

All Shook Up

The annual crime report of the FBI set a grim new record for 1957.

Juveniles in the 10 to 17 years age bracket accounted for 47 percent of the crimes committed in the United States.

This week's headlines from New York City reporting juvenile gang fights there indicate the crime rate for this year can be expected to keep soaring.

Police reports in cities and towns of the twelve county Rochester Diocese area also note a steady increase in children's crimes.

One characteristic these lawless youngsters have in common is that they are all "shook-up."

In this they are simply reflecting the shake-up they witness in their homes, neighborhoods, and scores of other factors making hammer-blow impacts on their impressionable young lives.

Broken homes, excess drinking, irreligion, obscene movies and magazines, limitless liberty, contempt for authority are some of the ingredients from which adolescent criminals are made.

WE ARE PERSONALLY GETTING TIRED of being told that "the Church has to do more" or that "parents have to do something pretty soon."

The Church and good parents have been doing plenty for a long time to instruct youngsters in the basic laws of God but all this good advice is drowned out by the purveyors who peddle dirty movies, sexy songs, wild and trashy magazines, and by the widely reported adventures of noted people who can hardly keep count of their marriages.

As soon as the Church or decent parents try to protect children from such disregard for decent, moral living standards, what happens?

Immediately there is the hue and cry about "censorship" and "stay in the sanctuary" and "mind your own business."

The young hoodlums who are boosting America's crime rate are "shook up" by liquor and the shows and the books and the bad example they get from profiteering adults who are no more interested in our country's welfare than a Soviet espionage agent.

Our nation was shook up when the Russians launched their Sputnik and it posed as a possible threat to our way of life. The FBI report of more than a quarter million crimes by children under 17 in one year is a threat at our doorsteps far more real than a Sputnik in the sky.

It's high time we as a nation put God and His laws back into our minds and hearts and into the minds and hearts of our children.

And if some muck hucksters don't like it, let them clear out. The majority of Americans, we think, want to keep America clean.

* * *

House Owners Given Warning

Building officials throughout New York State are serving notice on owners of multiple dwellings to "comply with requirements or vacate the dwellings."

Frank R. Davis, Monroe County's building bureau director, urged all owners of multiple dwellings anywhere in this state to do the following:

- Register all multiple dwelling buildings.
- Obtain a permit and alter such buildings as need to be brought into conformity with the state Multiple Residence Law.
- Apply for and obtain a certificate of occupancy indicating the legal requirements have been met.

Recent fires in over crowded homes in Rochester, Niagara Falls and other cities resulted in tragic loss of life. To prevent similar disasters in the future, building officials will crack-down on owners who violate the multiple dwelling laws, Davis said.

PROPERTY OWNERS SHOULD REMEMBER they have a moral obligation to observe the fundamental rules of safety and health in renting quarters to tenants.

To jam people into over-crowded fire traps or expose them to hazards to their health or morals in unfit dwellings is a double crime against the laws of legitimate civil authority and against the law of God who demands we respect our fellow man's right to live in decency and reasonable safety.

SERMONETTE

By REV. MICHAEL J. BENEDICT

"Grant That I May Not So Much Seek To Be Consoled As To Console"

Only when we come face to face with the unpleasant realities of life is there room for consolation—either its giving or receiving. The strong, the wealthy, the healthy, the secure need it no more than the angels in heaven need your prayers. Tragedy and suffering are the climate of compassion and consolation.

There must be a common bond linking the giver and the receiver—usually a community of suffering. It is only by seeing the misfortune of another as our own that we can offer genuine consolation. Here there is no room for hypocrisy or the thespian's art. The gentle handclasp, the flashing smile, the soft spoken word of sympathy must be more than a dramatic or facial gesture. It must indicate, either in physical fact, or through the realization, born of fervent meditation, that we are members of one body.

Our Lord could be so compassionate because He suffered so much, both in mind and body. Everyone else's suffering was His very own. "He has compassion on the multitude." He was, of course, the Supreme Consoler.

If it is more blessed to give than to receive, it is certainly true here. Try it. The experience will be rewarding.



JOSEPH BREIG

Nathan and Mencken



Breig

Despite the exceptional qualities of his mind, and his university education in America and Europe, George Jean Nathan lived most of his long life knowing less than nothing about the religion that formed our civilization—whether in its roots in Israel or its fulfillment in Christianity.

