

LETTERS

Christmas floats have lost religion

Dear Sir,
 Someone last week objected to a couple of floats that did not fit with the rest in the Christmas parade. Yes, the Christmas parade has nothing to do with Christmas. We are celebrating Xmas, not Christmas! The start of the best shopping season; the beginning of home decorating and colorful lights on the lawn. St. Nicholas has been forgotten. The heroes are Santa Claus (a jolly big fellow who has a seasonal job on TV commercials and a part time job in shopping malls) and a red-nosed reindeer. The songs about the Holy Night have been dumped. The Xmas hits are about sleigh rides and red noses.
 Look at the Xmas parade floats: they have no connection with Bethlehem; they have no religious connotation. Religion is out; shopping is in! Why would anybody add to the parade a pro-life float representing such an

anachronistic nativity scene? With no lights flashing, no bright colors, no music from loudspeakers? Just hay, a manger, a bunch of kids dressed as shepherds, with nothing more than pieces of clothing on their backs. What a poor scene! And worst of all, a baby doll represented some baby conceived out of wedlock. He would never have lived today. He would have been aborted. What a coincidence that a pro-life float would use that baby as a symbol. Jesus, the way, the truth and the life? Sorry, there is no space for him in the Xmas parade. Christ is dead. This is no time for religious flimsiness or for exposing reality. Be happy fellows, this is Xmas time! Just get rid of that couple of problem floats and everything will be again flashy, happy, joyful, colorful, vibrant, smack, gay, cheeful, upbeat, merry, cheery, bright, dashing, jolly and just fine.
 Giuseppe Gori

Volunteers gain experience

Just a few hours of your time can make a big difference to someone in need in Halton Hills. The following volunteer opportunities are presently available: Gain valuable work experience in a daycare setting one afternoon each week. You will receive training and ongoing supervision. Or become involved in a structured children's program as a helper on Thursday mornings. Want office experience? Then consider working one morning every second week

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Ms. Sarah Jane Olszewski
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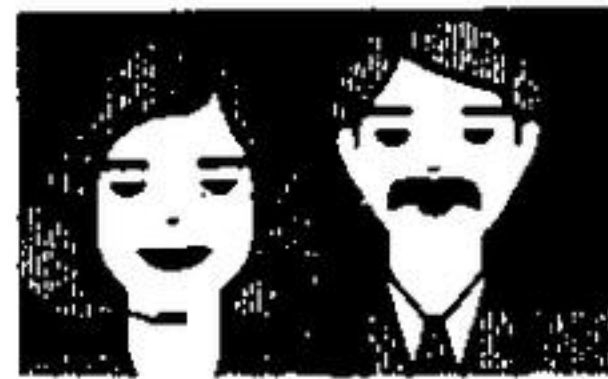
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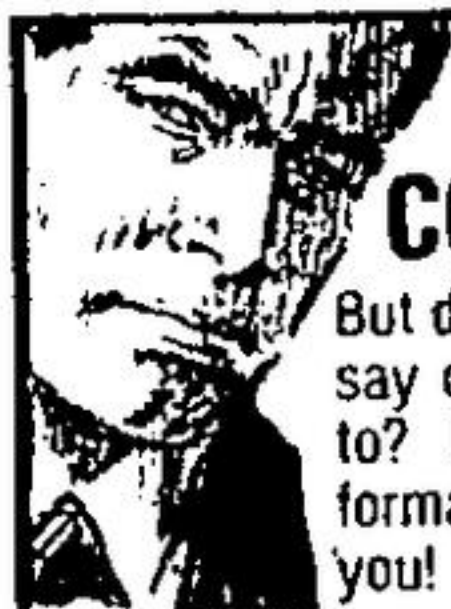
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