

Post-War Sunday School 'Boom' Far Outstrips Growth in Church Membership

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
NEW YORK (AP) — When a youngster today becomes a full-fledged church member, he usually knows what he's doing.

"He's been soundly prepared," said Mrs. Alice Goddard, of Chicago, an authority on children's church classes. "He has learned what it means."

Unlike some of the hit-or-miss elementary religious education of a quarter century ago, today's church educational machinery for children is a mammoth, highly organized operation.

"Refreshing new currents have come into the stagnant pool that was Christian education during the 20's and into the 40's," said the Rev. Ralph N. Mould, of the Presbyterian Christian Education Board, Philadelphia.

Whether it's called "Sunday school" or "religious instruction," there has been a phenomenal growth in the activity — both in scope and method — since World War II.

Enrollment Up
Protestant Sunday school enrollment has soared from 23 million to about 36 million in that period, three times as fast as church membership growth, which itself has far outstripped population gains.

Special classes for Roman Catholic children have nearly quadrupled in the last decade, and the number of children in Jewish synagogue classes is estimated to have more than doubled.

"There has been a stepping up both in the quantity as well as the quality of religious education for Catholic children," said Father John E. Kelly, of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C.

New Leading Men Don't Scare Bogart

By JAMES BACON
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Humphrey Bogart, a sassy 54, is enjoying his latest year in the movies and Hollywood's new crop of leading men don't scare him one bit.

"Producers always are trying to throw a scare into us oldtimers with that 'new faces' pitch. The public won't buy it though. And I'll tell you why:

"All these new guys — and girls too — all look alike, talk alike and act alike. I see 'em all the time and I can tell one from the other. Howinell can the ticket buyers?"

The great dissenter expounds: "They get some pretty boy, give him a fancy name and rub their hands when the bobbysoxers scream. It's a different story when they start putting a couple millions in a picture. They want Jimmy Cagney, Gary Cooper, Spencer Tracy, Duke Wayne or someone else the ticket buying public wants to see."

"And when Bogart stinks in a movie, the fans know it's Bogart. They don't say 'whatsisname stunk.'"

"Stole My Stuff"
Bogart admits to a few exceptions among the young people, notably Marlon Brando, Aldo Ray and Jeff Richards. His comments:

"The only thing I got against Brando is that he stole my stuff. When he came out here in a torn T-shirt, the town went crazy for him. I called out here 25 years ago with my pants seat thin and they called me a bum."

"Of Ray, who co-stars with him in 'We're No Angels':

"Aldo's not pretty and his voice sounds like he gargles with kerosene but the public will remember him."

Incidentally, Bogart, as an escaped convict from Devil's Island, turns in the finest comedy performance of his career in "We're No Angels" and comments:

"Let's see some of these new faces get laughs out of a script that has a couple of killings and Devil's Island as it main theme."

"All Man"
Of Richards, a frequent sailing companion, Bogie says:

"He's all man."
Bogart leaves us with two questions relative to the new face situation:

"Did you ever see a night club mimic do an impersonation of Lance Rivers?"

"Which would you rather have — Tad Hunter's publicity or Jimmy Stewart's money?"

Not Major League
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Ethel Barrymore, the theater's most distinguished authority on baseball, can't see Los Angeles getting major league ball for some time.

"This is an overgrown village. They're not ready for the big leagues yet. They don't even support what they've got now. (Los Angeles and Hollywood have teams in the Pacific Coast League.)"

Miss Barrymore describes herself as a baseball fan.

"That is entirely different than a Giant fan. I like all baseball — always have."

In her "memoirs," she tells why she is not a Giant fan.

"My father was a Giant fan and when I was a child he took me to my first game at old Coogan's Buff. The Giants lost that day and my father (the late actor Maurice Barrymore) clenched his fists toward heaven and said 'what have you done to us?' I was so embarrassed I left him and went home by myself. Since then I have classified myself as an all-baseball fan."

Prefer Stewart
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Peter Graves, of all actors in town, resembles Col. Charles Lindbergh the most. When Warners bought "The Spirit of St. Louis," the story of Lindbergh's epic flight to Paris, Graves' agent put in a pitch for Peter.

Graves, who is 29, was turned down as too old for the role. The Lone Eagle was 25 at the time of the flight.