Only in his last years did this internationally respected drama critic and author discover what the Catholic Church believes and teaches—whereupon became a Catholic and soon after was followed into the Church by his wife, the distinguished actress, Julie Haydon.

Nathan's partner in the rollicking and de-banking days of the old American Mercury magazine was the little bald boy of American letters, Henry L. Mencken. Where Nathan's intelligence was complex, fastidious and in a real sense shy, Mencken's was essentially simple, robust and direct. Mencken went at things hammer-and-tongs. And yet Mencken, too, lived—and died—ignorant of theology.

CANNOT EDUCATORS somehow be persuaded to face up to, and to do something about, the religious illiteracy which results in such sad and preposterous tragedies? Tragedy it is when schools which owe their very existence to our religious-philosophical traditions turn out graduates who, although otherwise erudite and mature, go through the years thinking, talking and writing juvenile nonsense about religion.

Literally, Nathan until the last year or two of his life, and Mencken until death, knew less than nothing about religion. Not nothing—less than nothing, because what they thought they knew was ludicrously erroneous.

They talked luminous good sense about many other things, but when they talked about religion, they talked through their hats; they made spectacles of themselves.

Mencken almost unquestionably would have been irresistibly attracted by the Catholic faith had he known what it is—especially in its wonderful development of doctrine pointing the way to a social, political and economic order fit for human dignity. Mencken, detesting injustice and sham, instinctively sensed the elements of much of what Christianity explicitly teaches with scholarly precision.

But Mencken apparently never discovered that the Nebelbelt emotionalism and the cold puritanism which roused his fury were not Christian theology. He never realized that theology rejects such excesses as distortions.

Mencken, however, was fundamentally sound. Although he hated what he blindly felt to be religiously ridiculous, he did not make the mistake of erecting an error into a way of life. At heart, Mencken was always a roistering, argumentative boy, with a boy's simplicity and innocence.

Nathan, in contrast, embraced a dangerous philosophy. When he discovered Christian truth, he was a hedonist; that is he saw pleasure as the highest good, and the pursuit of it as the proper business of human beings. Contemptuously, he dismissed those who believe in the hereafter as "ab-origines."

Because he knew less than nothing about theology, Nathan attributed to believers beliefs which they do not hold. He never really attacked Christianity. He could not do that, because he did not know what Christianity is. What he rejected and ridiculed was a caricature of the Christian faith.

He spurned "the ambrosia of the gods, the lovely angels, eternal blue skies and peace, the music of golden harps." He preferred to trust in "pretty girls, Mediterranean coast and symphony orchestras."

Surely education can do better than to leave the minds of otherwise brilliant graduates sunk in gross religious ignorance, thus giving spurious substance to communist taunts about religion being superstition and the opium of the people.



Mont-Saint-Michel monastery, off coast of northern France, where Archangel Michael appeared in year 708.

St. Michael

Defend Us In Battle

Thursday, May 8, is the Church's feast of the apparition of St. Michael the archangel.

The feast commemorates a vision of the heavenly warrior which occurred in the year 494.

Devotion to St. Michael is one of the most ancient and widespread devotions in honor of any saint in Church history.

Despite this fact, relatively few Catholics know very much about him.

THE NAME of this famed saint occurs in the Confiteor at the beginning of Mass and in the familiar prayer after Low Mass asking St. Michael to "defend us in battle."

At solemn high Mass incense used at the offertory is blessed in his honor.

In the Rochester Diocese, seven parish churches are dedicated to him.

And St. Michael's name is still one of the traditionally "good" names to give a boy at baptism.

THE BIBLE mentions St. Michael only four times—each time in connection with a battle.

In the book of Daniel, St. Michael aids the Jews in their struggle against the Persians. Daniel later prophesies that St. Michael will rise up to defend the children of God against the Antichrist in the last days before the end of the world.

St. Julie in his epistle mentions the Jewish legend that Michael disputed with Satan about the burial of Moses, apparently to guard the chosen people from any temptation of the devil to hero-worship their dead prophet.

St. John in the final book of the Bible says, "There was a great battle in heaven, Michael and his angels fought with the dragon." (Apoc. 12:7)

THEOLOGICALS add little more detail other than the fact that St. Michael as one of heaven's invisible citizens whose tasks and ways of life must ever remain mysterious as long as we are earth-bound creatures.

From the earliest days of Christianity, however, St. Michael figures prominently in popular devotions.

