

Sputnik Bares Soft Spot In U.S. Life

Davenport, Iowa — (NC) The launching of satellites Sputnik I and Sputnik II by Russia expose the inadequacies of both the public and parochial school systems of this nation, according to Monsignor Thomas J. Quigley, head of Pittsburgh diocesan schools.

"DESPITE OUR EMPHASIS in recent years in science and engineering, Sputnik I and II are dramatic testimony that we are not first in this field," said the priest-educator.

The reason for the lag, he stated, is that "most of our efforts have been in the practical field. We constantly create more and better creature comforts, time and work-saving devices. We are in a nation of gadgeteers."

As a result of this, the Monsignor said, "we are becoming a hedonistic, slothful, soft people."

He continued, "True scholarship and pure research in any field is hard and often unrewarding. Fewer and fewer of our students want any part of it. It is easier to make more money fashioning gadgets. It isn't simply that we haven't trained enough scientists, although this in itself is deplorable. We haven't put into any of our scientists a real love of truth."

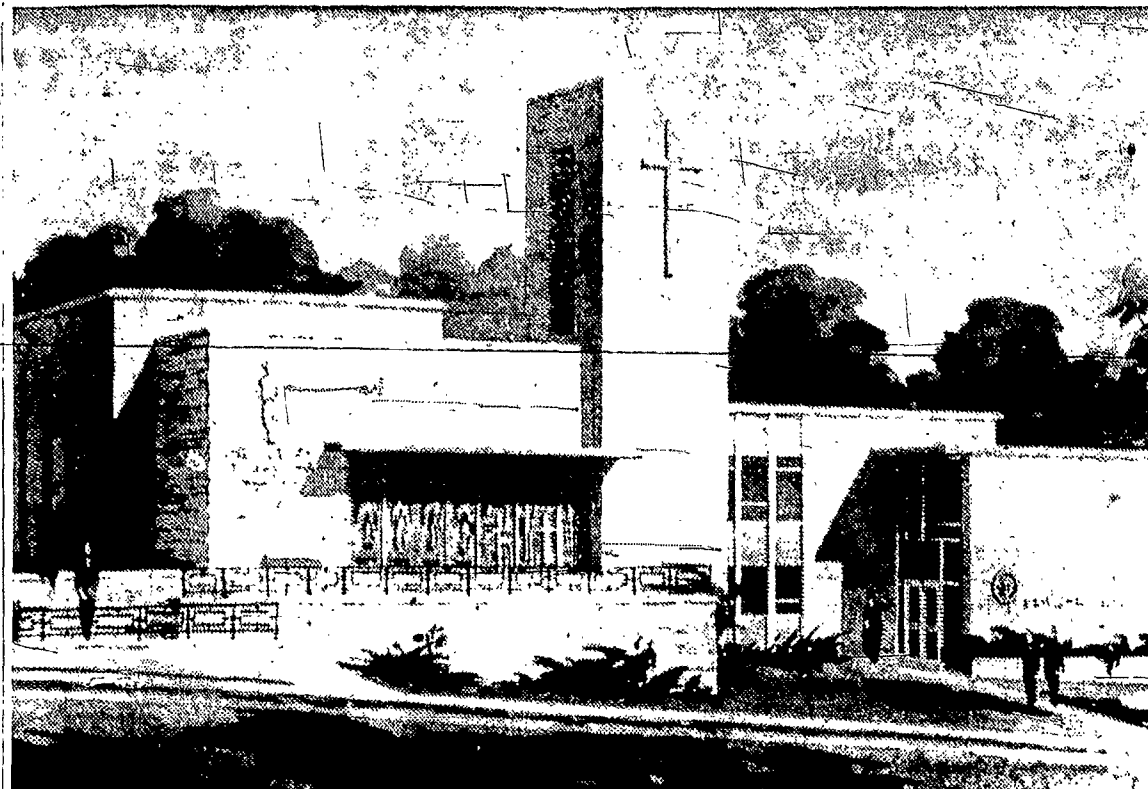
THE PRIEST-EDUCATOR said the real purpose of human education is "to train men to think, to love truth, to be avid in its pursuit, to value wisdom as the greatest of all human achievements."

He acknowledged that it will be difficult to effect a reform in the Catholic educational system.

