

Theist School Alien to U.S. Traditions

Washington, N. Y. (NC)—It is "unhistorical to refer to Catholic state schools as irreligious and destined to suppress religion from education," and it is Catholicism that is alien to the American tradition.

It is not true, the author contends, that irreligiosity, irreligiosity, and historically public schools here in the United States were ever irreligious. They have always been schools of religion.

TO FURTHER their "pernicious endeavor" to "divorce education from religion," he says, the pragmatists "not only have given a false interpretation of the First Amendment to the Constitution," but have also "used every artifice at their disposal" to make the Supreme Court adopt an "unhistorical and untraditional" attitude in its McCollum Case decision.

Discussing this decision, he states that the court, "in trying to bend itself backwards to assure 'freedom of religion,'... has gone to the other extreme by denying even the possibility of it being freely imparted to our youth in the schools of the very nation which built its foundation on the trust in God and invoked Providence for the perpetuation of man's God-given rights of freedom, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Pakistan, Vatican In Diplomatic Pact

Vatican City — (NC) — The Holy See and Pakistan have agreed on the establishment of diplomatic relations, according to an announcement by the Vatican Press Office.

IN ROSARY CRUSADE FOR PEACE



Following the appeal of His Holiness Pope Pius XII, dioceses throughout the United States are participating in a special crusade of rosary prayers during the month of October.

Former Russian Orthodox Bishop Celebrates Mass At Fatima

Fatima — (NC) — A feature of the Fatima celebrations was the co-celebration of Sacred Liturgy in the Byzantine-Rite at which a former Orthodox Bishop officiated.

Celebrant was Bishop Paul Meloyev, a convert from the Russian Orthodox Church and now Ordinary for Russian Catholics in Western Europe.

Priest-Botanist Discovers Plants

Latrobe, Pa. — (RNS) — The Rev. Maximilian G. Duman, O.S.B., professor at St. Vincent College here, has returned from a 3,000-mile trip into Northern Quebec, where he studied plant life fringing the Arctic.

Manchester Diocese Holds Peace Hour

Manchester, N. H. (NC) — Described as the largest mass demonstration of faith in Manchester's 200-year history, more than 11,000 Catholics from all parts of the State took part in a Holy Hour for Peace sponsored by the Holy Name Society.

Senators Press For Action On Hospital Grants

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — Three senators joined in a demand that the Senate call up for regular debate a bill authorizing grants to sectarian hospitals in the District of Columbia before adjournment of the present session of Congress.

Senator John O. Pastore (D-R.I.) made the request of majority leader Ernest W. McFarland (D-Ariz.) after the measure was objected to for a second time on the unanimous consent calendar of the Senate.

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Irish Priest In Congress

Washington — (NC) — The Rev. Philip O'Connor, priest from County Kerry, Ireland, offered the prayer opening a session of the House of Representatives here.

Baltimore Archbishop Tells How Pontiff Delayed Prelates To Bless Dirty Urchin

Baltimore — (NC) — How Pope Pius XII once turned aside dignitaries of the Church, himself included, to give ear to the appeal of a "little fellow" for a blessing, was recounted here by Archbishop Francis P. Keough of Baltimore.



The Archbishop was celebrant of the Radio Mass for shut-ins in the chapel of Mercy Hospital here. After the Mass, he read a cablegram in which the Holy Father imparted the Apostolic Blessing upon all participants in the program.

Gandhi, 'Father Of India,' Opposed To Birth Control

Poona, India — (NC) — Social Action, a Catholic-directed publication here, quotes from many writings and statements by Mahatma Gandhi to show that his "father of India" was unalterably opposed to artificial birth control.

Franciscan General, Observes Jubilee

Rensselaer, N. Y. (NC) — The Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor, Provincial of the Most Rev. Biele M. Heas, O.F.M., observed the golden jubilee of religious profession on October 17 at a celebration at St. Anthony's Mission here.

"THE HOLY Father came to St. Peter's about six o'clock in the evening," the Archbishop narrated. "This time the Basilica was filled. Oh, filled to the walls. As soon as the Holy Father descends from his elevated throne to the Sanctuary steps, the first thing he does is to greet prelates and dignitaries who are present. On the afternoon of which I speak, the Ambassador from Vatican City to Italy, one of the most influential Archbishops in Rome, was standing beside me. Bishop Shehan (Lawrence J. Shehan, Auxiliary of Baltimore) was there. Near us were several Bishops and Archbishops from Germany, Spain, France and other European countries.

"Ordinarily the Holy Father would come right over to us, but he could not help hearing a voice directly behind me, the voice of a little fellow. He was about ten years old. His face was not clean. His little hands showed that he had just been playing. But what a voice!

"As soon as the Holy Father set foot on the Sanctuary floor, that little fellow began to cry out: 'Hi Papa! Hi Papa!' And really his voice was almost violence to your ears. But to show you what our Holy Father really is and what his blessing meant to that little fellow, the Holy Father brushed aside every one—Vatican representatives, Bishops, Archbishops, they were as nothing.

"As the little boy cried out: 'Hi Papa!' he really meant it. 'Holy Father come over here and bless me.' And the Holy Father went right over to that little boy and offered him his hand just as graciously as he would to me or to you. And the little fellow kissed his ring.

"You may remember a picture that appeared in the newspapers where I was greeting the Holy Father. The face of that little boy is between us. If you look at his eyes you appreciate what the blessing of the Holy Father meant to that little boy."

Social Action recalls the writings of Gandhi in an effort to counteract the present campaign to establish government-aided, birth-control centers throughout India. Recommendations to that effect were made by the Planning Commission of India, headed by Premier Jawaharlal Nehru.

"Contraceptives are an insult to womanhood," Gandhi said during a tour of Bengal. Social Action recalls: "It is cowardly to refuse to face the consequences of one's acts," he wrote in Harijan on April 17, 1937.

"THERE IS ONLY one noble method of birth control," Gandhi wrote in Young India on March 12, 1925. "And this is continence. Those men who are lightly advocating artificial methods cannot do better than study the subject afresh, stop their injurious activity and popularize continence for both married and unmarried."

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The Minister General of the 112th province of St. Francis of Assisi resides at the Basilica of the Twelve Apostles in Rome, and has been in this country since May to preside at the Provincial chapters of the four American provinces and to make canonical visitations.

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