
Fatal Fallacy.

The House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, convening at Atlantic City last week, approved by a vote of 44 to 38 the dissemination of birth control information.

From press reports, one gets the impression that henceforth the bishops will run the Protestant Episcopal Church on a strictly eugenics basis, and not, as they had previously claimed, according to the revealed word of God and the natural law.

"Enlightened" social workers had their say, it seems, but interpreters of God's clear law were definitely outvoted.

Bishop Simeon Arthur Huston of Olympia, Washington, got off a really funny one. He is quoted as saying: "We have had a lot of pious twaddle from celibate clergy who are about as far from knowing anything of the realities of life as the man in the moon."

Does the Bishop wish to imply that a man must have personally experienced an action before he is competent to judge its morality? If that were true, bank robbers, rues, murderers, and prostitutes, and not Episcopalian bishops at all, should meet to decide questions of morality.

To those bishops of the convention, respectable gentlemen, who feel deep confusion and chagrin because of the outcome, we offer unfeigned condolences.

More Bad Logic.

In last Sunday's Chicago Herald and Examiner, an unsigned article "explains" certain mirages on the plains of Hungary and in other parts of the world.

Note this irreverent and misloading paragraph in the article: "It is related that many pious and specially-favored persons of antiquity were granted miraculous glimpses of the towers and battlements of heaven. They are still to be seen by lucky, though not necessarily pious observers, across the straits of Messina between Sicily and the Italian mainland."

Perhaps some extraordinary visions can be explained by the mirage, but this premise does not yield the conclusion that all supposedly supernatural visions can be explained by the mirage. Each vision has to be examined on its own merits.

It would be difficult, for example, to explain by the mirage the visions of Our Blessed Mother to St. Bernadette of Lourdes. These apparitions happened to take place in a dark woods, within the further shadowed recesses of a grotto.

Evidently motivated by the presumption that all miraculous intervention of God is imaginary, the writer jumps to his unwarranted conclusion. His method of reasoning is something like this: Because medical science can cure tuberculosis, apparent cures of tuberculosis at the Shrine of Lourdes are not miraculous.

Before touching upon the question of miracles at all, the writer of the article would have done well to study up on the strict processes that the Catholic Church goes through before she calls any extraordinary event a miracle. He might have found that ecclesiastical examiners of so-called "visions" have even heard about the mirage.

At the request of the members of the Band, three Masses are being said (6:30 Brownson Chapel) for the father of Ed. Arnade, recently deceased.

PRAYERS: Deceased, mother of Tom Dorris. Ill, friend of Mark Lonergan; grandmother of Joe Gilchrist (Dillon); friend of Jack Hurley (Morrissey), critically injured. Six special intentions.