In Asia Minor (today's Turkey), St. Michael was honored as patron of the sick. Baths, pools, and streams were said to give cures through his intercession. Near Constantinople, the Emperor Constantine reported seeing St. Michael and built a shrine there to his honor.

Christians of Egypt dedicated their vitally needed Nile River to St. Michael.

Rome also honored the saint as a heavenly physician. Tourists today see the statue of St. Michael atop Castel San Angelo on the highway leading to the Vatican. The statue marks the spot where the archangel

is said to have appeared in the year 950 to put an end to the plague which decimated Europe.

Previous apparitions of the saint east him in his warrior role—as for example in the year 494 when he appeared on May 8th at Mt. Cassiano in northern Italy. On the same date in the year 653 the Lombards of that area defeated an invading force and attributed their victory to St. Michael whose feast they observed that day.

The famous island sanctuary, Mont-Saint-Michel, off the coast of northern France, is also the site of an apparition of the archangel dated in the year 708. A Benedictine monastery was built there two years later and became one of the great pilgrimage centers of the middle ages.

Tide waters, often washed over the causeway leading to the island and countless pilgrims drowned. Not until 1850 was a bridge built to span high tide.

The vast Mont-Saint-Michel structure, half monastic, half military, was a strategic defense post against English invasions and all attacks against it were beaten back.

ST. MICHAEL is traditionally pictured as a winged warrior with a gleaming sword, shield and breastplate. U.S. paratroopers recently adopted him as their special patron and an artist depicted him in his usual attire plus heavy paratrooper boots.

The widely venerated archangel is especially invoked following every Low Mass as the divinely assigned defender of the chosen people of God against the temptations and onslaughts of the devil.

In these current days when the threat of war and the sins of men grow in terrifying proportions, we need to revive a confidence in the role of St. Michael in his unique role as a heavenly protector.

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Bishop Kearney's Appointments



- MAY
- Thursday—Nazareth College Sodality Reception—2:00 p.m.
 - Chamber of Commerce—Community Chest Dinner—6:00 p.m.
 - Friday—St. Joseph's Church—St. Monica's Sodality Mass—9:00 a.m.
 - St. Bernard's Seminary—Conference—5:30 p.m.
 - Saturday—St. Agnes High School—L.F.C.A. Mass—8:30 a.m.
 - Powers Hotel—First Saturday Club Speaker—12:15 p.m.
 - St. Francis of Assisi Church—Family Rosary—7:00 p.m.
 - Sunday—Corpus Christi Church—Preside and Speak at Community Chest Mass—11:00 a.m.
 - Preclous Blood Church—Confirmation—4:00 p.m.
 - Knights of Columbus Banquet—7:00 p.m.
 - Monday—Assumption Church, Fairport—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday—St. Patrick's Church, Victor—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.
 - Wednesday—McQuaid Jesuit High School—Sodality Reception—2:00 p.m.
 - St. Catherine's Church, Mendon—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.
 - Thursday—Mercy High School—Bishop's Oratoricals—8:00 p.m.
 - Friday—Christ the King Church—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.
 - Saturday—St. Joseph's Church—L.F.C.A. Mass—12:00 noon
 - Nazareth College—D.C.C.W. Tea—5:00 p.m.
 - St. Stanislaus Auditorium—Holy Name of Mary 10th Anniversary Banquet—Blessing—8:30 p.m.
 - Sunday—St. Joseph's Motherhouse—Chapel—Capping of Nazareth College Nurses—4:00 p.m.
 - St. Louis Church, Pittsford—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Marlan Awards Ceremony—7:45 p.m.
 - Wednesday—Nazareth Academy—May Day—9:00 p.m.
 - Columbus Civic Center—Stella Maris Card Party—5:30 p.m.
 - Thursday—Nazareth College—May Day—9:00 a.m.
 - Friday—Our Lady of Mercy High School—Sodality Reception—2:30 p.m.
 - Saturday—Mark Twain Hotel, Elmira—Catholic War Veterans State Convention—6:30 p.m.
 - Sunday—St. Patrick's Church, Elmira—Catholic War Veterans Mass—9:00 a.m.
 - Immaculate Conception Church, Ithaca—Lay, Catechists Graduation—2:00 p.m.
 - Monday—Powers Hotel—Nazareth Academy Alumnae Dinner—6:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday—St. John Fisher College—Low Mass—9:00 a.m.
 - Wednesday—St. Louis Church, Pittsford—Mass and Dedication of new St. Louis Church—6:00 p.m.
 - Thursday—Our Lady of Mercy High School—May Day—2:30 a.m.
 - Friday—Elmira, N.Y.—Knights of Columbus State Convention
 - Saturday—Elmira—Knights of Columbus State Convention
 - Sunday—Our Lady of Mercy High School—Mercy Alumnae Communion Breakfast—9:00 a.m.
 - Sacred Heart Cathedral—Pontifical Low Mass for Cenacle Festival League—1:00 p.m.
 - St. Joseph's Church—St. Joseph's Commercial School Commencement—7:45 p.m.
 - Monday—New York City—Villa Maria Academy Commencement—3:00 p.m.
 - Wednesday—St. Agnes High School—May Day—9:00 a.m.
 - Thursday—St. Thomas Church—Our Lady of Lourdes Mass—9:30 a.m.
 - St. John Fisher College—Senior Banquet—6:00 p.m.
 - Friday—Sheraton Hotel—Chancellor's Dinner—6:00 p.m.
 - Saturday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Priesthood Ordinations—9:00 p.m.
 - St. John Fisher College—Baccalaureate Mass—5:00 p.m.

