

### Chicago Clergy Study Plight Of City Slums

Chicago—(NC)—Better city services, active community organizations and more effective leadership by the clergy can do much to prevent the deterioration of many big-city neighborhoods, are now undergoing.

THESE WERE the conclusions of a conference of priests held here to discuss the problem of saving parishes in blighted city areas. His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, delivered the meeting's main address. Msgr. Thomas J. Reed was moderator.

In recent years, Msgr. Reed stated, there has been increasing concern with the problem of run-down neighborhoods and their effects on the city as a whole and on community and family life.

BECAUSE OF ITS interest in strengthening family life and because of the damage to family life resulting from inadequate housing and slum conditions, he pointed out, the Church has taken particular interest in the problem.

In Chicago, he noted, Catholic concern has been apparent in the meetings held by priests to discuss the subject and in their cooperation with city officials and agencies in community improvement projects.

Burma Congress  
Bhamo, Burma—(NC)—A general Catholic congress will be held here next April under the direction of the Columban Fathers. It will mark the 80th anniversary of the arrival of the Catholic priest in upper Burma.

### St. Bernadette's Childhood Friend In 100th Year

Paris—(RNS)—The last survivor of a group of girls who grew up with St. Bernadette of Lourdes has just celebrated her 100th birthday.

She is Madame Marguerite Lurdes of Bales, near Lourdes, who was six years old when Bernadette, at 14, saw the first of 18 apparitions of the Blessed Virgin. The aged Frenchwoman said she well remembers the excitement when the miraculous spring appeared at what is now known as the grotto of the Lourdes Shrine.

Since that time Madame Lurdes has seen Lourdes develop into a religious center visited by a million pilgrims each year.

The centenarian heads a family of 40, including 17 great-grandchildren, to whom she often recounts her childhood friendship with Bernadette of Lourdes.

### Community Aid To College Asked

### 'Charity Begins At Home,' John Fisher College President Tells Chamber Forum

(Following is the text of an address delivered by the Very Rev. John F. Murphy, president of St. John Fisher College, at the Education Forum Luncheon at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, December 9, 1952.)

St. John Fisher College has as its objective the preparation for society of an intelligent, trained, God-fearing group of graduates who will enter enthusiastically into all phases of life in this community and help to strengthen America against the inroads of Communism, Statism or any other alien doctrine.



Father Murphy

We are 1 year, 3 months and 9 days old. Time, the great healer of broken hearts, will age us. Until lately, I had thought the first hundred years were the hardest, but talking to a colleague at a recent convention he implied that the second century was even more perilous. At this moment, the only consolation is an absence of interference from the alumni.

Though we are young, though we have had no graduates yet, we are not groping for a set of concepts to guide us. We are not sitting through husks for the seeds of a Philosophy of education.

WE DRAW on an ancient Christian tradition—a tradition that mothered the great Universities and seats of learning of the past. Our end product must be the Christian Gentleman. That product must not simply be the "good man" of Aristotle, for his theory of education was formulated under the candle-light of reason, not the floodlight of faith. That product must not be the perfection of Jean Jacques Rousseau's "natural man"—the noble savage.

On the other hand, we do not think that a curriculum should revolve exclusively around heavenly things. It should take in the whole aggregate of human life, physical and spiritual; intellectual and moral; individual, domestic and social. Truth, goodness, beauty, discipline, character, these are the basic elements. And, coloring, penetrating, dyed in the very fibre of the course of studies is a basic awareness of first things. Our philosophy of education can be summed up in a monosyllabic word—God. The graduate must earn a living and he must make that living livable.

ST. JOHN FISHER College is not a Seminary, for preparing candidates for the priesthood, but a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for the training of Chemistry majors, professional men, accountants, etc. The Church related College was the convention rather than the novelty in the history of American education. Too long have we lived side by side to question the mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's work in the field of education.

We merely exercise our fundamental prerogative of freedom—The private school is surely a natural product of private enterprise. As soon as private enterprise is stifled, then will America no longer be the land of the free. The free, unregulated school and college may well be not the product of free enterprise, only, but one of its surest defenders. Regimentation would not rest easily upon the shoulders of men who have breathed the air of liberty.

When we speak of a man as "educated" we imply that he has completed a certain process or program; just as when we say "the egg is cooked" we imply that the process is completed and the egg may be turned off. The process of education referred to is generally admitted to include two things, the acquisition of knowledge and the development and refinement of soul consequent on this knowledge.

Now neither of these processes can ever be completed—Knowledge is illimitable, the little that even the most learned man can know is infinitely small. Besides—the soul of man is of unlimited capacity, as regards refinement, achievement and power. Everyone assembled here for this luncheon appreciates these truths. You appreciate them or you would not be here. The moment you think you "know it all" that moment you have failed. . . have died, even if you won't lie down.

An awareness of this indicates the closeness that should exist between the community and its institutions of higher learning. Too often the Colleges have been looked on merely as breeding pens for young talent, as hot houses, where you can find replacements for tired, outmoded personnel.

IDEALLY, THE closest cooperation, mutual sympathy and inspiration should exist between a community and its educational institutions. These institutions will be as strong, as useful, as help-

your youngest College is to grow and do for this community the work you want it to do.

Across America countless colleges are feeling the constrictions of financial need. You may have noted in Newsweek magazine two weeks ago an article treating of the rise of regional associations, the purpose of which is to persuade industry and corporations to support higher education. Only three-tenths of one percent of the allowable five percent deduction for charitable and philanthropic contributions have been made. If that five percent were diverted to higher education, the plight of the colleges would be eased.

