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High Court Movie Ruling Leaves Censors Confused; Action Labeled Vague

The Supreme Court decision on two motion pictures has left censors in a half-dozen states and some 50 cities shaking their heads confusedly and looking to the justices to explain just what the decision means.

Abp. O'Hara Scores Court Film Decision

Philadelphia (NC) — The Supreme Court has ruled that the States may label as poison only what affects the body, not that which can destroy the soul.

By harking back to a 1952 decision on "The Miracle," the Supreme Court justices called these grounds vague and indefinite.

AN ANALYSIS of the court's action by the National Council of Catholic Men concluded that the court was "half guilty of vagueness."

Sent to NCCM affiliates, the analysis said: "No one, not even constitutional lawyers, is prepared to state the exact meaning of the ruling, or what implications it holds."

"This decision, per se, does not directly affect the right of states and municipalities to refuse to license motion pictures which violate their statutes. It does not invalidate state or municipal censorship."

"However, it is reasonable to assume it will leave state and local government censorship bodies in doubt as to the legality of their action in censoring motion pictures. This may result in a reluctance on the part of censorship bodies to censor on the basis of 'immorality,' 'obscenity,' and 'incitement to crime.'"

"The states now having censorship boards are Kansas, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts."

Representatives of the censoring bodies of the five states met in New York City to study the Supreme Court decision and discuss its meaning. In a statement released during the meeting they said "we must have another ruling in some other case from the Supreme Court to get better elucidation. But assuredly there will be other cases. In two weeks the court did not rule on the major contention that motion pictures should be free of all censorship."

THE MAJORITY of the Supreme Court did not go along with a separate but concurring opinion by Justices William O. Douglas and Hugo L. Black. Their opinion, written by Justice Douglas, held that all movie censorship is unconstitutional.

"While we can hope that the majority of film companies will continue to respect and welcome censorship, we cannot rest there," Archbishop O'Hara stated in his letter. He further declared:

"REJOICING FROM Hollywood this week indicates that not all men in the industry are decent. Parents must now become more acutely aware of their responsibility to the children God has entrusted to them and of the fact that their responsibility is primary. This is an obligation of the natural law and affects all parents, not Catholics only. The Church will continue to help as in the past. The lists of the Legion of Decency will be available for motion picture classification; so will be lists of the National Organization for Decency in Literature, for periodical publications."

"The vigilance of parents and of Catholic societies will have to take over much of the work of the censored state agencies. The Holy Name Society and the Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary or some other society in each parish will have to appoint committees to make known to the purveyors of unwholesome entertainment and improper publications that Catholic parents are forbidden to cooperate with them in their corrupting practices. Meet the challenge to your decency."

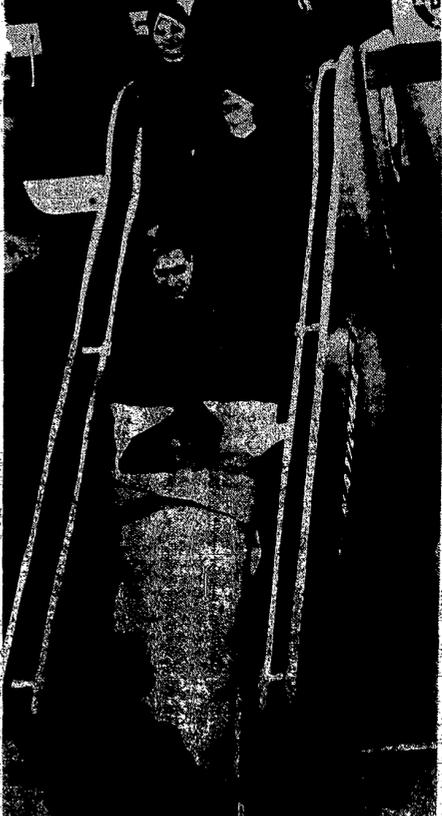
Concluding his letter he urged individuals to "arouse in your hearts the sacramental graces of Matrimony, and increase them by frequent Holy Communion, especially by Family Communion on the Saturdays of the Marian Year. The Supreme Court has underscored your duty of conscience. Be prepared to meet it in the fullest degree."

Jasper, Ind. (NC) — A suit will be filed in the spring in an attempt to halt the employment of nuns as public school teachers in southern Indiana's Dubois County, which is predominantly Catholic.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF the proposed legal action already has had repercussions. Robert E. Menke of Evansville, Ind., has announced he will not be a candidate for the State Senator because of the "governmental-religious issue now rife in Dubois County." He said he decided against making the race because "my position might be interpreted as being a strictly political one."

Mr. Menke is a Methodist and a nephew of Emel Menke, of Holland, Ind., who will be one of the plaintiffs in the pending suit. The State legislator made it plain that he did not agree with his uncle on the school issue.

