and director of the nuclear structure research laboratory there.

When permission is ever given to test the shroud, three different laboratories, with at least one in Europe, will be selected to run the tests. "That test would be accepted more than anything else," Miller said.

In late 1981, Father Francis L. Filas, S.J., of Loyola University in Chicago, claimed that an imprint on the shroud in one of Miller's photographs matched that of a rare coin issued by Pontius Pilate. Miller, however, feels that Father Filas' claim is unjustified.

"We're good friends, but this is one point that we disagree on," he said. Miller admits that he also believes coins were placed on the eyes of whomever was buried in the cloth, but feels there is not enough evidence in his negatives to determine what era they are from.

Since May 1981 when the WHO-UNICEF code was adopted, more than 200 code violations by Nestle have been reported, charged Douglas Johnson, national chairman of the Infact Formula Action Coalition (INFAC).

He said the findings appear in three new publications of the International Baby Food Action Network, which now has some 65 groups in 95 countries. They announced new charges against Nestle in press conferences in eight countries. INFAC is the U.S. affiliate of the network.

"Nestle continues the distribution of free samples, the use of milk nurses, the use of propagandistic material to mothers and health

professionals, and the not so subtle distribution of personal gifts to health professionals," Johnson asserted. "All of these practices are banned by the WHO-UNICEF code, while justified in Nestle's own self-serving marketing instructions."

In March, Nestle announced new policy guidelines which it said was in line with the WHO code — a point strongly disputed by INFAC. Nestle followed up this action in early May by naming a Nestle Marketing Ethics Committee headed by Sen. Edmund Muskie to review actual company practices. INFAC questions the value of monitoring Nestle on the basis its own "flawed" guidelines.



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May 23, 1982 — BEATIFICATION OF VENERABLE PETER DONDERS, C.S.S.R.

High above the massive entrance to the main U.S. Post Office in New York City, there is chiseled in stone the celebrated encomium to letter-carriers: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." It is a tribute to their fidelity to public service under the most adverse circumstances.

On Sunday, May 23rd, in the crowded Basilica of St. Peter's in Rome, his Holiness will solemnly decree that a Redemptorist priest, who had died with a reputation for holiness, may now be considered 'Blessed'. The proclamation will honor the Venerable Peter Donders, C.S.S.R., who in his eagerness to carry the Gospel message to distant shores would resolve to overcome any obstacle; take any risk and endure any hardship.

Born in Holland, in 1809, Peter Donders was no stranger to adversity. As a child, he was of delicate health. Whatever schooling he received had to be interrupted so that he might help to support his family. When he expressed his desire for the priesthood, he was granted admission to the seminary, provided he would pay for room and board by rendering assistance as a part-time servant. These obstacles, and many more, Peter would successfully surmount.

During the course of his theological studies, Bishop James Grooff had occasion to visit the seminary in search of volunteers for his Surinam mission, the Dutch Colony of Guyana on the northeastern coast of South America. "As he was speaking," Peter wrote later, "I felt a great inward compassion for those souls in that far off land. I offered myself, then and there, for the Surinam mission. I was accepted on the young seminarian the many sacrifices involved in missionary work — trudging through wild forests, enduring equatorial heat and tropical rains, exposing oneself to the contagion of malaria and yellow fever. The enthusiastic volunteer would gladly risk life and limb in the service of the Lord.

In 1842, Father Donders would sail for Dutch Guyana. For the next 45 years, until his death, it would be the field of a varied missionary activity.

His first labor in this distant vineyard of the Lord was the spiritual well-being of a black population of slaves. There was an estimated 50,000 of them, drudging on coffee, cotton and sugar-cane plantations. To reach them, Father Donders would travel by boat up tropical streams. For hours on end, he would remain by himself, praying always, usually in the open air except when necessary to escape the blazing sun or a sudden storm. Whatever companionship was afforded him was that of a crude and vulgar crew which lived in a world far removed from his own. When journey's end was reached, the boat would anchor some distant off shore. From there, the saintly missionary would flounder through swamp and sludge. Such monotonous inconvenience would test the patience of the ordinary person. But, Father Donders was made of stronger stock.

