COULIER JOURNAL, THUMBORY, SEPTEMORE 20, 1945

How About 'God **Bless America?'**

The suit brought in the courts of Champaign, III., by Mrs. Vashil McCollum to outlaw "release time" religious education classes in that city has elicted the following comment from The New World, official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Chicago:

Taking apart the conglomeration of testimony which parades its argument leaves one strangely confused. Only the occupation of Tokyo outplayed the random opinions hurled so recklessly about in the university city.

Ordinarily the case would boll down to a harmless exploitation of a dozen people's ideas. But looking at the list of the men and women supporting Mrs. McCollom, it is obvious that a bad decision can become a dangerous development in our national life.

According to evidence, the suit got off to a bad start. One group argued in support of Mrs. Me-Cullorn that religious, education during public school hours represented a union of Church and State. Attorney Chapman called the school board's policy "religious fascisre."

Another group of ghost chasers argued that religious traching of this type violates the Constitution of the United States and disrupts the old traditional American principle of separation of Church and State. Just-as ridiculous was the speciacle of a lawyer putting trained religious teachers over theological jumps. People are naturally gunshy of witness stands. Perhaps some of these good folks felt embarrassed for being on God's side.

Such goings on immediately provoked the question: What is actually involved? Does such trac dition mean that God was or is going to be banned from any consideration connected with society and the commonwealth?

Or does the correct version of this "separation" still obtain, that is, that the State is a perfect society and in its own sphere completely independent zo iong as it does not violate moral principles and the unallenable rights of men which are guaranteed by the Constitution? This would immediately involve phases of morality, rights and obligations, freedom of worship and the like.

If the State will, by court order, become an absolutely independent entity in society, freed from all accounting to God, we have faseism and totalitarianism which apparently the freethinking opponents of religious training unwittingly invite.

Power, Seen and Unseen

The power of Christ was adject to so human imitation. If was the infinite power of God. It could case the sick. It could remit siz. While the cure of the nick was a visible evidence of the power of Christ, the unseen effect of that same power in the remission of six was a greater tribule to this divise power. The Scribes were not entirely wrong in showing suprise at one Who sold: "Thy size one forgiven thes." They realized that forgiveness of air could come only from God. Therefore. they sold: "This man blasphemes." What they did not realise was that before them stood the Son of God: that Christ on God had power to jorgive sine.

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Now the visible stirt of the power of Christ is put belies them in a way they could not deay. Their even even would be the witnesses of a care wrought by the miraculous power of Christ. Christ was to perform a miracle precisely for their benefit to produce an effect that could come only from the power of God. He hade the patient to prize, take up his pallet and go into his house. Here was a visible effect. here was a paralytic shorn of his helplesmens, here was a cripple restored to normal powers. Little wonder that the crowd was filled with fear, that they saw in this act an exercise of power that could come only from God. They gave glory to God Who had given such divine power to men. They should have given greater glory to God Ir. the healing of a statul soul. Perhaps we can make up for their Replace by giving manks to God for the forgiveness of the granted to us in the Sacrament of Persona,

to the hearts of our people?

None question Mrs. McCullom's right to call herself anything that might bob up in her mind. But there are few who will brand themselves with the word "atheist." So, when it comes to imposition, we might think of the straight thinkers who will be scverely penalized by court action against religious teaching during released time in a program which has been carefully worked out by clvic and religious leaders,

They had decided on the program as a constructive plank in the shaky moral structure of American life, feeling no doubt that they were definitely laboring for a better democratic life. They must have been duly shocked to learn that some of their opponents had practically slogan ized them into the class of Benedict Arnolds.

Again we might ask just who are the ones so interested in eliminating this influence as a violation of American principles. A careful reading of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the princi-

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MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD ERARNEY, D.D., President

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Seminary Sunday

A day of memories, a day of present accomplishments, a day of hopes for the future, so the twenty-third of September dawns for us as Seminary Sunday. It is a day of memories of what our forebears have done in founding and sustaining the seminaries, of memories of many hundreds of priests sent out to labor for souls, many of whom are still with us, and nome have passed to their sternal reward. It is a day of present accomplishment, for both seminaries are hard at work building young men into scholars and men of God. It is a day of hope for the future, for its points the way to the years ahead when graduates of our seminaries shall preside in parish churches to carry on the work of God.