POLIO STRICKEN NUN



Idelwild, N. Y. — Sister Mary Ormer of Fort Wayne Ind., a Maryknoll nun stricken with polio last October while teaching in a jungle mission in Liberia, Bolivia, is carried down a plane ramp at Idelwild Airport after a flight from the States to her home country, accompanied by her sisters Miriam Williams (left) and Marie Marquette, who rode in an ambulance with the stricken nun to St. Vincent's Hospital where she will receive treatment. Sister Ormer said she was confident of her recovery from polio "with the aid of prayer." (RNS-Photo)

Kansans Seek Movie Of Heroic Priest

Timken, Kan. (RNS) — Petitions urging that a major Hollywood studio film the life story of the Rev. Emil J. Kapaun, a Roman Catholic chaplain who died in a North Korean prison camp in 1951, are being circulated throughout central Kansas.

Father Kapaun served Holy Trinity Church here for only six months before re-entering the chaplaincy in 1948, but his memory is known and loved throughout Barton, Rush and Marion Counties.

The story of the heroic chaplain was first told last September by three American officers who were freed from a North Korean camp.

which only stipulates that religious instruction should be given on released time and on premises away from the school," the Representative said.

Dr. Glenn E. Archer, POAU executive director, in an address at a meeting of the Southern Indiana Free Public School Committee, a POAU affiliate organized to push the bill, in Evansville, expressed alarm over the apathetic attitude of Protestants toward the pending litigation.

N. Y. Auxiliary Named To Ogdensburg

Washington (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has named Bishop Walter P. Kellenberg, Auxiliary of New York, to be Bishop of Ogdensburg, N. Y., and Monsignor Joseph Annabring, Rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral, Superior, Wis., to be Bishop of Superior, and Bishop John P. Cody, Auxiliary of St. Louis, to be Coadjutor with right of succession to Bishop Charles Hubert LeBlond of St. Joseph, Mo.

Announcements were made here on Wednesday by the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Amleto Cicognani.

BISHOP KELLENBERG was born in New York City in 1901, ordained there in 1928 and elevated to the hierarchy in 1953. He has been a member of the Archdiocesan Curia since 1934 and secretary to Cardinal Spellman from 1947 to 1950.

MONSIGNOR ANNABRING was born at Szaparyiget, Hungary in 1900. He studied at St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, Montreal Seminary and St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. Ordained in 1927, he has been attached to Sacred Heart Cathedral in Superior virtually all of his priestly life.

BISHOP CODY was born in St. Louis in 1907, ordained in Rome in 1931, elevated to the hierarchy in 1947.

Lincoln's Birthday Dispensation Granted

By virtue of special dispensation from the Holy See, His Excellency Bishop Kearney grants a dispensation from abstinence to the faithful of the Diocese of Rochester, on Friday, Feb. 19, 1954, Lincoln's Birthday.

The faithful are invited to perform some act of piety on that day in gratitude for the dispensation.

'Little Joe' The Wetback Returns To Los Angeles

Los Angeles (NC) — Last May, Los Angeles police arrested Little Joe, a teen-age Mexican alien, who had come to Los Angeles in a box car, unlike the thousands of other "wetbacks" who sneak across the border in search of work in orchards and fields. Little Joe had come in search of an education.

Fifteen days before he was to graduate from St. Turibius School, he was packing a lunch to go on the school picnic when two policemen grabbed him and said "The jig's up, Joe. You've got to go back to Tijuana!"

Bishop Kearney To Offer First Public Mass In 'Old' Rochester Since St. John Fisher's Death

London (NC) — Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester, N. Y., will come to England next May to celebrate the first public Mass in Rochester, Kent, since the days of its great martyr of the Reformation, Cardinal St. John Fisher.



BISHOP KEARNEY in portland signs over its west door. It will serve a community of about 1,000 Catholics.

The American Bishop will offer the Mass in the new Church of St. John Fisher built on a hill overlooking the old cathedral city just outside London largely with funds contributed by the people of his diocese.

FATHER THOMAS O'Riordan, pastor of the adjoining naval center of Chatham, announced that the main body of the church has now been completed, and work on the interior would begin in time for the opening on May 23. He said he hoped the remaining debt of \$14,000 dollars would be paid off by then so that the Bishop could also officiate at the consecration of the church.

Magr. Donald Cleary, chaplain of Cornell University, and Fr. Richard Torney, director of Rochester diocesan radio programs, attended the stone-laying in July, 1952, when they presented \$30,000, about half the cost collected in the Rochester, N. Y. diocese. Msgr. John E. Maney, Bishop Kearney's secretary, visited the site last October to watch progress on the building, a few hundred yards up the hill from martyred St. John's of St. Andrew's Cathedral, now in Protestant hands.

The new red-brick romanescque church, which costs \$50, has a seven-foot statue of the martyr.

invited the Bishop of Rochester to preside at the opening ceremony. A party of Marian Year pilgrims from the Rochester diocese are expected to come with him.

The story of the return to the faith of the sleepy old town of Rochester began in 1949 when two priests from the American diocese paid a passing visit during their tour of England.

(The two Rochester priests were Monsignor Maney and the late Monsignor Joseph Lyons, who served as rector of St. Andrew's Seminary before his death in 1936.)

Father O'Riordan showed them around and pointed out the plot of waste ground earmarked one day for a shrine of the great local saint. He gave them a piece of stone from the pre-Reformation cathedral to be incorporated in the construction of the new St. Andrew's Seminary, which is being built across the Atlantic in the New World Rochester.