Then, there was his work among the Indians. These were early inhabitants of the country. Numerous at one time, they had since become decimated by small pox. The apostolate among them proved exceptionally difficult for Father Donders. Theirs was a nomadic existence. They would not remain very long in any one locality, the reasons being that animal game was hard to find or that the earth was no longer productive in a given area or that some member of the family had died, thus forcing the others to flee superstitiously in terror from the 'evil spirit'. The search for these Indians through trackless forests, often inhabited by snakes and tigers, made great demands upon the missionary's courage and endurance.

Finally, there was the ultimate sacrifice for which Father Donders has been rightfully credited — his compassion for the leper. Because danger of contagion struck terror throughout the country, isolation was deemed necessary. Entire families would be transported by ship to a segregated area. As each ship would pull into shore with its dreadful cargo of human misery, the missionary would be there at dockside to greet the new members of his 'congregation'. Whereas the ordinary person would find it repulsive to spend just a few moments in the presence of a single leper, Father Donders would make his home among them for the next 26 years. Here, it should be noted that, of these years, 10 were spent alone, with no Brother-Priest to whom he could unburden himself and with no Brother-Redemptorist from whom he could seek human encouragement. The awful loneliness of those years must have been a heavy burden for him.

Deserving, indeed; of the honor to be ranked among the 'Blessed' is the Venerable Peter Donders. For such a tribute, the Church looks for reputed holiness. This was most evident during his missionary years. He would seek out an ever migrating tribe of Indians. He would make his home with the social outcasts of a leper colony. "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation and tells Zion, 'Your God is King'." (Is 52/7) May this Servant of God, one day, be granted still greater distinction — the inclusion of his illustrious name in the register of Saints.

Sarah Child



All in the Family

Haute Monde Lockerroom

For ten years I'd been considering doing something to the hallway. Now it was time, I figured, to stop vacillating.

The pleasant woman at the wallpaper store looked at my carpet sample, the fabric swatch from the adjoining living room and said, "Do you want me to tell you what I really think?"

Assured that that was precisely what I wanted, she intoned: "Paint it white — and hang a lot of pictures."

Laughing in relief I replied that that was what it had been since the house was built and that I'd just been waiting for someone to tell me to refrain from adding color and pattern.

My husband, I told her, would be eternally grateful for saving him money and I was happy because every wallpaper I've put up in 18 years of marriage I'd learned to hate by the time the last roll was pasted. It was, I added, very nice of her to pass up her commission and give me her honest opinion.

"Well," she said, "I also free lance as an interior designer," and then she told me what her fee was per hour and said she would be glad to come to our house and arrange and hang our pictures in the hall. "You have a collection, I assume?"

I nodded, somewhat vaguely, told her I would be in touch, and drove home.

Inside the front door I stopped and took a good look at my collection.

I only wish the following account were an exaggeration. Two pictures adorn the walls. There is also a bookcase of travel books and wrought iron donkey affectionately known as Burro which is supposed to hold wine but at any given moment has two dog leashes draped over it.

In one corner next to the stairs are two pairs of running shoes, three pairs of cleats, two red and white soccer balls and a black and white one.

Propped alongside the bookcase is a bag of golf clubs with one golf ball stuck in the couch shell found on Assateague National Seashore. To the right of the bookcase is a fishing rod.

Adding color to the scene on the nearby piano bench in the living room is one stray purple leg warmer plus one length of purple silky material used for the youngest's Helen of Troy costume. A third dog leash and a bag of dog food sent over by the neighbor for a dogsitting stint makes a strong comment (as they say in decorating magazines) particularly since the plastic bag has been punctured and a slow leak has produced a small mound of dry pellets on the bench.

When the head of the house came home I told him about my talk with the interior designer.

Delighted at the money he'd be saving on not having to buy 16 rolls of wallpaper he said amenably, "Not a bad idea. When did you plan on having her come?"

I shot another look at the sporting goods department. "How about the Twelfth of Never?"