

Aims of Catholic Education Outlined in Pontiff's Address

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII outlined two particular objectives of the Christian schools in our days: (1) To train men of sound, secure and profound convictions who are capable of withstanding the restlessness and pressure of modern life, and (2) to train men who know how to control themselves and to defend their human and Christian dignity in the face of current moral instability.

THE HOLY FATHER set forth these two aims in an address to superiors, alumni and students of the Clerks Regular of the Religious Schools (Parish) who are commemorating the third centenary of the death of their founder, St. Joseph Calasanz, patron of the free Christian schools. They were received in audience at Castelgandolfo.

Pointing out that each age presents its own particular countenance which Christian education must necessarily meet, the Pope developed his theme as follows:

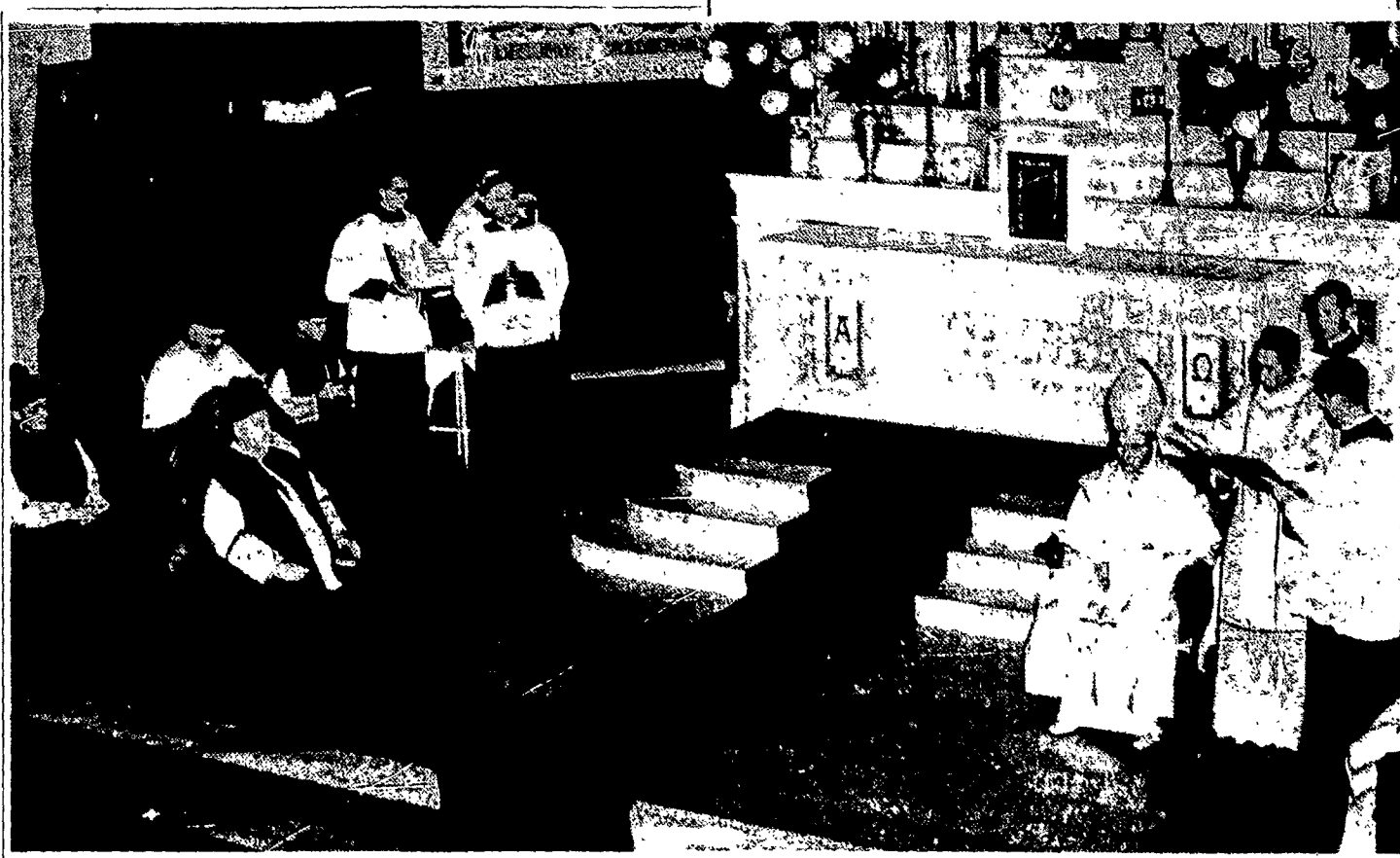
"TO COUNTERACT the restlessness, the excessive complexity, the pressure of modern life that grasps man almost totally as in a coil and does not permit him any longer to re-enter into himself; to the frenzy of easy success according to which all is judged, regardless of whether it is true, good or bad, licit or illicit. Catholic education is called upon to form the man of clear, secure, profound convictions.