It will be a day of sacrifice for many, as they set aside worth-while gifts to our seminaries: a day of joy for all who by the donation they make on Seminary Sunday become Benefactors of these schools. God grant that our Seminary Offering may be a worthy expression of our love for the

St. Andrew's Year of Jubilee

Seventy-five years is a long span of life for man and for the institutions he builds. St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary is celebrating its seventy-fifth Birthday. Founded by Bishop McQuaid: Tostered and nurtured by four succeeding Bishops, Diseased by a host of graduatiss who saw their earliest training for the clerical life within its walls, manned by a series of gilted privat-professors zealous for the cause, St. Andrew's stands today glorious and fruitful in what she has done. Every real school has a soul. The soul of St. Andrew's has gone out into the mind and heart of every graduate. It is a apiritual entity, a bearer of grace, a living influence that can never die. To his last day the loyal graduate of St. Andrew's carries into every pricetly function something that St. Andrew's gave him, a skill in dealing with his own language founded on familiarity with its authors, a cultural knowledge of the classics in Greek and Latin, a broadening training in modern languages, with a certain grasp of mathematics and science and social studies, and a foundation course in the hisfory and the teachings of the Church. Happy memories of the four great leaders still remain - two now gone to God, Lagr. DeRegge and Magr. Nolan: two still with us, Father Laddy and Father Lyons. About them gather members of a faculty always able, skilled in teaching, worthy men of God. The first achool was born in poverty, housed in a poor little milding. Then came a real building back of the Cathedral restory that served many a year. Then came the building so Manual Contracts of this generation, on Frank St. next In the Manual Contract of Lastman Kodak Company acquired In the Analysis States when it purchased the church In the state of Frank Lovejoy, head an the Restmant Company, who negotiated the sale of this property : noting the many courtesies he and his predecessor We rejoice with St. Andrew's on this happy occasion of its month of the Discodery I May the memory of men, great and its mark simulation of a second second school I May her children now listed the short of school may not sing her praises fol-later. To think that the law of God didn't sing the race in those twenty centuries would be bo put oneself in a class with the child who safed the face in those twenty is the child who saled by toneself in a class with the child who saled the toncher what the world was like "perform the law of gravitation was passed" Decome particularly bad. If the is true is the become particularly bad. If the is true is the

encolates the Parmin of St. Mary's in a Amivementy of its founding Ministerstate up largely of inemigrants from There will a Controry and A long line

Also, Mrs. McCullom makes capital of vague discriminatory treatment towards her son, an imposition which she highly resents. But has Mrs. McCullons ever thought of the millions who desire religious emphasis in the lives of the youth of America? Should her will be legally imposed upon many stalwart Americans who believe that God and the things of God should be kept close

ples of Church and State will straighten out terms which now seem to be used as weapons to twist the truth, duping-people into unwarrant ed conclusions.

Words are always easier to handy shout than proof. It is much simpler to sing the hymn "God Bless America" than to work and fight for these same blessings. But perhaps we should not have brought up the song, it might violate some pseudo - American tradition. After all, the name of God is mentioned.

By Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P.

Must be Change **Of Heart for Peace**

We often see in the newspapers, especially in the editorials and correspondence columns, a protest against the idea that morals can be corrected

Sursum Corda

by legislation. Argument on

that matter might well seem superfluous. Morals came be fore, not after, have. Things were right or wrong, good or bad before the Ten Commandments were promulgated. It would be childish to imagine that lying and stealing and killing were no sin until Moses came down from the mount

with a list of "Thou Shalt Nots" in his hand. Morals commenced with Ad-

become particularly ban all that is true in respeak) in regard to man-space laws. Burglary came before the laws against burglary; murder proceded the enactment calling for capital punisisment for hurder.

Hyen when the law is passed it is doubtful if k lessens crime. Sheep-statiling continuer in And the server of the server of the barrent of the server of the server

end to international guarrels, aand hence to world war, by making rules and regulations, that is to say, concordats, treaties, charters, and other varia elles of written agreements. If you ask what will be done if a nation in the future does this of that thing forbidden by a charter, the answer as likely as not will be that the penalty for such action is provided in Article XVIII, paragraph (b) number (2). As if that settled it! If nations are like men (and what are nations but men?) it is even possible that Article XVIII, paragraph (6) number (2) may have put the wicked though into their head to do what they never were tempt ed to do before.

Therefore (now kindly restrain your impai tience while I put down another platitude) i doesn't make much difference what kind of pac or treaty or charter you compose, or what par ticular rules and regulations you write into it unless a change takes place in the heart of mer and of nations.

Take, for commple, the now defunct Lengue of Nations and the Wilsonian Covenant. Nathan iel Peller writes in "America's Place in th World," "Econtially the Leegue was a fraud. I was inaugurated in bad faith and carried ou without bonesty of purpose. It was in the firs instance a sop thrown to Woodrow Wilson . it became a thing of use and convenience for th enclusive national purposes of the Jowers strong enough to control it. No great Power believe in it. No great Power had the slightest intention of abiding by its declared purpose of fulfilling the obligations laid upor it by the Covenant."

Dr. Petter continues with the most vigorou custigation I have seen of the nations which foined the League and signed the Covenant. would be unfair to him, however to omit what a says of pass as opposed to sationar "Then while he doubt momentum individuals in ever sountry while were penutaesty even plantonately definited to addrewing movess for the Lengue. But is explaine such as these were either no in selicial position or not high monity in officia pheticies to entry any real authority.

Wheel was over of the League will be true of the San Francisco Charter, and (if it be not a A. C. T. T. S. S. Sec. Sec. and the second of the second

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