



CATHOLIC COURIER Staff Photo

CHRISTIAN CULTURE Lecture series announcement... Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen, in Rochester last Saturday to open the Series at Aquinas Institute.

U. S. Cause In War Noble Avers Monsignor Sheen

By Helen Macchia

"We are fighting for a nobler cause than we know, a nobler cause than we deserve," were the ringing words of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen in opening the Christian Culture Lecture Series before a capacity audience in Aquinas Auditorium on Saturday evening, Oct. 10.

The famous orator, regarded by critics as America's No. 1 public speaker was presented by the Rev. Hugh Haffey, C.S.B., director of the Culture Series. Father Haffey announced that Dr. Mortimer J. Adler of the University of Chicago would be heard next in the series on Sunday evening, Oct. 23, in the topic "Geopolitics: The Science Behind This War."

Eloquently discussing his chosen topic "Crisis in Christendom," Monsignor Sheen said, "This war is not merely a political and economic conflict. These things are concerned only with the means of life and it is the end of life which we have lost sight of today."

Dictators But Instruments... This war has not been caused or produced by dictators, for they are not creators of evil but creatures in the world. They are just disposed to accept dictatorship at a particular time, our duty is to make conditions impossible for them to attain power."

The speaker pointed out that this war is not just another kind of war. The present war is a revolution.

Involved in the conflict are three great ideologies. Monsignor Sheen explained. They are Totalitarianism with its economic form in Communism, its biological form in Nazism, its political form in Fascism and its dynamic imperialistic form in Japanese imperialism.

Secondly there is the sensate, secularist culture of the Western World which has attempted to build great values on a non-Christian basis and thirdly, Christianity as found in the Church.

Follow in Succession... These cultures, the speaker explained have evolved from one another: the Christian, to the sensate, to the totalitarian. Christianity reached its peak in the Middle Ages when all civilization directed its belief in God to a realization that one day all must render an account of his stewardship. Up to this time no one was outside the Church.

There could not be any such thing as a Protestant Reformation father it should have been called Religious Revolution. A revolution signifies that something needed reform either the faith or morals of the people. There was nothing wrong with faith. Men merely placed infallibility in the individual and took it away from the Vicar of Christ.

They concluded their illogical reasoning by saying, therefore, each man could infallibly interpret the Scriptures.

The world at the beginning of the sensate, secularist culture in which we live, men sought a new ground of unity and appealed to the natural laws.

Misunderstood Laws... "These laws," said Monsignor Sheen, "they misunderstood, thinking them not as a reflection of the will of God, but that of physical nature." Some monarchs became despots and the doctrines of Rousseau, Adam Smith and the Mills were turned to. Men were saying...

Imperialistic, finally ending in Imperialistic wars as evidenced by World War I.

"Today, we face a double task," said the speaker. "One is to beat the Axis which we are sure of doing, the other is to uproot from the Western World, this sensate, secularist culture."

Comparing democracy to a ship carrying a cargo of freedom, a cargo full of things which make us proud to be Americans. Monsignor Sheen said the ship has gathered many barnacles, false notions of progress and the utter belief in science, which must be removed.

Progress, he said, depends upon a fixed goal. The only progress that can be made is in the diminution of the traces of original sin which was intended to be our servant but has become our master. Modern intelligentsia says that there is no difference between right and wrong.

We have a double war to win—that on the battlefield and that on the home front. We can defeat the enemy from without, but can we conquer him from within?

"In the world," Monsignor Sheen said, "we can get along without a particular economic system; we can do without a certain kind of education. We are on the right side in this war—the good side. We should make ourselves worthy to be God's agents in administering justice. We have been indifferent spectators to the Crucifixion going on throughout the world—in Germany, Mexico and Russia."

"Military conscription has forced us to take up the cross now ourselves. We do not realize whose Cross we are carrying for we are fighting for something nobler than we know, than we deserve. This is the Crisis in Christendom."

Msgr. Sheen To Open Syracuse Lectures

AUBURN - Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen of the Catholic University of America will deliver a lecture in Lincoln Auditorium, Central High School, Syracuse, on Sunday evening, Oct. 18, at 8:10 o'clock.

The lecture is sponsored by the Catholic Women's Club of Syracuse and has the approval of the Most Rev. Walter A. Foery, Bishop of Syracuse. Monsignor Sheen opens the lecture course each year and this year he will be the first of four speakers for the 1942-1943 season.

Educator In Navy

Boston. The Rev. Francis W. McDonald, S.J., Professor of Education at Boston College, has left for the Chaplains' School at the Navy's Operations Base, Norfolk, Va.

It might be worse. If a man wishes to fight for his country, nobody can make him pay a fat fee...

HOLY ROSARY PARISH

SODALITIES COMMUNION

The Senior Sodality of Holy Rosary Church will hold their General Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 15. This meeting will convene in Church, where the Sodality will participate in the Holy Eucharist, before the Blessed Sacrament. Afterwards they will go to the school hall for their business and social.

On the 18th of October the Junior and Senior Sodality will hold their annual Communion breakfast after the 9 o'clock Mass.

Wishes you are all and your family invited to attend... Miss Mary A. Quinn.

Three In Army

Baltimore - Three sons of St. Elizabeth's parish and two former assistant priests are in the armed forces as chaplains. The former curates are Fathers Rosmund Wald, O.M.C., and Evarist Shorn, O.M.C. The three former parishioners are Fathers Timothy Anderson, Joseph Andruszewski, O.M.C., and Edwin Kozak, O.M.C.

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