"Is this not," he asked, "the voice of daily experience? Look about you. Whoever lacks firm principles is today quickly swept away by the high waves of ideological struggles. For this reason, so many glances, filled with hope, are at present turned toward the Church.

"SHE HAS behind her an admirable history of sanctity and great works, she is rich in ancient customs, beauty and sublime forms. But that in her which, more than anything else, attracts the soul is the conviction, solid as a rock, of the absolute truth of the Divine strength of that faith from which everything else receives life and value."

Turning to the second objective of Christian education the Pontiff said: "Against the moral instability toward which youth in a thousand ways, is drawn by super-culture, by books, pictures and the film, it is the task of Catholic education to oppose the man who knows how to master himself and to preserve and defend his human and Christian dignity."

Honor Scientific Book
New Rochelle, N. Y. — (NC) A book by Brother Edmond R. Kiley, mathematics professor at Iona College here, has been chosen as "book of the year" by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The volume is entitled, "Surveying Instruments. Their History and Classroom Use."



His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York presides at throne (left) as His Excellency, Bishop Kearney of Rochester, seated on faldstool, celebrates Diamond Jubilee Mass in St. Cecilia's Church, Manhattan. Bishop

Bishop Kearney Celebrates St. Cecilia's Jubilee Mass

Parish — (NC) — Intensive training and a high degree of competence as well as zeal are indispensable to those who would effectively teach the word of God, His Eminence Emmanuel Celestine Cardinal Suhard, Archbishop of Paris, said at the launching of a national campaign in France to emphasize and improve the teaching of catechism.

DECLARING THAT the need for wider and better instruction in catechism to combat the evils of secularism was urgent the Cardinal emphasized the necessity for the adequate training of teachers and the proper use of all available knowledge in forwarding the work.

"Zeal cannot dispense with ability," said Cardinal Suhard. "Seen from afar, the teaching of catechism seems simple, a matter of love and devotion. Seen closely, one learns that it is a matter of intelligence, knowledge, and skill. One teaches well only what one possesses. This law is true for adults. It is even more true for children. With them particularly it is necessary not only to know but to adapt.

"IT IS IMPORTANT, therefore, to study methodically the psychology of the child. Let us use them, without hesitation, the valuable conclusions of science, even though they upset certain of our habits and startle us out of indifference.

"Nothing would be more contrary to the spirit of the Church," he stated, "than to deny, a priori and as a whole, the contributions of experimental science concerning the child under the pretext that they frequently approach an atheistic position. Far better to examine, with a critical sense that does not exclude sympathy, the contribution of specialists on this subject, as yet so little known."

Kearney is assisted by the Rev. John E. Maney and the Rev. George S. Wood of Rochester. The Bishop is a former assistant pastor of the church now conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers.

Negro Catholic University Has Awarded 1,428 Degrees

New Orleans — (NC) — In the 23 years that Xavier University of this city, Catholic university for Negroes, has been operating, it has awarded a total of 1,428 degrees.

The present enrollment is 1,001 — 376 women and 625 men students — and it is estimated that 129 degrees will be conferred in 1949. The enrollment in 1925, when Mother Katherine Drexel founded the university was 47 — 33 women and 14 men. The highest enrollment was in 1947 when there were 1,105 students.

STUDENTS attending the university this year are from 30 States, Puerto Rico, the Canal Zone, Jamaica, British West Indies, the Virgin Islands, Trinidad and, for the first time, Africa.

Besides the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, who operate the institution, the faculty includes priests and also Negro and white lay teachers — Catholics, Protestants and Jews.

SIXTEEN members of class of 1947 can make the claim that they were taught by the same religious community from the first grade through college. They attended elementary parochial schools in New Orleans where they were taught by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, then Xavier Preparatory School and the university, where they were taught by the same community of nuns.

World War II had a tremendous influence on the university. Alumni in the nation's armed forces told fellow servicemen about their old school with the result that 450 former GI's enrolled at the university last year and 380 more are in the student body this year.

AS TO RELIGIOUS influence, the average student body is 40 per cent non-Catholic, but in the last two years there have been 65 converts among the students. Two of the alumni were ordained last summer in the Benedictine priesthood; one alumna is a cloistered Dominican and another is a novice in the same community.