BACK HOME, the American priests gave the stone to their Bishop, who at once called for funds to support the English project. The 1952 ceremony was recorded for broadcast in the United States.

St. John Fisher, one of the first of the long line of England's Reformation martyrs of 400 years ago, was Bishop of Rochester for 10 years. He was headed by orders of King Henry VIII at the Tower of London in 1535. He was canonized exactly four centuries later.

Cardinal Names Moscow Catholic Chapel Closed, Report Discloses

Vatican City (RNS) — The Rev. Joseph Butkovich, Latvian Roman Catholic priest in charge of the St. Louis of France church in Moscow, only

Catholics Warned On 'Saints' Book Sold By Feeneyites

New York (NC) — Catholics here have been warned against purchasing a book on lives of Saints being sold by followers of Leonard Feeney, the excommunicated priest.

The warning was read in St. Patrick's Cathedral and other Churches in New York after it had been discovered that canvassers had been selling the book in offices in the financial section of Manhattan and around Central Station.

Entitled "Saints To Know And Love," the 187-page paper-bound volume is published by St. Benedict's Center of Cambridge, Mass. Leonard Feeney is the founder and director of the center. His followers dress in black clerical garb and represent themselves as members of a religious community called "Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

The book includes brief sketches of the lives of 15 Saints and of Blessed Pope Pius X, who will be canonized next May.

A former professor of English at Boston College, Father Feeney came into conflict with Church authorities when he taught that it was heretical to maintain that persons outside the Catholic Church could be saved. He was expelled from the Society of Jesus and was excommunicated last February because of his refusal to abandon this view of salvation.

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Irishmen Only Exporting Selves, Not Vanishing

Cincinnati (NC) — Talk of the "vanishing Irish" is greatly exaggerated, according to a young Irish psychiatrist.

The fact is, he says, that the Irish are simply "exporting themselves" to the rest of the world.

Furthermore, Dr. John J. Stack holds that his native country is producing at a great rate. Dr. Stack, here on a World Health Organization fellowship for graduate study in child psychiatry, admitted in an interview that long engagements and late marriages are common enough in Ireland. But he insisted that "Ireland is very active in producing human beings," and asserted that "about 80 per cent of her doctors go abroad to practice."

Stubborn Old Missionary Forces Police To Carry Him Out Of Red China

Hong Kong (NC) — An aged, stubborn Argentinian missionary — the only Catholic missionary in China from Argentina — got a 30-mile, piggy-back ride when he was forced

spend their last months in China in an old pig pen. On New Year's eve Red police called at the pig pen and ordered the priests to come along. Father Solieta gave them a blunt "No." The police argued and entreated. He refused orders to take him to a certain place. But the veteran missionary had an answer for all their arguments: "No!"

Port Chaplain Blesses Ore Cargo

Philadelphia (NC) — Father Thomas W. Wastell, Catholic chaplain of the Port of Philadelphia, delivered the invocation at ceremonies marking the arrival of the Swedish freighter Tosca, bearing the first cargo of iron ore to be shipped here from the fabulous Cerro Bolivar iron mountain in Venezuela.

The arrival of the ship was the occasion for one of the most gala celebrations ever staged in this port's history. The 10,000-ton cargo is part of 2,000,000 tons expected to be brought up the Delaware River for use at the Fairless Works of the U. S. Steel Corp. at Morrisville, 30 miles north of here.

"Our service includes however, by the way, a special prayer for the safety of the cargo," he said, "and I am sure that the prayers will be answered."

Finally the Reds threatened to shoot him. The priest carefully opened his big fur coat and said:

"Go ahead. It will be easier with my coat open."

Behold! The police held a consultation. They said the priests put them on their shoulders and carried them some 30 miles to another cave where they were put on mule carts on their way out of China.

THE MOSCOW church was taken over by Soviet officials from French Assumptionists in June 1949. They appointed Father Butkovich, a native of Riga, as its pastor.

Until then, the church was served by French priests with an American assisting who was chaplain to American Catholics living in Moscow. The last American priest to hold this post was the Rev. George A. Laberge, A.A., of Pawtucket, R.I., who succeeded the Rev. Leopold L. S. Braun, A.A., of New York, who spent 12 years in the Soviet capital.

Father Laberge was stationed in Moscow from 1945 until early in 1948 when he returned to the United States for a vacation. In February, 1949, Father Laberge was denied a re-entry permit by the Soviet government.

After a 10-month wait, the Rev. John O. Arthur Brassard, of Worcester, Mass., obtained a Russian visa and in January, 1950, replaced Father Laberge at the Moscow church.

HOWEVER, he had to confine his ministry to the diplomatic corps, and live at the U.S. Embassy.

Father Brassard was succeeded in Moscow in July, 1953, by the present American incumbent of the St. Louis of France church, the Rev. Georges Bissonette, A.A., of Central Falls, R.I., on whom the same restrictions have been imposed.

Father Bissonette thus became the fourth American priest to serve in Moscow since diplomatic relations were restored following the Roosevelt-Litvinov agreement of 1933.