

Bob Connolly



HAVE you seen "Godspell"? What do you think about it? Is Mr Jimmy Kruger, Deputy Minister of the Interior, right in banning the film? Here is what some readers think.

If you have any views on the subject write to "Godspell," Rand Daily Mail, PO Box 1138, Johannesburg. Prizes of R5 will be awarded for the best three letters.

New meaning and form to Christianity

REALISING that the people of South Africa may never be given the opportunity of seeing "Godspell," I made a point of seeing it on a recent working holiday in London.

Firstly, to me "Godspell" was a deep and wonderful interpretation of Christ; the realisation that Christ could return to this earth in any form, be it that of hippy or clown, Black or White is something we should all learn a lesson from.

"Godspell" was also pleasantly surprising in that it portrayed the message of Christ and true Christianity more clearly than it has been portrayed for a long while. It certainly gives a new meaning and form to a Christianity which has seen little or no change in the past several hundred years.

We in South Africa should try to see both

points of view clearly; are we not being too hasty in condemning something we have not taken the trouble to understand? Most certainly young people of today have no need of the contempt shown towards them by many churches and religious groups.

I therefore urge Mr Kruger and his followers to think again. Is it not evident that young people today need the guidance of religion and a Christ who appeals directly to them, a Christ who is as they are, a Christ who can show them the way?

Would not youths of today find far more security in a Christ who understands them, in other words in their own interpretation of our Lord, as in "Godspell"? These are the questions we must ask ourselves. — MRS V. ABERY, Witbank

See evil in everything

I DO not agree with Mr Jimmy Kruger's decision to ban "Godspell" thereby going

Of his own puny soul,
Amusing other fools
By playing with
Hell-fire.
— FATA OBSTANT, Pretoria.

Sacrilegious

I HAVE seen neither the play nor the film "Godspell" and to judge by hearsay is fatal. But I certainly take exception to what some of the priests advance — that the play should be considered a modern version of a representation of the "Faith" and therefore welcome. Do the churches want to curry favour with the hippies and dropouts that they should have to have recourse to representing Jesus as a clown?

A friend of mine who recently returned from Holland told me that the churches are standing empty and are being converted into dance halls. The few that are still open attract the youth of the towns by allowing them to bring noise and guitars into the churches. If this be true, then one must conclude that religion has come to a very low pass in Europe.

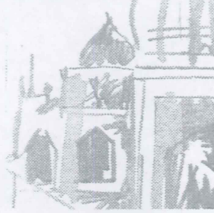
ing Christ and His teachings a target for cynical and blasphemous jokes. Is it so enthralling to see the Divine Person thus profaned?

What a sad testimony for Christians! How very pathetic that some Christians should ridicule their Lord and Saviour. Tragic, too, for it might be at the price of losing one's soul for joining in the derision directed against the all-holy one of God.

If only people would pause to give a thought that we are indeed at the throes of the last era of which scripture asks: "Who shall be able to stand?" In fact, who will be able to face the "Super" Judge, when mankind will be spellbound in God's spell of the Great Judgment? — DIES IRAE DIES ILLA, Irene.

Deplorable

AS a Muslim I support Mr Kruger for banning the film "Godspell".
To portray Jesus (on whom be peace) as a clown is



Bericevic, has given birth to her second child. The father, Fredrich Rakic — a pupil at the same school in Vienna — is 14.

Their first child, a boy, was born two years ago.

"That was a mistake," but the latest baby girl is a "wish-child," the young parents said.

When the first child was born the city welfare department wanted to put Tanya into a home. However, her parents took custody of the baby and Tanya was allowed to stay with them.

The young father said he intends marrying Tanya, but "she is a bit young for marriage at the moment."



EXHIBITION

— 6 pm
Friday and Monday

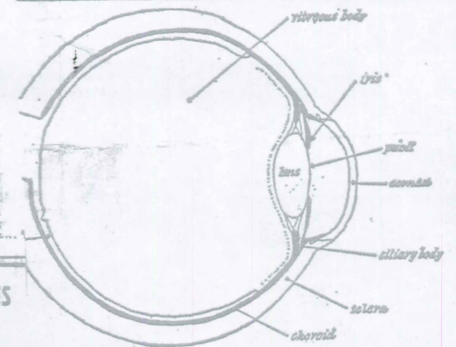
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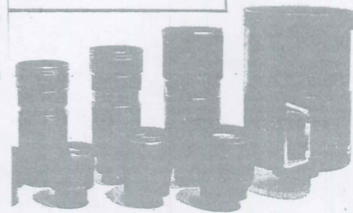
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