

Courier Journal

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

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God Bless America

All America has been busy about choosing a President. All America has been weighing issues, judging policies, selecting a candidate. Thoughtful voters have done their duty in a conscientious way, have given prayerful thought to the responsibility that is theirs of guiding the destiny of their beloved land.

Some are Democrats, some are Republicans; all are Americans. After the turmoil of campaigning, after the striving of contending parties, all our people unite once more in cooperation with the man chosen for high office by vote of the electorate.

Golden Centenaries—Livonia

One hundred years at St. Michael's in Livonia take us back not only to our own pioneers who settled that parish and began its religious work. They take us back also to the early Franciscan and Jesuit missionaries who ministered to the Indians of the neighborhood.

Jubilee For Our French Church

One hundred years and the Church of Our Lady of Victory perhaps best known among all the churches of Rochester. Always a small parish, it has had a following far beyond its formal members.

We congratulate the new Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Church, Father Stephen Centurion, S.S., C.C., on his observance of the centennial of the church that now falls to his care.

The Weeds Appeared

All the world is God's field, He has sowed it to wheat. His enemies have sown weeds among the wheat. The weeds have appeared every age has had them, every country has seen them.

All the pagan doctrines afflicting the world today, genocide, euthanasia, birth-control, unbelief, hatred of the Church, persecution of its leaders and its people, absolutism, are weeds in the field of the Lord.

The weeds appeared. Other ages have seen them. Our people see them. Other ages have judged them and found them to be weeds. Our age can do likewise.

Fr. Higgins Says: Trickery on the Waterfront

On October 1 and 4, an association of West Coast waterfront employers sponsored a display advertisement in the San Francisco newspapers which will long remain as a classical example of the perfect way not to oppose Communism.



The advertisement failed to indicate when, where, or upon what occasion the photograph was taken. The clear and intended implication of the advertisement was that Harry Bridges had asked under instructions from the Kremlin to call the waterfront strike.

The advertisement boomeranged immediately and as a matter of course, for, two days later, the union sponsored a similar advertisement reproducing another photograph — one showing Mr. Molotov shaking hands rather cordially with Dr. Henry Grady who, at the time the photograph was taken, was president of the American President Lines and is now United States Ambassador to Greece.

Worse than that, they again played into the hands of the Communists and fellow-travelers. By stooping to trickery — and a very transparent sort of trickery at that — they have made it just that much more difficult to carry on an intelligent counterattack upon Communism within the labor government.

ALL IN ALL, then, the employers' advertisement proved to be a perfect dud, misleading in its purpose and harmful in its effect upon industrial relations in the United States.

The writer happened to be on the West Coast a few days after the union had called the turn on the waterfront employers by labeling their advertisement for what it certainly was: an awkward and a very obvious fraud.

One of them, an experienced student of West Coast industrial relations and a very effective anti-Communist in his own right, was kind enough to summarize his thoughts on the subject in writing.

"THE EMPLOYERS have built Harry Bridges into an international figure and have welded the ILWU — its members are pretty solidly behind him — by such stupid attacks as the one contained in the enclosed advertisement.

"The net result of this type of employer propaganda is: (1) Bridges is not a citizen; (2) the Supreme Court of the United States has handed Bridges a letter of protest that he's not a Communist; (3) any defeat of the Waterfront Employers' Association could possibly produce in his defense; (4) no matter who criticizes Bridges now, it's 'employer propaganda'.

"All these results were brought about by employers who expected the very opposite to result from their propaganda.

"Even worse, the CIO, which has been doing a commendable job in educating the Communist is now rather seriously hamstrung for reasons which ought to be perfectly obvious to anyone who pretends to know the a, b, c's of trade union politics.

In reproducing this letter and in presenting substantially with its thesis, we are not passing judgment on the waterfront strike itself, nor are we attempting to measure the extent of Communist influence within the ILWU. We are merely suggesting that if Communism is an issue in the present strike, and the employers are sincerely concerned about the problem, they have chosen the worst of all possible methods in responding to the challenge.

Do You Remember?

25 Years Ago—Nov. 2, 1923. Committees were organized in 30 parishes for the new Aquinas Institute Campaign for \$250,000, set to run from Nov. 9 to Nov. 13.