He stressed, however, that "we must be brave enough to swim against the stream of soft, easy, purposeless education that is sweeping us rapidly into a sea of confusion, mediocrity and animality; that is stripping us of the dreams, motivations and aspirations that can lift us above the level of money-grubbing, power-grubbing, pleasure-grubbing, self-worshipping biological specimens."



MONSIGNOR QUIGLEY "slothful, soft people"



New Student Center

Fayetteville, Arkansas — (NC) — New Catholic Student Center at the University of Arkansas will be built at a cost of more than a quarter of a million dollars. The building, which will include a chapel, a Newman Hall, offices, classrooms, lounge, and residence, is shown in an architect's sketch. Announcement of construction was made by Bishop Albert L. Flecher, of Little Rock.

Bishops Take Steps Against Smut In Press, TV and Radio

(Continued from Page 1)

mitted as a proper exercise of basic human freedom.

The bishops also emphasized that "art that is false to morality is not true art."

"While good taste cannot supply the norm for moral judgment on literature or art," they said, "yet it must be admitted that good taste will inevitably narrow the field of what is morally objectionable."

The prelates countered the argument that freedom of expression can suffer no curtailment or limitation without being destroyed.

"The traditional and sounder understanding of freedom, specifically freedom of the press, is more temperate," they said, "and recognizes that liberty has a moral dimension."

"AS A MEMBER of society," the bishops said, "man's liberty is exercised within bounds fixed by the demands of social living. In the concrete this means that the common good must be served. It will entail, among other things, a respect for the rights of others, a regard for public order, and a positive deference to those human, moral and social values which are our common heritage. It is within this context that freedom of expression is rightly understood."

The hierarchy said the U.S. Supreme Court recognized the limitations on freedom of expression when it ruled in recent decisions that "obscenity is not within the area of constitutionally protected speech or press."

Just as the State has a right in time of war or great national danger to exercise some power of censorship, the bishops said, so the Church "morally can and does exercise what is called censorship."

"The right is hers from her office as teacher of morals and guardian of divine truth," they said. "Her decisions bind her people but her sanctions upon them are only spiritual and moral."

THE PRELATES stressed that although civil authority has the right and duty to exercise a con-

tributed over the atomic bomb of contamination, necessary to safeguard public morals, human action and human expression may fall short of what is legally unobjectionable and may still defy the moral standards of a notable number in the community.

Between the legally permissible and the morally good there exists a moral gap," they said. "If we are content to accept as morally unobjectionable all that is legally unobjectionable, we have greatly lowered our moral standards. It must be recognized that civil legislation by itself does not constitute an adequate standard of morality."

The bishops stressed that it was not solely the judgment of the Catholic Church that "in modern American life there are many grave moral problems" in "the abuse of freedom of expression."

THEY NOTED that warnings against pornographic publications had been made in reports of the Select Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives set up by the 82nd Congress, the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges and the New York State Joint Legislative Committee.

"In the face of all this," the bishops said, "we are confident that we can and should do more to safeguard the moral standards of the society in which we live."

THE STATEMENT was signed by members of the administrative board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. They were: Edward Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Chicago; Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York; James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles; Archbishops Francis P. Keough of Baltimore, Joseph E. Ritter of St. Louis, Missouri, Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, Leo Binz of Dubuque, Ia., Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati, John P. O'Hara, C.S.C., of Philadelphia, Albert G. Meyer of Milwaukee, and Bishops Emmet M. Walsh of Youngstown, O. Thomas K. Gorman of Dallas-Fort Worth, Tex., and Joseph M. Gilmore of Helena, Mont.

DA Stops Showing Of Condemned Movie

Philadelphia (NC) District Attorney Victor H. Blane forced the cancellation of the showing of "Passionate Summer," a French-made movie, at four neighborhood theaters here on the ground that the film is obscene.

The movie has been evaluated in Class C' condemned by the National Legion of Decency.

Concern Urged For Man 'In Street', Not 'In Moon'

Philadelphia — (NC) — The tragedy of our age is too much interest in space knowledge and not enough in the spiritual basis of man, a legless businessman said here in accepting an award from LaSalle College.

Henry Viscardi Jr., president of Abilities, Inc., Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y., was honored for his outstanding work on behalf of disabled persons.

"Our major need today," Mr. Viscardi stated, "is not for more knowledge of how to fly through space but more understanding of how to walk upon the face of the earth like human beings created in the image of God. Not more science do we require, but more of the milk of human kindness."

