

RELIGION

Prince Hall Masons Elect New Leader

Thomas J. (Tom) Coit was installed as Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons for the State of Oregon and its Jurisdiction at a recent annual meeting in Eugene, Oregon.

Tom and his wife are residents of Merrill, Oregon where they have lived since their retirement in 1976. Tom is a WW II veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. He also worked for the Department of Defense in the field of Communications for twenty-eight years until he retired. He has been a member of the Prince Hall Masons since 1949 and is a member of Unity Lodge #9, Klamath Falls, Oregon. During his tenure as Grandmaster, Tom will stress organizational growth and a positive working relationship with community youth, senior citizen



Thomas J. Coit

groups and the Order of Eastern Stars. The Oregon Jurisdiction includes Lodges in Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

Ban evokes 1930's art censorship by nazis

The President of the Church of Scientology International, condemned German politicians for Germany's "return to the totalitarian oppression of art that characterized Germany during the Nazi era."

The Church's statement comes in response to the declaration of Socialist Democratic Party (SPD) member of parliament, Renate Renebach, quoted in "Bild am Sonntag" newspaper that the popular American movie "Phenomenon" should be censored due to the religious affiliation of actor John Travolta.

This censorship attempt follows the Christian Democratic Union Young Union's unsuccessful attempt to boycott the latest Tom Cruise movie, "Mission Impossible", due to Cruise's affiliation with Scientology. The boycott was a flop and the movie was a huge box office success in

Germany, occupying the top spot since it opened on August 8.

Voices around the world have raised in protest over these attempts to censor and destroy freedom of artistic expression in Germany.

The latest such voice to be raised is that of US Congressman Carlos Moorhead from California, who stated today, "It is a terrible condemnation of the German government that it would remain silent while its political parties, including the CDU's own youth group, would attempt to boycott movies such as "Mission Impossible" and "Phenomenon" because of the actors' religious beliefs."

The attempts to ban these movies echo the decrees of German Minister of Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, who in the 1930's declared that no film could be shown in Germany in

which a single Jew had been involved in production as director, stage manager, actor, singer, dancer, scenario writer, composer, cutter, or sound director, whether or not the Jew's participation was a matter of public knowledge.

Rep. Moorhead further commented that such acts are "an appalling statement of censorship of artistic freedom in Germany which recalls the 1930's. That these and other artists would be censored is intolerable. As a World War II veteran, I have lived through the history of this century and find these recent developments disturbing."

"A handful of fanatical politicians in Germany don't realize that the world has moved forward since the 1930's," stated Rev. Jentsch. "They show no concern for Germany's standing in the international community, already injured by their futile boycott of Mission Impossible and other discriminatory actions by the German government against Scientologists."

"The comparison to recent history is not there because we made it; the facts speak for themselves."

"Who will be the next target of these latter-day Goebbels?" concluded Rev. Jentsch.

"Bravo! Vancouver: Music At St. Joseph" Concert

The third season of the "Bravo! Vancouver, Music at St. Joseph" concert series begins December 8, with a full production of Handel's "Messiah". The concert is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Joseph Church in Vancouver.

The "Bravo! Vancouver" 1996-97 series includes five concerts: December 8, "Messiah"; February 9, "A Taste of Italy" includes favorite Italian opera tunes and overtures; March 23 is the Haydn, "Creation"; May 4 is a family concert of

all-American classics; June 14 features the All-Star Big Band, including the sounds of Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman.

Season tickets for the concert series are \$40, all reserved seating. Deadline for season tickets is October 25. Single and reserved tickets and general admission are also available. For ticket information, call St. Joseph Parish at 360-696-4407, FASTIXX at 224-8499; or any Fred Meyer FASTIXX outlet.

Let's not confuse what is legal with what is just

BY MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

It is morally and politically shocking that the leaders of a nation that believes in Jesus Christ, Mohammed and the prophets would knowingly condemn millions of its children to poverty, poor health, and death. But that's what our President and Congress did when they agreed to enact a "welfare reform" law that the government's own experts warned would push more than one million new children into poverty and millions more already poor children deeper into poverty.

Never have we witnessed such dramatic political abuse of our children. As citizens, and as leaders in our congregations and civic organizations, we have to begin to mobilize the political will and political voice that will allow us to prevent this kind of immoral and

unjust assault on our children from ever happening again.

We must also pray for a nation that has lost its way. As we ponder the potential impact of our leaders' decision, let us offer up the following prayer with renewed conviction:

O God, forgive our rich nation where small babies die of cold quite legally.

O God, forgive our rich nation where small children suffer from hunger quite legally.

O God, forgive our rich nation where toddlers and school children die from guns sold quite legally.

O God, forgive our rich nation that lets children be the poorest group of citizens quite legally.

O God, forgive our rich nation that lets the rich continue to get more at the expense of the poor quite legally.

O God, forgive our rich nation which thinks security rests in missiles rather than in mothers, and in bombs rather than in babies.