10 Years Ago—Nov. 3, 1938. We are not here to celebrate the existence of a building, but rather the human deeds performed in the past in the service of God.

5 Years Ago—Nov. 4, 1943. A wayside shrine dedicated by boys and girls of St. Andrew's Parish, Rochester, to parishioners in the armed forces was blessed by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney on All Saints' Day.

Catholics Taught in New Mexico For 350 Years; Now Under Attack

The author of the following article is a member of the staff of the Legal Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. He has written extensively on the question of the Church-State relationship, particularly as manifested in recent school controversies.

On September 27 of this year, Santa Fe, the city of the Holy Faith of St. Francis Assisi, witnessed an incongruous occurrence. It saw 140 nuns and lay Brothers placed on trial before the Santa Fe District Court for wearing the religious garb while teaching in the public schools of the State of New Mexico.

JUST 350 YEARS ago zealots, clothed in the garb of their religious Order, ventured into what is now New Mexico to bring the light of Christianity and Western Culture to the Southwest.

Prayers are said during the religious education period and, in some instances, religious literature is distributed, such as "Treasure Chest" a booklet in the format of a comic magazine but which, unlike other comics, is chiefly devoted to constructive Biblical stories.

THE EVIDENCE further disclosed that in the majority of the cases the buildings in which the Sisters and Brothers are teaching are owned by the Church and rented to the county for a nominal sum.

In the very community where this case arose — in Dixon — Church property is now being donated to the county so that it may conduct a junior and senior high school staffed exclusively with lay teachers.

It was charged by the plaintiffs that the schools in which the Sisters and Brothers teach are, in fact, parochial schools; that the use of the Church property is unconstitutional; that the proximity of the schools to the Catholic church is an unconstitutional influence.

THE FACTS demonstrated that the defendant teachers were subject to the same supervision as any other public school teacher and that they met all of the requirements necessary to teach in a public school.

During the trial the court emphatically ruled that the nature of the vows the Sisters and Brothers take and the manner in which they dispose of their salaries were immaterial to the issues in the case.

Catholicism is taught before school hours by the Sisters and lay Brothers on the school premises in the majority of the schools. Classes are entirely voluntary and no one is marked absent or tardy for not attending. No credit whatsoever is given for such classes.



An artist's conception of the meeting of Sister Blandina Segale, Sister of Charity, and the desperado, Billy the Kid, when he urged her to join the village doctors who had refused to give aid to his wounded pals.

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Another witness for the plaintiffs was impeached when he admitted that he had been convicted of crime and had served time in a penitentiary for misconduct involving students of the school in which he was teaching.

Graduation exercises were frequently held in the local Catholic church. In a few cases this was preceded by a distinctly Catholic religious ceremony. It was further disclosed that the Church was the only building which was large enough to accommodate a graduation exercise.

There was no testimony that either the Sisters or the lay Brothers taught religion during the school hours. The evidence was all to the contrary.

After referring to Catholicism classes, gotten near public school playgrounds, the relation of Catholic prayers, the distribution of literature of a religious nature, and works of art depicting scenes found only in the story or legend or illustrations of one sect.

With all these influences, to say that there is separation of Church and State is to say that there is separation by a bell or a sign marked "Private."

The Judge indicated that he did not consider "the wearing of a religious garb, in itself, as an unconstitutional religious influence in the schools."

The final decision of the District Court will be rendered some time after Nov. 5, at which time the requested Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law will be submitted by opposing counsel.

Fr. Gillis Says: Third War? What Then?

The Alsops in a recent column, speaking of "the whole ugly tale of Soviet aggression, bullying, double dealing and bad faith," go on to say: "The real question is, 'What next?'"

It may indeed be true that American policy makers have been "heartened" by "the incredible fact" that four-fifths of the American people seem willing to plunge for a third time into war in Europe, Asia and all over the globe.

Is the prophecy of the isolationists to be fulfilled? They used to say "I was one of them that if we went overseas to fight what Washington and Jefferson called the 'insensate and interminable wars of Europe' (let us add now the wars of Asia) we would never get out again."