He said there is concentration on the wrong kind of a bomb. "Our aim should not be a bomb to destroy, but a balm to heal and build up the wounds of mankind. We should show more interest in the man in the street than in the man in the moon," he stated.

Technical Quest Called Threat To 'Liberal Study'

Washington — (NC) — The present stress on "greater technological know-how" poses an "implicit threat" to "true liberal education," a college dean warned here. Dr. John J. Meng, Hunter College stated here at a convocation celebrating the 60th anniversary of the founding of Trinity College.

He defined a liberal as a "person who believes in and works for civil liberties, racial equalization of economic opportunities for all, universal suffrage, religious freedom, improved educational facilities and similar valid social or political aims."

"Broadened programs of basic scientific research are indeed vital to the maintenance of national security," he continued, "but the threat that moral and human values may be deemphasized in the struggle to achieve mechanical superiority over our rivals is very real."

Home Mission Group Makes Annual Report

Chicago (RNS) — The Catholic Church Extension Society received and expended \$2,419,965 for mission programs last year, it was reported at the group's 52nd annual meeting here.

This amount compares with \$1,807,123 the previous year.

THE SOCIETY is the principal home missions organization of the Catholic Church in the United States. It also publishes Extension magazine.

Auxiliary Archbishop Wilham D. D. Byrne of Chicago presented the society's annual report. It was announced that Pope Pius XII had appointed him to a five-year term as the society's president. Archbishop O'Brien has held this post since 1955. He had been associated with the society since 1945.

During the last year, Archbishop O'Brien reported, the society provided funds to help build 110 churches in the United States. Individual grants ranged from \$300 to \$10,000, he said.

IN ADDITION, the society made funds available for building and furnishing small missions and chapels in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico and Oklahoma.

Frank Lewis, Chicago industrialist and philanthropist, announced another gift of \$300,000 for the society's work in the coming year, making a total of \$1,000,000 he has given since 1950. Last year he also gave \$200,000 and before that he donated \$100,000 for six consecutive years.

St. Anne's Lists 'Peace' Pilgrimage

St. Anne de Beaupre, Que. (RNS) — About 3,000,000 persons are expected to take part in an international pilgrimage to the world peace next May 4 at the famed Roman Catholic shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre here.

The estimate was made by the Rev. Gilbert Mann, provincial of the Redemptorist Fathers of St. Anne de Beaupre, who said the majority of the pilgrims will come from the United States and a fair percentage from Europe.

The pilgrimage will inaugurate summer long celebrations marking the tercentenary of the shrine.

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Senator Tells Youth Home Mission To Enter Politics

Worcester, Mass. — (NC) — U. S. Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, has called upon students to "enter the field of politics at some stage in your career."

Speaking at Clark University, the Senator observed that "politics has become one of our most neglected, our most abused and our most ignored professions."

IT RANKS LOW on the occupational list of a large share of the population, Sen. Kennedy said. Its "chief practitioners are rarely well or favorably known," he added.

No education except finding your way around a smoke-filled room, is considered necessary for political success," he continued.

SEN. KENNEDY reminded the students that the mutual suspicion between scholar and politician did not always exist.

"I would ask you who look with disdain and disfavor upon the possibilities of a political career, to remember that our nation's last great politicians were traditionally our ablest, most respected, most talented leaders," he said.

They were men, the Senator commented, who moved from one field to another with amazing versatility and vitality.

HE REMINDED students willing to enter the abused and neglected profession of politics that the nation stands in serious need of the fruits of their education.

He emphasized that the need is not for political scholars whose education has been so specialized as to exclude them from participation in current events. "What we need are men who can ride easily over broad fields of knowledge and recognize the mutual dependence of our two worlds," he concluded.



SENATOR KENNEDY

Catholics Offer Lutherans Parking Lot Facilities

St. Paul, Minn. — (RNS) — Members of Advent Lutheran church have been invited to use the parking lot of the Catholic Digest, their neighbor across the street, when weather conditions make parking in the church lot difficult on Sunday mornings.

The invitation was extended by the Rev. Paul Bassard, editor of the Catholic Digest, which has its national offices here.

The Rev. Thomas Basich, pastor of the Lutheran church, wrote in his church's bulletin:

"The people of our congregation appreciate this kind and thoughtful invitation on the part of our neighbors across the street."

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