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Corpus: Party Time, and A Marriage Primer

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practice, sifted, corrected and correlated. We in the Philippines can gain a lot from this book. As a source book of ideas, methods, stories and techniques, it can prove to be invaluable provided that we do not take over these things blindly. What has worked out in another milieu may not necessarily work in local situations. But at least we have something to start with, a developed plan that we can adapt to our own conditions. The Bibliography alone has a copious and well-selected collection of the works of experts in Religious Education who are in varying degrees kerygmatically oriented. Those engaged in religious education will be greatly helped by the accomplishments and mistakes of those who have covered the same ground. Wise is the man who learns from experience but wiser is he who learns from the experience of others.

EMMANUEL V. NON

THE TEENS AND THE MARRIED

PARTY TIME. By Clara O. Corpus. Manila: Catholic Trade School, 1961. 32pp.

A MARRIAGE PRIMER. By Clara O. Corpus. Manila: Catholic Trade School, 1961. 29pp.

Mrs. Corpus has given us two very timely pamphlets.

PARTY TIME offers a wealth of information to the teen-age girl and by inference to the teen-age boy. Mrs. Corpus shows teenagers how they can enjoy themselves at a party and have joy in their hearts and peace in their consciences when the party is over. Mrs. Corpus opens her *Party Time* Pamphlet with the parent-children relationship. The teenagers who have mother's confidence realize mother desires that they enjoy themselves and have a good time just as much as they themselves wish it. Realizing this the teenagers will have a full evening of fun. And since the evening begins about seven o'clock, it would be wise for the host of the party to announce the time of the party in the invitation, such as "Party begins at seven o'clock, please come on time." Seven to twelve gives a good five hours of fun, anything more would become bore-some and tiring.

What Mrs. Corpus says about manners should be read with attention. How pleased a host is to hear one of her guests not only greet the mother of the house but ask if there is anything I can do

to help? The answer of course will be in the negative but the host will be glad if one or two of the guests help at snack-serving time and help remove empty plates and cups when the snacks are consumed. And a hint to the teen-age female, boys do notice who of the girls present are always on the alert to help serve or clean up. They become wary of the girls who only sit and wait to be served. The girl who helps at a party is the girl who is accustomed to help at home.

Teenagers should learn to share each other with their friends at the party. And for the "inner thoughts" of teenagers let them remember that St. Paul tells us "Whether we eat or drink or whatsoever else we do, we should do it for the Lord." Whatsoever else we do—could be attending parties and dancing—but if they are done for the Lord, because he wishes you to be happy, the "inner thoughts" will take care of themselves.

In her pamphlet, *A Marriage Primer*, Mrs. Corpus gives in a short space the fundamentals necessary to make a marriage happy and successful.

It is a primer and Mrs. Corpus stands by the title. Mrs. Corpus puts matters so simply and clearly one wonders that there should be unhappy marriages. When the Bride and the Groom turn from God's altar and begin their march together down the aisle of the church and into the various aisles of life, there is a Third Person with them, the Holy Spirit, and he is with the newlyweds with his graces down the years of their marriage, helping husband and wife to grow old in their love for each other, so that they are just as much in love with each other at fifty as they were at twenty, if not more so. This will be true if the husband and wife live down the years corresponding to the graces offered each day by the Holy Spirit.

Mrs. Corpus says the wife has the role of sanctifier of the home. This is so true. The mother teaches her children their prayers and by her example she leads her husband to the frequent reception of the sacraments. The family that attends Mass together and approaches the Holy Rail to receive Holy Communion is the family that stays together.

Mrs. Corpus has done a service to the families of the Philippines. I hope that her pamphlets will grow into a book that will do justice to her subject and be very attractive to all parties concerned.