So who's going to play the young Lindbergh? Jimmy Stewart, age 47.

A Little Longer
HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Katy Jurado, the great Mexican actress, thinks she may have to stay in Hollywood a little longer next time.

An academy award nominee for "Broken Lance," and already talked of for another Oscar bid for her role of the mother in "Trial," Katy reports:

"I guess I'll have to stay awhile in Hollywood so I can work on my English. Now I just commute from my home near Mexico City for pictures. There is one trouble. By the time I finish a picture here, my English is pretty good. Then I go home and speak Spanish all the time. When I came back for a picture, my English is back where it started when I first came here for 'High Noon.'"

She's not worried about losing her Spanish lingo while mastering English. Los Angeles, next to Mexico City, has the largest Mexican population of any city in the world. And Katy, it seems, is friendly with many of the Americans of Mexican descent.

Wife's Defense Successful in 'Triangle' Death

WASHINGTON—Mrs. Katherine Ann Haynes, left, 28-year-old mother of four children, smiles after having successfully conducted her own defense at a four-hour coroner's inquest in the fatal shooting of her love rival in Washington. Her husband, Willis M. Haynes, center, 32, a vacuum cleaner salesman, under her questioning acknowledged he had given Miss Nancy Penton, 19, right, appliances and clothing. Haynes said his wife intercepted him as he left the girl's house and forced him back at gunpoint. "Nancy bumped my hand and then gun went off," Mrs. Haynes said. After inquest she asked newsmen to pass this message to her husband: "I've lost you, Bill, but I still love you." (AP Wirephoto)

Imogene Coca Thinks Split Was Mistake

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Hollywood Writer
HOLLYWOOD (UP)—Imogene Coca, a year after her break-up with ex-partner Sid Caesar, thinks the split was a mistake because both learned they couldn't work as singles after all.

Imogene, wearing a gay quilted cotton dress and busily brushing her short brown hair, curled up on the sofa of her rented vacation home here to look back on a TV season that was a new try for her.

She and Sid split because he thought they should work alone, an incident that the currently-feuding Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis might think over.

Wound up With Partners
By the end of the 1954-55 season both Coca and Caesar wound up with partners on their individual shows and settled into husband-wife comedy serials.

Imogene admits her show "was not what I wanted to do" and she's through with domestic serials.

"I wanted to make guest appearances until I found something I had faith in. But I guess it was my own fault," she said with a sad shrug.

Show Not Right
"I am so easily persuaded. The show was just not right."

"Peculiarly enough," she added, "the rating for the show was good. People were beginning to like it. My two aunts who handle my fan mail say I was getting letters from an entirely new audience, the young married."

Imogene's old fans will be relieved to hear she returns to TV next fall doing the comedy routines that brought her fame on "The Show of Shows." She'll make six "Spectaculars"—but still without Caesar.

Found New Partners
"Oh, that would be impossible," she said in her usual modest, quiet way. "Now he's a team with Nanette Frabray. He probably wouldn't want to work with anyone else."

"It's funny," she reflected. "Both of us at the beginning of the season carefully avoided working with someone. If we had started the season each with a partner we would have been torn apart."

But Sid said he had to work with someone, so he got Nanette. And I got Hal March. In the theater you don't have to work with anybody. It's just in TV it seems you have to have a partner."

Besides the disappointment of her show, Imogene also suffered the loss of her husband and her mother recently.

"Yes, it was a rough year," she agreed, and began vigorously brushing her hair.

Grocer, Mule To Return Food Coupons

ALBANY, Ore. (UP)—Unredeemed food coupons by the mule-load will be dumped in the laps of the General Foods Corp. at its annual stockholders meeting in New York July 27.

Earl Dickson, owner of Dickson's Corral supermarket here, said he would attend the meeting in an attempt to dramatize his long battle with firms that have refused to redeem thousands of dollars worth of food coupons he accepted in lieu of cash from his grocery customers. He owns a few shares of General Foods stock.

Accompanying Dickson will be several sacks of coupons, and several sacks of coupons.

Dickson contends the companies refused to redeem their own coupons because "I over-promoted their promotion."

Last year Dickson saved about \$10,000 in taxes when the Bureau of Internal Revenue allowed him to charge off his stock of coupons as an operating loss.

But he said he would rather get the coupons redeemed. He said they represented food savings to millions of American housewives.

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