DeMille Denies Pressure From Catholic Church

Washington — (NC) — A prominent motion picture magnate who is also an Episcopalian and a 32nd-degree Mason, has taken issue with remarks made in a Masonic journal, "The New Age," in which a writer denounced what he called "the sinister hand of Rome in the movies."

Cecil B. deMille, producer and director, has labelled the remarks "untrue and unfair."

In a recent issue of "The New Age," published here by the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, a writer charged that a "Rome-inspired" Hollywood practice has been depicting Catholic religious scenes with "dignity and respect," and portraying Protestant religious scenes as if "to cast ridicule and satire on the entire service."

THE EDITORIAL comments were signed "E.R."; who was identified by a spokesman at the magazine's editorial office as Elmer Rogers, a member of The New Age's editorial staff.

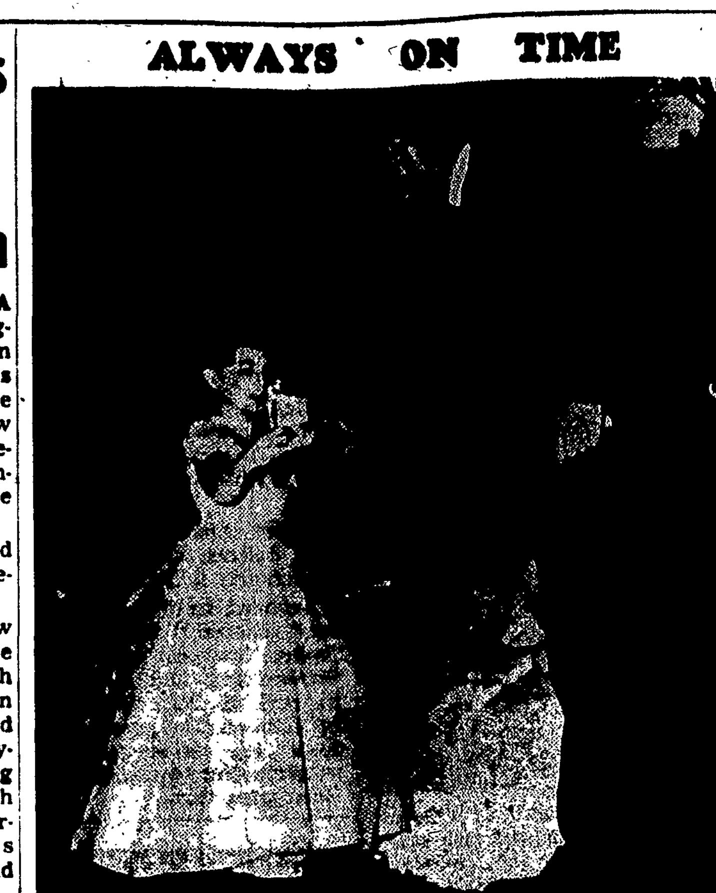
He named four recent films as examples: "Quo Vadis" — it depicted St. Peter in Rome and mentioned "Vatican Hill," a "baffling effrontery"; "The Great Caruso"—the singer was shown singing an Ave Maria at a Midnight Mass; "The Greatest Show on Earth," a circus picture which, in one scene, showed a Catholic priest blessing a departing circus train; and "The African Queen," in which a Methodist service was "made to appear farcical."

IT WAS THE reference to "The Greatest Show On Earth" that drew deMille's fire. He directed and produced the picture.

In his letter to "The New Age," he notes that there is no reason why he should be accused of making "Roman Catholic propaganda."

DeMille adds: "No Roman Catholic has ever so much as suggested the inclusion of Roman Catholic propaganda in any of my pictures." If such a suggestion had been made, he said, "it would have been firmly rejected."

ALWAYS ON TIME



PERFECT ATTENDANCE for the past school year at St. Patrick's School, Mt. Morris brings award to Mary Anne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cottone from the Rev. Robert H. Fennessy, pastor. A member of the kindergarten class she is one of 28 pupils of the school to receive the award. (Versage Studio photo)

'White Gypsy' Operetta Features Commencement

By FRED BEUERLEIN

Mt. Morris—A capacity crowd attended the annual entertainment and graduation exercises at St. Patrick's School auditorium last Wednesday evening, June 17.

The operetta "The White Gypsy" presented by the pupils of the school was well received and much praise was given to the Sisters of St. Joseph who directed and trained the children for this annual event.

It was given in two parts and during the intermission the audience was entertained by the Rhythm Band made up of the first and second graders.