I have mentioned the rise of Regional Associations for soliciting funds. May I emphasize that charity begins at home. The outlet for Rochester giving should be Rochester. Your own institutions need your support. Eighty percent of the leaders of contemporary American life have come from colleges of Liberal Arts. These colleges will not be permitted to fail. From Federal Aid interference, Lord deliver us!

An educator looking out over the troubled waters of the mid-20th century is bound to be filled with a deep sense of humility at the magnitude of the task that lies ahead. He has no quick panacea, no shallow optimism, suggests no easy egress from the predicament of this world. He knows, of course that ideas, dynamic ideas, ultimately prevail. He looks back a hundred years to the 1850's and sees three tremendous movements launched: One by Karl Marx, one by Charles Darwin, another by John Stuart Mill. These were the sires of modern communism, materialism, totalitarianism and pessimism. The Myth of Progress has surely evaporated. Unless it be restricted to progress in destruction.

ANYONE UNDER 20 years of age has never seen a newspaper whose headlines were not eloquently of war. This is the age group now in college. This is the raw material out of which the colleges must fashion the leaders of tomorrow. From whose leaders, I hope and pray, will come other dynamic ideas and radiant zeal and conviction to remake of this world a fit place for free men to inhabit.

It will be later than we came to think. The word has become alarming, frighteningly small and whether we like to think of it or not we are our brothers' keeper. It is an excellent thing to see the leaders of this community assembled here to discuss the problems of education. It indicates a total marshalling of all forces for a cause, transcending the limits of our city, our nation and embracing a world. And as the reward of our corporate struggle and mutual interest is the Holy Grail of Peace!

### KGOREA-ADOPT-A-FAMILY



"Food Bags for Korea" are presented by Camp Fire Girls, Arline Carlson and Marie Colucci to Miss Slight Kennedy, director of the Korean project of War Relief Services N.G.W.C., in its New York warehouse. The bags will serve as containers for the food now being distributed to thousands of Korean's needy and will later be used to make children's clothes there. Camp Fire Girls' groups in many states are cooperating in the Korea Adopt-A-Family food program sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Women. (NC Photos).

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### Two Bequests Aid Catholic Institutions

Philadelphia—(NC)—Catholic institutions will receive two bequests amounting to more than \$66,000, according to wills filed for probate here.

In his will William J. McGrath, 59, who died Nov. 5 in the U. S. Naval Hospital here, stated: "I have a total of \$4523. I wish to explain it is the curse of the earth so I leave the rest (after \$1200 for burial) to St. John's Orphan Asylum and St. Francis (de Sales) School, Edgington."

The entire \$63,914 estate of John E. Kervin, 62, who died March 4, was left to Catholic charities, his will filed for probate last week disclosed. A later will had been set aside.

**GOD LOVE YOU!**  
By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

CHRISTMAS is not a historical event like the Battle of the Marne—something that happened once and will not happen again. Christmas is something that must happen over and over again if the world is to have peace. In Bethlehem, God became flesh; God asked Mary through the angel to give Him a human nature with which He could pray, suffer and redeem the world. That union of God and man was the first of Bethlehem. In the continuing Bethlehem, the angels of grace ask each of us if we, like another Mary, will give to our Lord our own human nature, so that He may so possess it as the truth of our minds, the love of our hearts, the first of our bodies. Not of course that we would be united to Jesus as closely as the human nature He took from Mary, but that we would nevertheless be made partakers of His Divine nature through grace and be in the truest sense of the word "Other Christ". It can readily be seen that it does not profit the world to have Christ born in Bethlehem unless He is also born in our hearts. The Son of God became Man that we might be adopted sons of God.

If the redemption of our twentieth century war-wrecked world is to be brought out, that Spirit which dwelt in Jesus, that complete merging of His human will with the will of His Father, that passionate love for all men and all peoples must become our common inheritance and our inmost possession.

Gracious indeed it is on this anniversary of the birth of our savior to be kind to our friends by giving them gifts, but there is no real Christmas until we bring gifts to the Babe Himself—the gift of ourselves expressed in sacrifice. He does not want what we have; He wants what we are. But He cannot live in us unless we empty ourselves of our selfishness and egotism. Otherwise we are like the inn at Bethlehem—so full of the world there is no room for Him. On this Christmas He can enter only the empty places like the abandoned stables.

Would you empty yourself of a substantial sacrifice to the poor missions of the year in order to bring to them the love of Jesus and Mary? We want you to have a Merry Christmas. But we also know that we cannot be merry so long as we are like an inn. Give your egotism a glorious self-defeat by a sacrifice. Cut out this paragraph, clip your sacrifice to it and mail it to the Most Reverend Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 166 East 33rd Street, New York 16, New York or your Diocesan Director Very Rev. Msgr. John S. Randall, 54 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York.

These people will have a Merry Christmas. GOD LOVE YOU to E. O. who sold coffee and rolls to her fellow workers and sent their money (\$10) to the Missions. . . GOD LOVE YOU to E. A. W. who sent \$28.17 to the Missions in thanksgiving to God for His blessings and in reparation for his sins. . . GOD LOVE YOU to M. A. P., 10 years old, whose muffins at the County Fair won a blue ribbon and an award of \$2 which she has sent to the Missions. . . GOD LOVE YOU to E. A. C. "We are in the bakery business and the doughnuts were very low in production so I promised that we would give one cent for every dozen we would make. Since we made 1,255 dozens enclosed is a check for \$1255." . . GOD LOVE YOU to M. M. F. "This check (\$8.00) represents 50 a day set aside in the name of my husband as a birthday gift." . . GOD LOVE YOU to Mr. and Mrs. C. Z. for \$10 which they sacrificed by buying lower priced shoes.

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