Bishop Casey's Appointments

- MAY
- Sunday—St. Joseph's, Weedsport—Dedication of New Church, Sermon—10:30 a.m.
 - St. Hyacinth, Auburn—Confirmation—1:30 p.m.
 - Sacred Heart, Auburn—Confirmation, Dedication of New School—3:00 p.m.
 - St. Alphonsus, Auburn—Confirmation—5:00 p.m.
 - Tuesday—Brook House—Annual Sacred Heart Bowling League Dinner—6:30 p.m.
 - Wednesday—Mother of Sorrows, Greece—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.
 - Thursday—Sacred Heart Hall—Annual Men's Club Dinner—6:30 p.m.
 - Saturday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Pontifical Low Mass and Sermon, First Holy Communion—8:00 a.m.
 - Knights of St. John Clubhouse—Presentation of Holy Cross Degree Award—6:30 p.m.
 - Sunday—Church of the Epiphany,odus—Confirmation—1:30 p.m.
 - St. Patrick's, Cato—Confirmation—3:30 p.m.
 - St. Joseph's, Weedsport—Confirmation—5:00 p.m.
 - Monday—Holy Redeemer—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.
 - Tuesday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Girl Scout Marlan Award Ceremony—7:45 p.m.
 - Sunday—St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen—Dedication of New Parish Center, Sermon—10:00 a.m.
 - St. Mary's, Elmira—Confirmation—1:30 p.m.
 - Salus Peter and Paul, Elmira—Confirmation—3:15 p.m.
 - St. Mary's, Horseheads—Confirmation—4:45 p.m.
 - Monday—Sacred Heart Hall—Annual Rosary Guild Dinner—6:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—St. John Fisher Club Annual Dinner for High School Graduates—6:30 p.m.
 - Thursday—Holy Family—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.
 - Saturday—Holy Trinity, Webster—Address, Opening Building Fund Campaign—8:30 p.m.
 - Sunday—Corpus Christi—Adult Confirmation—1:30 p.m.
 - Sacred Heart Cathedral—Adult Confirmation—7:45 p.m.
 - Monday—Chamber of Commerce—Invocation, Annual Luncheon of Otletiana Council, B.S.A.—12:00 noon

Strange But True

13-3 AND 17-5 INCHES. SOME CUBIT VARIED BETWEEN 6 CUBITS & 8 SPAN (HALF CUBIT) WAS 9 FT 5 INCHES TALL.

THE WORLD'S YOUNGEST BISHOP IS A NEGRO! HE IS 30 YEARS OLD BISHOP OTUNGA OF NAIROBI, KENYA. THE PRIMER, EX-CHIEF SUDAN, IS STILL A PRISONER.

FATHER GIACOMO ALBERIONE OF ITALY HAS FOUNDED 5 RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY SPREAD TO OTHER COUNTRIES. They are: THE SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL, THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL, THE PIOUS DISCIPLES OF THE DIVINE MASTER, THE PASTORELLE SISTERS, THE VOCATIONIST SISTERS.

THIS UNIQUE MONUMENT TO ST. ISAAC JOGUES OF CHICAGO COMMEMORATES THE FACT THAT WHILE A MOUNTAIN PRISONER HE CARVED HUNDREDS OF TREES WITH THE HOLY NAME.