WKYC-TV PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

Program and Number: Montage #192

Telecast Date (s): April 28, 1967

Videotape Date: 4-13-67

Film Supplier: WKYC-TV Montage Film Unit

Submitted by: Jon Boynton
Producer/Director

Cooperating Agency:

Guest House Sanatorium, Lake Orion, Michigan
St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Clemens, Michigan

Brief Description of Program: The program traces the steps which led Father Edward McGowan, a catholic priest, from the depths of despair and loneliness as a chronic alcoholic to his eventual rehabilitation as a fruitful and active priest as a unique sanatorium known as Guest House. The story is narrated by Father McGowan himself, and tells the story of his life from his early childhood in a Montana mining camp to the present moment.

Participants (Name, Address, Title and/or Affiliation, Minor - Age)

Father Edward McGowan, Kalispell General Hospital, Kalispell, Montana

Austin Ripley, Founder and Director, Guest House Sanatorium, Lake Orion, Michigan

Father Larry Cavanaugh, Chaplain, St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Clemens, Michigan

Dr. Marvin A. Block, Past President, American Medical Association's Committee on Alcoholism; Vice President, American Council on Alcoholism

Source of Idea: The original idea for the program was inspired by a brief article dealing with the program of Guest House which appeared in the March, 1966 issue of Newsweek magazine.

How Developed: The producer contacted, and subsequently visited Austin Ripley, director of Guest House Sanatorium and outlined his idea for an hour long documentary dealing with the problem of alcoholism in the priesthood, and the program of therapy operated at Guest House. After selecting the name of Father Edward McGowan from the list of Guest House "graduates" (over)
Pursuant to the FCC Rules, Section 3.654 (g), the following information is required:

Name of Organization

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Additional: e.g. Board of Directors, Members of Executive Committee, Board of Governors, Board of Trustees, etc.

(List Names and Titles)

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the producer spent some twelve hours in total interviewing Father McGowan on audiotape. After returning to Cleveland, he blocked out a scenario based on selected portions of Father McGowan's first hand account of his experiences, and returned to Guest House a week later, at which time the majority of the filming was completed. The filming, done by Dennis Goulden of Montage, traced the highlights of Father McGowan's life, from his childhood in a Montana mining camp, through his lonely years away from the Church, and ended at Guest House, where he was eventually rehabilitated to the dignity of the altar and to lasting sobriety. Due to regular Montage commitments, the program was left untouched until November, 1966, when we spent a week assembling it in final form. It was then shown in turn to Austin Ripley at Guest House, to Bishop Donovan of Detroit, and to Bishop Clarence Issenmann of Cleveland as had been agreed, for their approval. When this approval was obtained, plans were made to promote the film for telecast on April 28, 1967.