O God, forgive our rich nation for not giving You sufficient thanks by giving to others their daily bread.

O God, help us never to confuse what is quite legal with what is just and right in Your sight.

Praying is an important first step, but the Bible tells us that faith without works is not enough. We must combine prayer with action. We must make sure that the leaders we've elected to protect our children are living up to their responsibility. As for the candidates seeking our votes, we must demand some specifics about what they plan to do for children once they are elected.

I am convinced that our "moral

Achilles heel" -- the thing that will take us to hell as nation unless we change direction -- is our treatment of children.

Our political leaders may have acted "legally" when they agreed to take away basic nutrition, income support, and other essential services for families and children, but we know it was not just and right in God's sight.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund and a leader of the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC), whose mission is to leave no child behind. The prayer above is taken from Edelman's latest book, "Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations for Loving and Working For Children." For more information, call 1-800-BCCC.

Workshop at Mittleman Jewish Community Center

What Do You Want To Be When You Grow Up?, is the title of a workshop that will be at the MJCC on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Led by Judi Lansky, President and founder of Lansky Career Consultants, the workshop is designed for persons who are ready for a change, but are not quite certain which career direction to pursue. The workshop will focus on identifying one's skills, de-

fining the work environment, visualizing what an ideal work day would be like and defining career goals. Lansky recently relocated to the Northwest where she opened the Portland branch of Lansky Career Consultants that she founded in Chicago 14 years ago. Workshop cost is \$10/MJCC members; \$15/non-members. Pre-registration is requested by October 3.

Career & Job Search Success Group,

a four-week support group for persons who are in, or are thinking of, a career/job change will be at the MJCC Wednesday evenings, Oct. 16-Nov. 6, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Facilitated by David Grushkin, Career Counselor & Therapist, the group is designed to give support and help to overcome the inertia, frustration and anxiety that can occur during career and job changes. Topics will include tips on career

choices and job searches; feedback on resumes, and how to network. Cost is \$35/MJCC members; \$45/non-members. Pre-registration is requested by Oct. 14.

For additional information, call Eliana Temkin, Adult & Family Life Director, (503) 452-3433.

The Mittleman Jewish Community Center is located at 6651 S.W. Capitol Highway, Portland, OR 97219.

Pope wins respect in France

Embracing the downtrodden and refusing to let age or illness slow him down, Pope John Paul II eventually earned the grudging respect of a public that scorned him for being out of touch.

The pope's trip to France was hardly smooth. Five thousand leftist demonstrators marched through Paris on Sunday denouncing not only the pontiff but also the French government for paying for John Paul's security and aircraft during the visit. Smaller protests were organized elsewhere.

But the anti-pope movement seemed to fizzle, drowned out by the faithful's shouts of "Vive the pope!" and "Holy Father, we love you!"

"The pope is against contraceptives and abortion, but that's his role. Who am I to judge?" Bernadette Sulman said Sunday as the pope ended his four-day visit. "He came here for us, and it was super."

The opposition "may have poisoned the climate of the visit, but it

didn't poison us," said Olivier de la Brosse, spokesman for the French bishops' conference. "It went much better than the pessimists expected."

Turnout at most stops met or exceeded expectations. Two hundred thousand jubilant pilgrims cheered the 76-year-old pope like a rock star at Sunday's papal Mass in Reims, about 80 miles northeast of Paris.

The pope sidestepped a divisive national debate over that Mass, which honored the 1,500th anniversary of the baptism of the pagan king Clovis the Barbarian.

The National Front, an extreme-right party accused of racism and anti-Semitism, has adopted Clovis as a symbol, and critics said a papal blessing of the fifth-century king would legitimize the group. The pope, shrugging off the fuss, said he was merely paying tribute to France's spiritual father.

Eight in 10 French are Roman Catholics, but many zealously embrace the separation of church and

state and oppose the pope's conservative stance on sexual and moral issues. Some sought to cancel their baptisms to protest his visit.

But John Paul struck a chord by meeting in the Loire Valley city of Tours with immigrants, drug addicts, prostitutes, AIDS patients and the longtime unemployed. He called on France to do its utmost to help them.

"John Paul II recalls the great principles of the religion he leads: tolerance, the sharing of wealth, solidarity, justice," the Sunday newspaper Le Journal du Dimanche said in a front-page commentary defending the pope.

"These words, at a time when politicians are criticized for their inability to handle extremely complex problems, resonate strongly. The pope deserves thanks for opposing dema-

gogues, the hateful, the intolerant and the racist."

On Sunday, the pope also conveyed "a respectful greeting" to France's non-Catholics and Muslims, "in the hope that religious dialogue will develop amongst all for the harmonious union of French society as a whole."

Now that the pope has left and the furor surrounding his visit has subsided, France is contemplating his tentative return next August — to Paris — to mark World Youth Day.

Prime Minister Alain Juppe said Sunday that the government, at least, will welcome the pontiff back.

"Everyone, whatever their opinions may be, knows you have fought for the dignity of man," he told the pope in a farewell address.

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