FOLLOWING THE entertainment, the colorful graduation exercises was held for the class of 1953. The Rev. Robert H. Fenessy, pastor, made the presentation of the class and awarded the diplomas and prizes. The program was concluded with an address to the graduates given by Father Fennessy.

The annual awards were given as follows: Highest Average award given in memory of the late Dr. William T. Shanahan was given to Thelma George who had an average of 95%. Highest percent obtained in Citizenship Education given to Phillip Lahue for obtaining 98 in the final test. This award was made possible by the Gerace Coal Company.

The award given for Cooperation and School Activities was awarded to Joan Richter and Jennie Macchirella. Altar Boy awards were given to Phillip Lahue, Charles Martello and Patrick Winters all members of the 1953 class.

Twenty-six students earned 100% in the final examination in Religion and Darla Tr... won the drawing for the annual award given by Dansville Council of the Knights of Columbus. Awards were given to 28 students who had a perfect attendance at school during the past year.

Dauntless Damien

A recent letter from Father Caitumapilly, director of the DAMIEN INSTITUTE in India is heartbreaking. He tells us that "in our state of the 50,000 lepers, there are 10,000 contagious cases requiring isolation and treatment, but only 1,600 are in the four hospitals. The rest wander through the streets of big towns helpless and homeless. They cook their food in parks and market places. They pollute the tanks and wells by bathing and washing their clothes. They sleep on the verandahs of shops and houses. There is no more room in the state hospital, and no government funds for a new hospital. Thus, the public, especially the Catholics, must feed, house, clothe and give medical aid to them. Hence, the Damien Institute was founded. Over 200 of the 1,000 lepers in this town need hospitalization." He describes what they need: hospital, dispensary, work house, recreation hall, shop, laboratory, bungalow for a doctor, quarters for workers, and a chapel and convent. Also, personnel (a doctor and two Sisters to start), medicines, instruments and apparatus.

What a colossal task to undertake! What tremendous courage and heroic trust in God must this great priest have to give him the heart even to try it. We can only thank God there are such great souls. Won't you help him? Every little mite will help. Your LEPER FUND dollars go to him. A medical kit costs $75. The lepers plead, "Lord, help me." The Lord answers, "I will" THROUGH YOU.

HOLY FATHER AND YOU

YOUR MEMBERSHIPS are precious support for the Holy Father's missions in 18 Near East lands. Members share in 15,000 Masses every year, including a daily Mass at the Vatican, and have several days each month for the gaining of special plenary indulgences. Deceased are also enrolled. Individuals: $1 a year, $20 perpetual. Families: $5 a year, $100 perpetual. Enroll yourself, relative or friend today.

For over five years our wonderful Holy Father has been dispensing every kind of charity to more than 850,000 Arab refugees from Palestine. Monsignor McMahon is President of the Pontifical Mission and spent four years in their midst, organizing it and setting it in operation. Fr. Tuohy represents him there now. Our latest pamphlet "Sufficient Unto the Day" tells this great story. Ask for it when you send an alms to the REFUGEE FUND.

GRASS-ROOTS CHURCH

The Church must be native if it is to thrive in a new land. A native clergy make it a native Church. CHRYSOSTOMS is our $1-a-month club supporting our Near East seminaries. Won't you join today? You can help no greater charity. Perhaps you'd like to "adopt a priest" by giving one his yearly tuition ($100) for each of his six years training. You may give weekly $2, monthly $8.35, quarterly $25, or all at once.

FATIMA IS FOREVER

Our need of Mary's love will go on forever in this life. So, too, should our expression of love for Her. We must do it in both word and DEED. Your mite for Her new FATIMA CHAPEL in JORDAN will not escape Her notice and Her love will quickly overtake you.

BROTHERS

We must continue to make strong appeals for the novitiate in India for our Brothers. Our missions would be sorely crippled without their treasured assistance. Financial straits are threatening to close its doors. We need $200 to support each for his one year training course.

SISTERS

The lifelong grateful prayers and years of missionary toils await the generous hearts who will help three poor girls with the Nazareth Sisters in Beyrouth. Sisters Nazireh, Genevieve and Joan each need $150 for the one year left of training. Won't you help one? Give in any installments.

MAKE ROOM FOR GOD IN YOUR WILL. REMEMBER HIS MISSIONS.

SACRED HEART SHRINE

Sister Beatrice, Superior of the Poor Clares at Chalakudy, India, is still carrying a debt of $800 on the shrine built at the convent, which serves also as a church for the neighboring Catholics. For a poor community in a very poor country such a sum is crushing. She writes that she can see no relief in sight. Have you a kind thought for these Sisters?

