

### Affirm Or Deny Religion

## Schools Can't Be Neutral

Stamford — (NC) — It is not possible for a school to maintain an attitude of neutrality toward religion, the Apostolic Delegate to the United States asserted here at the dedication of Stamford Catholic High School. Moral principles and fundamental truths are either affirmed or denied in a school, said Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani as he dedicated the multimillion dollar school that will accommodate about 1,200 students.

A large gathering of clergy, laity and school children attended the ceremonies, at which Bishop Lawrence J. Shehan of Bridgeport also spoke. The dedication sermon was delivered by Msgr. John J. Hayes of Bridgeport. In his address Archbishop

Cicognani stressed the importance of a God-centered school. "It is wrong," he said, "to think that it is enough for the school to provide for subjects of knowledge and learning and maintain an attitude of neutrality toward religion. Such neutrality is not possible."

"Moral principles and fundamental truths upon which the life of man, his origin and ultimate destiny are based are constantly recurring," the Apostolic Delegate continued. "They come up in every phase and circumstance of life and in a particular way in the school. Such a neutrality is not possible, for those principles are either affirmed or denied. . . . Either the dignity of man, his rights and duties are mentioned, or questions are touched upon which concern philosophy, the science of truth, that truth which is the origin of all knowledge."

"In the life of each student, God stands at the center," the Archbishop stated, "and thus He must be considered especially in the school. There is no doubt that the child by nature is directed toward God. He soon gives proof that the natural is not enough, and he himself comes to see that the natural by itself would make life unnatural. It would be sad indeed if the education which he receives in school resulted in separating him from God."

"There can be no separation from the Lord, our Creator, and our Eternal Reward," Archbishop Cicognani declared. "All educators must ever keep this before their minds."

**Priest Heads Penn Colleges**  
Greensburg, Pa. — (NC) — Father William Granger Ryan, president of Seton Hill College here, has been installed as president of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities, composed of the presidents of 64 liberal arts colleges in Pennsylvania.



Mercy High School juniors Bluejean DeLaura (left) and Marilyn Waddell hold Rosaries from Rome's Cardinal Tisserant which he touched to the body of the late Pope Pius XII.

### Mercy Students Rosaries Touched To Pope Pius XII

Two students of Mercy High School are proud owners of Rosaries uniquely blessed by being touched to the late Pope Pius XII moments before his burial.

Bluejean DeLaura and Marilyn Waddell, both juniors, last week sent two rosaries to Cardinal Tisserant, Dean of the College of Cardinals, asking that they be touched to the body of the Holy Father.

This week Tuesday the girls received a personally addressed and signed note from the distinguished France of the Church returning the Rosaries and talking the students. "Your Rosaries were brought in contact with the right cheek of the Pope just before the burial ceremony began."

Cardinal Tisserant said he received the request a mere two hours before the rite was scheduled to start. He urged the girls

### Priest Doffs Clericals To Visit Red Germany

New Orleans — (NC) — After half a century of black garb and Roman collars, Jesuit Father Karl A. Maring discarded them in favor of a sport jacket, slacks and sport shirt. But there was good reason for the change, he explained here.

It happened during the past summer when the Loyola University of the South seismologist visited his native Germany. He wanted to see how the other half lived, so he made the clothing change and went from western Berlin to eastern Berlin.

"I knew the communists would arrest me, a priest, if they found me out," Father Maring said. "I passed guards several times but they didn't suspect anything. They just waved me on. I spoke only German."

Father Maring, who went to Europe to attend a meeting of the World Federation of Catholic Universities in Berlin, said he visited Germany to find out how much his homeland had changed since he left it in 1924.

HE COMPARED western Berlin to heaven and eastern Berlin to hell. In West Berlin, he said, a person can buy almost anything in stores just as in the United States, and he added that the ruins of war have disappeared. In East Berlin, he said, there are miles and miles of war

### Pope John UNESCO Observer In Paris

Paris — (NC) — His Holiness Pope John XXIII served for about 19 months as the Holy See's permanent observer to UNESCO here and said Catholics can draw inspiration from the international organization's aim.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was formed in 1945 when the new Pontiff was serving as Apostolic Nuncio to France.

Until June, 1952, he served as a delegate-observer at UNESCO's session. In that year, he was appointed by the Holy See as its first permanent observer. He held this post until January, 1953, when he was elevated to the Sacred College of Cardinals and named Patriarch of Venice.

### Keep Kids In School Longer

Independence, Iowa — (NC) — Lengthening of both the school day and the school year to provide a better Catholic education was advocated here by Father James Curtin, superintendent of schools in the St. Louis archdiocese.

He told a teachers' institute of 1,400 Sisters and lay teachers from northeastern Iowa that "we are under universal, compulsory education because of canon law and theological principle."

Despite increases of 100 to 150 per cent in Catholic school facilities during the last decade, Father Curtin said that the facilities now must be doubled within the next ten years to meet increasing enrollments.

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# The Tablet

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### Another Unsung Hero

Among the unsung heroes of this world are those who quietly accept and carry out an unpopular task because it is their duty. Such a one is Colonel Arthur Levitt, member of the Board of Education, who was assigned by the Board to be the trial judge at the trial of Communist Party members of the New York City Teachers Union. He has been a member of the Board of Education since 1945 and has been reading the latest trials of the Communist Party since that time. He has been reading the latest trials of the Communist Party since that time. He has been reading the latest trials of the Communist Party since that time.

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