Those who say it now once again are damned with the epithet "pro-Communist." Sneering don't seem a particularly apt form of argument to one brought up on Scholastic logic and Christian ethics.

WHEN THE picture makers in Hollywood produce a hit they try to do it again and again by the use of the same formula. As with picture producers so with manufacturers of public opinion.

Disregarding the smear and epithet argument, what I want to know is whether those 82 per cent of the people who are "ready to face the horror of another war" have been asked by the pollsters if they would accept not only a third war but the consequences of a third war.

It is usually said that the next war will be in truth what the first world war was called (do you older folk remember?) "the war to end all war." It will end all war because it will end the world.

Would 82 per cent of the American people welcome a war to end Soviet "bullying, double dealing and bad faith," even if that war would put an end to us as well as to the Soviets? Did the 82 per cent think of that?

If that sort of talk sounds too much like Cassandra let's take something less pessimistic. Do those who would welcome a war to punish Stalin favor another war to punish Tito? And another to avenge the blood of Mauthausen and Dachau?

Suppose the afflicted don't want to be rescued, or at least not rescued by what they call the "Glossus of the West." Suppose they prefer Communism? Suppose they would rather suffer from the lack of discipline of the USSR than be under obligations to the USA?

It may be said that they need enlightenment. If they need enlightenment when shall we enlighten them? Before we conquer them, or (if you prefer) release them. Before we drop bombs, atom bombs or others, on them? Or afterward?

TO MAKE the problem easier to take the countries behind the Iron Curtain — the Western countries. Take Italy. With a 500,000 vote swing at the Commission after the appeal of the Holy Father, and the loss of explanatory post cards, letters and telegrams from America. What will those 82 per cent be doing while we are rescuing Italy?

Or take France. It is doubtful if the French want to be rescued — at least by us. They are reputed to be the most intelligent people in Europe. Why don't they use their intelligence to rescue themselves? If the anti-Communist political parties in France would unite, they could swamp the Communists. They don't unite. Why? Would they rather perpetuate their inter-party conflicts than be "rescued" from without? If so how shall we "rescue" them?

The trouble with those "official polls" which report that 82 per cent of the American people would be willing to go to war with Russian Communism is that the take no account of the fact that the defeat of Russia is only a beginning. Let the pollsters ask all the relevant questions. Then let them come back with a new report.

Richard Reid, editor of the New York Catholic News, passes on this little tidbit: Eight years ago a Protestant minister suggested that a "Secretary of Religion" be appointed as a member of the President's Cabinet.

STRANGE BUT TRUE Little-Known Facts for Catholics. By M. I. MURRAY. WITHIN 50 YEARS OF HER MARTYRDOM AT THE AGE OF 13, A BASILICA WAS ERRECTED TO STAGNOS ON THE SITE OF THE DROGHTHILL INTO WHICH HER PERSECUTORS TRIED TO FORCE HER. RAE JOHNSTONE, DEVOUT AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC Jockey, had the unique distinction of winning the English, French and Irish Derby's this year, also the Grand Prix de Paris.

Priest Traces Child Bias To Parents. New York—(NC)—Stressing the importance of the parents' job in adding good example to the lessons learned by children in school, the Rev. Francis R. Shea, principal of Father Ryan High School, Nashville, made this observation in his address on the Faith in Our Time program, carried by the Mutual Broadcasting System in cooperation with the National Council of Catholic Men: "Children who are found to be prejudiced against racial or religious groups are generally so because their parents have such prejudices. All their lives they have heard the stirring remarks about these groups. School teachers labor in vain to break down such prejudices. Such warped ideas almost always come from the same source as the color of the child's hair—the parents."

Change of Heart. Richard Reid, editor of the New York Catholic News, passes on this little tidbit: Eight years ago a Protestant minister suggested that a "Secretary of Religion" be appointed as a member of the President's Cabinet. When the founders of the nation provided for the separation of Church and State, "they had no intention of separating religion proper from government," he said, "or of crystallizing distrust in religion. On this point we have gone astray." The ministerial advocate of a Cabinet Member as Secretary of Religion eight years ago is the Rev. Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat, one of the leaders in the group which issued the "Protestant Manifesto" charging Catholics with seeking to breach "the American principle of separation of Church and State."