UNWANTED HEROINES

We have pleaded without avail for those gallant young ladies, our lay missionaries now laboring in Jordan. Gloriously giving their lives for Christ's banner, they merit at least a notice. We need furniture and equipment for the "new team" in Zarka. Haven't you a small gift for them?

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NEW And NOW

By ROBERT SMITT

For the first time in two years, the Legion of Decency has condemned a Hollywood film being distributed through a major outfit.

"The Moon Is Blue," taken from the Broadway play starring Barbara Bel Geddes, has received the "C" rating from the Legion. The film was produced independently by Otto Preminger and F. Hugh Herbert, for distribution by United Artists.

The condemnation is for the following reason: "The subject matter of this picture in its substance and manner of presentation seriously offends and tends to deny or ignore Christian and traditional standards of morality and decency and dwells hardly without variation upon suggestiveness in situations and dialogue."

THIS CONDEMNATION, as in every case when the Legion takes such decisive action, is predicated upon the film's potential immoral influence. While not avowedly salacious, "The Moon Is Blue" is, in the opinion of the Legion, most dangerous to the moral welfare of film theatre audiences in the light and comical treatment and disrespect of the virtue of purity.

Now here are some facts which led up to the Legion's action. Before filming began, the Legion informed United Artists that unless substantially revised, the picture would be condemned. They were told that no revisions would be made.

In fact, the picture was made with very few changes from the Broadway play. As a play script it was rejected by two major studios — Paramount and Warner Brothers.

HOWEVER, UNABLE to sell the script, the playwright, F. Hugh Herbert, in association with the director, Otto Preminger, produced the picture independently.

The Production Code Administration, "the self-regulatory arm of the Motion Picture Association" (which has nothing to do with the Legion or the Church), warned the producers against the play and eventually refused to give it a Code Seal.

The producers appealed this to the Board of Directors of the Motion Picture Association — and the Board sustained the Production Code Authority.

Newspapers, smelling revolution and greedy for copy, alleged that this case would be used to destroy the Code operation knowing that the Production Code Administration is the first bastion of strength in preserving proper moral standards in motion pictures.

Therefore by inference the strength of the Legion is going to be tested by the commercial success or non-success of this film.

OTTO PREMINGER, the director, who must be a real oaf, is quoted in the press as saying that popular consent will determine the morality of his film. How about that?

Louella Parsons wrote in her column a week ago: "The entire thing is off for MGM to star Ava Gardner and Kirk Douglas in 'Ember Days,' a story presenting a priest in a questionable light.

"At first the MGM heads planned to beat a sure ban from the Legion of Decency by a complete re-write job, but it certainly was not the intention of the studio to offend anyone. Sam Zimbalist, the producer, was wise to cancel the project.

"No studio, these days, wishes to duplicate the trouble 'The Moon Is Blue is having with the Johnston office and the Legion of Decency. Money is too tight."

So, popular consent determines morality, which in turn is dependent on whether or not it can be afforded!

OF COURSE, all sorts of confusion will arise when stock companies begin to do the play, "The Moon Is Blue." The Legion has condemned the movie, but the play was found only partly objectionable by the Catholic Theatre Movement.

Finger Lakes Lyric Circus opened this week in Skaneateles with their first 1953 production, "Vagabond King". Eleven other musical hits will run weekly until Sept. 13.

THE LYRIC CIRCUS is the only musical tent theatre in New York State. Performances are given in an arena setting, staged with full orchestra, top Broadway casts, corps de ballet and the original Broadway scores.

Skaneateles is about 74 miles from Rochester by routes 5 and 20. The schedule calls for performances every evening except Monday and offers a Saturday matinee.

Tickets may be obtained by writing to the Box Office Treasurer, Finger Lakes Lyric Circus, Skaneateles, N.Y.

The remainder of the summer schedule is as follows. Sally, June 30-July 5; Student Prince, July 7-12; Brigadoon, July 14-19; Chocolate Soldier, July 21-26; Call Me Madam, July 28-Aug. 2; Blossom Time, Aug. 4-9; Sweethearts, Aug 11-16; Carousel, Aug. 18-23; Song of Norway, Aug. 25-30. Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Sept. 1-6; Rose Marie, Sept. 8-13.

Movie Guide

Rochester

PARAMOUNT
Sangaree B

PALACE
South Sea Woman B
Jalopy A 1

REX ART
Lavender Hill Mob A 1

Junior Chamber Turns Down 'Moon Is Blue'

San Francisco —(NC)— The San Francisco Junior Chamber of Commerce, "in the interest of good taste," canceled its sponsorship of the Western premiere of the motion picture "The Moon Is Blue," scheduled here June 25.