A total of 528 former Xavier U. students are now engaged in the teaching profession — 24 in religious life and 504 lay teachers. Ten are teaching at the university. Thirty-three per cent of the teachers in public schools for Negroes in New Orleans are former Xavier U. students and 15 principals in these schools are Xavier U. graduates.

First U. S. Priest Goes To Liberia Post

Dedham, Mass. — (NC) — The tightening of economic and social ties between the United States and Liberia now has a counterpart in the religious sphere as Catholics of this country sent their first American-born priest-missioner to the small West African republic. He is the Rev. John J. Sheehan of Waterbury, Conn., of the Society of African Missions.

Father Sheehan and two Irish-born priests, the Revs. Dennis Cullen, S.M.A., and John J. Breslin, S.M.A., were honored at a departure ceremony at Queen of Apostles Seminary here at which Archbishop Richard J. Cushing of Boston was the principal speaker.

The assignment of the American Province of the Society of African Missions to the Liberian mission field brings the number of U. S. Catholic societies working in Africa to 30.

Pontiff Returns To Vatican

Rome — (RNS) — Pope Pius XII has returned to the Vatican after spending four months at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo. He was reported to be in fine shape for the accumulation of work that awaits him in the Vatican.

As the Pope drove from Castel Gandolfo in a black limousine along the Appian Way, he was greeted with demonstrations of affection by individuals and groups. Before leaving Castel Gandolfo, he gave a final greeting to the 4,000 villagers among whom he had spent the summer.

Paris Cardinal Launches New Catechism Work

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Non-Catholics Aid Catholics Build School

Greenville, Miss. — (NC) — "The Catholics haven't asked for this help, the non-Catholics have offered it," the Delta Democrat, Times said of the drive for the proposed new \$250,000 St. Rose de Lima School. The school is conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. The proposed building is planned to accommodate 400 children.

In a page one story with the head "For Non-Catholics Only," the newspaper says that since 1888 more than 10,000 children have attended the school, many of them non-Catholics, who went to the school "because they liked the school, the system of the teachers; in any case, they were accepted and taught by the unselfish Sisters just as the children of Catholic parents."

"Voluntarily, a non-Catholic committee under the leadership of W. T. Wynn has been established with the purpose of helping raise money for the proposed school. Mr. Wynn said that his committee regarded the drive as an opportunity for the non-Catholic community to indicate its gratitude and affection for the Catholics of Greenville."

Comic Cleanup Gets Action in Fifty Cities

Washington — (NC) — "Increasing and persistent" efforts by parent, church, and civic organizations have led nearly 50 United States communities to take some kind of action against objectionable comic books, the United States Conference of Mayors has acknowledged here.

"A MAJORITY of the cities have sought the cooperation of wholesalers and dealers in some plan of voluntary control or self-censorship," according to the conference. "Others have felt that the problem rests primarily in the home and is one of parental responsibility in controlling the type of literature Junior is allowed to read. Ordinances and resolutions setting up official censorship committees or imposing legal controls have been adopted or are pending in a number of cities."

In Detroit, one of the cities which spearheaded the campaign against crime and filth in newsstand wares, a recapitulation showed that of the 64 magazines prohibited from sale by the police department early this year, more than half have been reinstated after publishers showed in subsequent issues that they would abide by ethical regulations.

Donates \$150,000 To Home Mission Works

Chicago — (RNS) — Frank J. Lewis, prominent Catholic layman, has given \$100,000 to the Catholic Church Extension Society, home missions agency of the American Catholic bishops.

Noted for his philanthropy, Lewis, in the last few years, has given a 17-story office building valued at \$700,000 to the Jesuits for use as a downtown campus of Loyola University, and \$1,000,000 for the same university's Stritch School of Medicine.

Some years ago he gave the Chicago archdiocese the Lewis Memorial Hospital for maternal care for low-income families. He also donated the Lewis School of Technology, Lockport, Ill., to the Catholic Youth Organization.

The Conference of Mayors, in describing the nation-wide reaction against comic book excess, took note of the six-point code adopted earlier this year by the Association of Comics Magazine Publishers, but said at the same time that only 13 of 35 publishers have agreed to abide by it.

THE LARGE-SCALE Chicago crusade against evil comic books and other forms of indecent literature, conducted by the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, is still gaining momentum. An exhibit of objectionable publications has been set up at the council's headquarters and studied by national and local representatives of publishers and wholesalers and by representatives of school and parents' clubs. — A block-by-block survey of retailers' offerings is underway in connection with the drive.

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