

Jewish Congress Regrets Choice

TORONTO, (CP)—The Canadian Jewish Congress expressed regret Tuesday that the Stratford Shakespearean Festival will stage "The Merchant of Venice" as one of its plays next summer.

The congress, in a letter signed by J. A. Oelbaum, national vice-

president, urged the Festival to consider replacing it with another play.

The character of Shylock, the Jewish money-lender in the play, has been controversial over the years.

The congress assured festival officials it will make no attempt to boycott the production or suppress its performance.

"We recognized that honest dif-

ferences of opinion do exist on whether the play and the characterization of Shylock is anti-semitic or not.

"Nevertheless, acknowledging these differences, we felt obliged to advise Dr. Guthrie and his group that there might be feeling among both Jews and non-Jews that the play was an unfortunate choice and that its performance might give rise to needless controversy."

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Child Welfare

MacDonald and Sir W.J.P. MacMillan.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The panel discussion on child welfare was presided over by Dr. Loyola Duffy. Dr. Frank MacMillan led off the session with a query about the scope and specific nature of child welfare work.

Mr. Eugene MacDonald explained this type of work generally refers to caring for the needs of children who live apart from their parents. In this regard he explained there were different services for different situations with children often being sent to adopted homes, foster homes or institutions.

In answer to further question from Dr. O'Grady he explained that a child who had no or little use of most of his faculties was classed as an institutional child and children who were not adopted but sent out to private homes were known as foster home or boarding-home children.

Mr. Frank O'Neil brought up the question of mother's preference in the placing of her child. Sister Mary Henry pointed out that the wishes of the client are always filled if they are at all reasonable.

Dr. MacMillan inquired about the attitude of a Welfare agency towards the adoption of children by widows or spinsters.

Mr. MacDonald replied that social agencies were against an idea because the needs of a child were not filled under these conditions as children were meant to have two parents.

A query about the steps to be taken by a person wishing to adopt a child was made by Mr. O'Neil. Sister Mary Henry replied that after a couple make such an application the question immediately arises "Will they be people who will really love the child?"

She stated that while the Bureau doesn't look for people with too much wealth they must be able to certify these persons have never been on relief and that they are capable of earning their own living.

Adoption forms are given to the interested parties and visits are made to their home to learn intimate details about their background. In some cases three, four or five visits may be made. If the persons are found satisfactory then the agency will try to select a child to suit the background of the parent.

Mr. MacDonald pointed out there was a legal aspect to be considered and this was taken care of under the Adoption Act whereby there was a certain time limit in which a child could be removed from the home if he could not be adjusted to that home.

DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS

Dr. O'Grady queried about the religious backgrounds of persons adopting children and the age of both child and parents in adoption cases.

Sister Mary Henry stated that Catholic children were always placed in Catholic homes and non-Catholic children in non-Catholic homes.

Unemployment, sickness of the breadwinner and alcoholic drink were cited as the main causes of poverty in the City by Sister Mary Henry in her annual report.

"176 families sought help of some sort here during the year as well as 1,000 individuals," she stated in the report. She continued: "The reasons for their coming are many and no two cases are ever exactly alike."

"Some come for clothing which we are often able to supply from stock of used clothing on hand. The major portion of Sister Maria Goretti's time is spent fitting these people and it would be difficult to state accurately how many tons have passed through our hands in the past year. \$10,000 would be a conservative estimate of its value."

Speaking of the clients who need food, clothing or fuel, she stated: "Why are they not self-supporting? Again the combination of reasons is as many as the clients. Sickness of the breadwinner is one cause; so many people have only a hand to mouth existence at best and when forced to leave work are soon in dire straits. Abuse of alcoholic drink is a canker in too many of our homes. Unemployment with all the tentacles it engenders is another."

She stated that it was all but impossible for most people to understand the needy and the poor. The Sister pointed out that we live in an essentially rural countryside where agriculture here as in other places seems to have undergone an Industrial Revolution with the small farmer seeking easier money in the City.

"These people are leaving the land and moving into intolerable living conditions. They need leaders to preach a new philosophy of work, to study ways to change the social order, to bring people closer to the land where there is a possibility of ownership and responsibility and work for young and old as well as that security which ownership in industry would bring," she stated.

Quoting Pope Pius XII in his Christmas 1952 message she stated: "For some families there is a daily dying, a dying hourly, a dying multiplied, especially for parents by the number of dear ones they behold suffering and wasting away. Meanwhile sickness becomes more serious because not properly treated, it strikes little ones in particular because preventive measures are lacking. Then there is the weakening and consequent physical deterioration of whole generations."

"We can not conclude without mentioning that the very best charitable organization would not suffice of itself alone to assist those in need. Personal action must intervene, full of solicitude, anxious to overcome the distances between helper and helped, drawing near to the poor because he is Christ's brother and our own."