The action was taken when the Jaycees were informed that the film was condemned by the Legion of Decency and had not received the seal of approval of Hollywood's Production Code Administration (Johnston Office).

THE PREMIERE was arranged several months ago as a feature of the eighth congress of the Junior Chamber International here, June 20-27. Proceeds from the event were to be presented to the Damon Runyon Memorial Cancer Fund.

After the Junior Chamber announcement it was learned that the Runyon Fund also severed connections with "The Moon Is Blue."

Following is the complete statement issued by the local Junior Chamber of Commerce:

"**IN CONJUCTION** with the business sessions of the eighth world congress of Junior Chamber International to be held in San Francisco June 20-27, a series of recreational activities was arranged for the entertainment of visiting delegates. Among these events was a Western premiere of the film "The Moon Is Blue."

"San Francisco Junior Chamber of Commerce, host to the JCI congress, acting in perfect faith, arranged with the distributors of this film to present a gala evening of entertainment in connection with the premiere.

"**AFTER THESE** arrangements were completed and publicity had been released, the San Francisco Junior Chamber was advised by the board of directors of the San Francisco Motion Picture Council that the film does not have the industry seal of approval and is therefore unacceptable to the council.

"In the interests of good taste, the San Francisco Junior Chamber of Commerce has withdrawn sponsorship from the scheduled performance."

Rosary Leaders Set On Auburn's WMBO

Saturday, June 27 — William Bishop, St. Aloysius;

Sunday, June 28 — Donald Crawford, St. Alphonsus;

Monday, June 29 — Charles Heacox, St. Hyacinth;

Tuesday, June 30 — Andrew Chowaney, St. Peter and Paul;

Wednesday, July 1 — Edward Pines, St. Mary;

Thursday, July 2 — Andrew Boglioni, St. Francis;

Friday, July 3 — Bernard Cullen, Holy Family.

Television Director Named By NCCM

Washington —(NC)— Appointment of Richard J. Walsh, who has been associated with the radio and television department of Young & Rubicam, New York advertising agency, to be director of television for the National Council of Catholic Men was announced here by Martin H. Work, NCCM executive secretary.

Walsh is a graduate of Fordham University and has been active in theatrical and television work.

Family Radio Rosary Leaders

The following will be heard on WSAY at 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 27—Harold L. Knauf, Church of the Assumption;

SUNDAY, June 28—John Kreazer, St. Michael, accompanied by the Daughters of Mary of St. Michael;

Monday, June 29 — Howard Long, Holy Rosary, accompanied by members of the Young Adults' Club of Holy Rosary;

Tuesday, June 30—Charles R. Milne, St. Jerome, E. Rochester, accompanied by members of the Rochester Chapter, St. Bonaventure Alumni Association;

Wednesday, July 1—Dr. Thomas F. Gallagher, St. Louis, Pittsford;

Thursday, July 2—George E. Barry, Holy Apostles, accompanied by members of the Laymen's Retreat League of Holy Apostles;

Friday, July 3—Dr. John J. Butler, St. John the Evangelist.

Roseland Park Vaudeville Opens At Canandaigua

Free outdoor vaudeville acts, for many years a popular feature at Roseland Park, Canandaigua, return for the 1953 summer season with the appearance of the Chambertys who open a week's engagement Monday, June 29.

This free outdoor entertainment will be presented in a beautiful new setting on the shore of Canandaigua Lake where for many weeks bulldozers and other heavy equipment have been working on a major filling and beautifying project.

THIS development has added several thousand square feet of space along the lake shore to provide a magnificent setting for staging and viewing entertainment as well as enjoying the cool comfort and wonderful scenery afforded by Canandaigua Lake, according to William W. Muar, park manager.

The Chambertys, who open the 1953 season in the beautiful new "theater by the lake", are a French acrobatic team who perform on the horizontal bars. The two male members of the troupe also present a comedy boxing act. Performances are scheduled nightly at 8 and 10:30, with an extra matinee at 4 p.m. on Sunday and holidays.

ALL OF THE rides, games, and other attractions at Roseland Park are now in operation. These include the popular miniature train, sky ride, kiddieland, speed boat rides on the lake, boat rides through the lagoon, and a new attraction this year of particular appeal to the youngsters ... a paddock of riding horses and ponies.

Practical Work In Radio, TV Said Needed

Los Angeles,—(NC)—It takes 10 years to train a person competently an efficiently for radio or television work delegates to the National Catholic Broadcaster's Association convention were told here.

The speaker was Dr. William H. Sener, director of telecommunications for the Alan Hancock Foundation.

Sister M. Rosalie of Pittsburgh, CBA secondary school chairman, along with other speakers stressed the need for practical training at radio and TV studios rather than classroom instructions for students.

And to give the delegates a practical demonstration, the initial workshop of the convention was held at the Don Martin School of Radio and TV in Hollywod. Following the question period, delegates were televised and had an opportunity to see how they looked on TV.

Legion of Decency Listings

CLASS A-1 — Unobjectionable for General Patronage

Beast from 20,000 Fathoms, The; Bright Road; By the Light Of The Silvery Moon; Call Me Madam; Code Two; Confidentially Connie; Desert Legion; Desert Rats, The; Desert Song, The; Destination Gobi; 5000 Fingers of Dr. T.; Fort Vengeance; Francis Covers The Big Town; Ghost of Cross Bone Canyon; Glory Brigade, The; Gold Town Ghost Riders; Great Sioux Uprising, The; Homesteaders, The; Hondo; H... ane of Pilgrim Hill; Invaders from Mars; Jalopy; Julius Caesar; Kansas Pacific; Lady Wants Mink, The; Lone Hand; Last of the Comanches; Lure of the Wilderness; Ma and Pa Kettle on Vacation; Man from the Alamo, The; Marshal's Daughter; Marshal of Cedar Rock; Medal of Honor; Never Let Me Go; Off Limits; Old Overland Trail; Peter Pan; Phantom From Space; Raiders of the Seven Seas; Rogue's March; Saginaw Trail; Savage Mutiny; Savage Trail; Scared Stiff; Secret Conclave, The; Silver Whip, The; Slaves of Babylon; Small Town Girl; Stars Are Singing, The; Stooge, The; Tangier Incident; Tarzan and The She-Devil; Thunderbirds; Torpedo Alley; War of The Worlds; White Witch Doctor; Wherever She Goes; Winning of the West; Young Bess

CLASS A-2 — Unobjectionable for Adults

Affairs of Dobie Gillis; Against All Flags; All I Desire; Angel Street; Bandits of Corsica; Beautiful but Dangerous; Bellissima; Below The Sahara; Big Break, The; Big Frame, The; Break-Up; Bwana Devil; City of Bad Men; Cry The Beloved Country; Dancing with Crime; Dangerous When Wet; Dream Wife; Eight Iron Men; Farmer Takes A Wife; Fast Company; Fighter, The; Flying Squadron; Fort Ti; Four Poster; Girl Who Had Everything, The; Girls of Pleasure Island, The; Hangman's Knot; Hitch Hiker, The; House of Wax; Juggler, The; Keepers of The Night; Last Posse, The; Law and Order; Lawless Breed, The; [illegible]; Little World of Don Camillo, The; Man on A Tightrope; My Man and I; Man in The Dark; Naked Spur, The; Night Without Stars; No Holds Barred; Outpost in Malaya; Perilous Journey, A; Pony Express; Powder River; Ring Around The Clock; Scandal at Scourie; Seminole; She's Back on Broadway; Sombrero; Somebody Loves Me; Split Second; Stalag 17; Stormbound; Story of Mandy, The; Story of 3 Loves, The; Sudden Fear; Thunder Bay; Titanic; Tomorrow Is Too Late; Tonight at 8:30; Train of Events; Trouble Along The Way; Valley of the Eagles; Untamed Frontier; What Price Glory!; Without Warning

CLASS B — Objectionable in Part

Abbott & Costello Go to Mars; Ambush at Tomahawk Gap; Arrowhead; Battle Circus; Blackbeard the Pirate; City That Never Sleeps; Come Back Little Sheba; Counterfeiters, The; Daughter of Darkness; Desperate Search, The; Devotion; Don't Bother To Knock; [illegible]; Duel Without Honor; Gunsmoke; Man Behind The Gun; Mississippi Gambler; Moulin Rouge; My Wife's Best Friend; Never Wave at A WAC; One Girl's Confession; Pickup on South Street; President's Lady, The; Prince of Pirates; Rome, 11 o'clock; Shiome; Sangaree; Sea Devils; Serpent of the Nile; Slight Case of Larceny, A; South Sea Woman; Strange Witness; System, The; Thief of Damascus; Woman They Almost Lynched

CLASS C — Condemned

Moon Is Blue, The

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