"The great temptation in an age which calls itself social—when besides the Church, the State, the municipality and other public bodies devote themselves so much to public problems, is that when the poor man knocks on the door, people, even believers, will just send him away to an agency or social centre, to an organization, thinking that their personal obligation has been sufficiently fulfilled by their contributions in taxes or voluntary gifts to those institutions."

"Undoubtedly the poor will receive your help that way, but often he counts also on yourselves at least on your words of kindness and comfort. You charitably ought to resemble God's who came in person to bring his help."

Sister Mary Henry stated that "If we really took to heart these words of the Holy Father we would never label the recipient of public aid an unworthy individual, and thus it is fatuously imagined,

homes. In regard to age she stated that the Bureau always tries to get children into homes at as young an age as possible. She stated that a very young child would never be placed in the homes of an elderly couple or a couple which had passed beyond the child bearing age.

In his report as President, Mr. Lannan recalled that the Bureau had been set up in 1946 with primary objectives of rehabilitation "to help people help themselves". He stated that relief is only a necessary aid in certain cases. The amount of relief needed is in direct proportion to the amount of rehabilitation given. Decrease rehabilitation and you must increase relief. Increase rehabilitation and you will decrease relief. Similarly an increase in rehabilitation means a decrease in juvenile delinquency, drunkenness, immorality and other moral evils," he stated.

He reviewed the work of the Bureau and pointed out that finances are still a major problem. The president stated that plans for raising additional revenue were discussed and that high hopes are held that some of this thought will be put into action this coming year.

In his closing remarks he thanked all those who had assisted the Bureau during the year.

Hon. B. Earle MacDonald congratulated the Bureau and pointed out the Sisters and directors had done well on their small budget. He stated there was much need for such an agency and for other similar agencies in the City. He complimented Mr. Eugene MacDonald for his fine work in the Department of Health and Welfare.

Dr. MacMillan stated he had been dealing with the problems of children for the past 45 years. He said that juvenile delinquency was one of the curses of the civilized world and that last year in the U.S.A. 1,000,000 juveniles had appeared in the courts.

FIELD SECRETARY'S REPORT

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him back into self-sufficiency. We are often told that a proportion of our clients are 'chiselers' who misuse what is given them. Whether his proportion is higher among relief recipients than, for example, among those solid and respectable citizens who tender for governmental contracts is, I suppose, beyond objective verification.

"It is not enough merely to try to preserve life in our clients," she continued. "So much of the good life is found by man within the smaller groupings to which he belongs and the State can never substitute for these smaller groupings that provide the immediate environment of good living. It does however have the obligation to strengthen in every way possible the framework within which the good work is possible. For almost all people it is family life with its joys and sorrows..."

"Public welfare must seek for more than the provision of economic security; it must foster social security in the fullest sense of the term."

Speaking briefly on Child Welfare Services she stated that 53 children were cared for in 24 boarding homes and most of them were children being readied for adoption. "In addition to the children placed in this province, adoptions were completed or are pending in the States of New York, Mass., New Jersey, Kansas, Washington, N.B., N.S., Ont. and Quebec." "900 mothers used the services of the Bureau in 1954. 51 of these were new cases, 11 were non-Catholic and the others were from different parts of the Province.

"The Charlottetown Hospital continued to pay \$100 per month to provide nursing service. Nursing service included: 527 hypnos, 155 baths, 129 dressings and 125 sick visits. The nurse also often helped the Sisters with the 1268 home visits made during the year as

Nfld. Girl Wins 4-H Essay Contest

OTTAWA, (CP)—Shirley Brown, 19, of Musgravetown, Nfld., has become the first 4-H club member from her province to win the national essay contest sponsored annually by the Canadian council on 4-H clubs.

Harvey Kingdon, 20, of Binswell as the 2659 office calls received.

In the opening and concluding sentences the Sister paid special thanks to those persons, firms, clubs and organizations which had helped the Bureau during 1954. She warmly thanked the Board of Directors and the President.

carin, man., placed second in the field of 19 entrants from across Canada, the council announced Wednesday.

Miss Brown, a 4-H member for five years, represented Newfoundland on the national junior 4-H council during 1954.

The contest was open to 116 provincial winners in 4-H club agricultural and homemaking projects contests who won an all-expense trip to the 1954 national 4-H club week in Toronto last November.

Contestants wrote essays about the trip. Books will be awarded to winners and eight runners-up. Runners-up included Jean Webb of Economy, N.S.

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FLOUR 98 LB. PURITY \$5.29
TOOTH PASTE Reg. 33c Pepsodent 27c
PEPPER SILVER SEAL PURE BLACK. 2 Oz. 19c
SALT ROUND 2 LB. BOX 9c

SMOKED SHANKLESS PICNIC HAMS ... lb. 45c
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