

### Vatican 'Plot' At Olympics

Moscow — (RNS) — The Moscow press and radio renewed charges that Vatican authorities are engaged in "subversive work" among athletes from Iron Curtain countries taking part in the Olympic Games at Rome.

The charges were revived in the wake of an audience in St. Peter's Square during which Pope John XXIII spoke to close to 4,000 of the athletes from countries around the world.

THE MOSCOW Radio, in a series of foreign language broadcasts, denounced what it said was a Vatican plot to persuade Iron Curtain athletes not to return to their homelands after the Olympics.

Meanwhile, Izvestia, a government newspaper, accused Catholic organizations in Rome of "stirring up the cold war" by steering tourists to Catholic hotels and distributing "anti-Soviet literature" in the Olympic Village.

"Their game," the paper said, "is to build a warm and intimate atmosphere at our country and distribute slanderous tracts about the Communist danger."

### Liverpool To Have New Cathedral

Liverpool — (RNS) — A Protestant architect was named winner of a design contest conducted by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool for its new Cathedral of Christ the King.

The winning design proposes an ultra-modern structure that will seat 3,000 persons, but with none more than 70 feet from the sanctuary. Its cone-shaped exterior will be topped by a tower of colored glass set in concrete.

Frederick Gibberd, the 52-year-old winning architect is a Free Churchman. His plans, the first ever submitted for a cathedral, were selected from a field of 28 entries by Archbishop John C. Heenan and two architects who formed the judging panel.

Selection of the modern design was considered a striking departure for the Catholic Church in England which traditionally has been conservative in its architectural tastes. Although Mr. Gibberd's interior plans have met with solid approval from English Catholics, his exterior brought mixed criticisms.

Work on the new cathedral, expected to take five years to complete, is expected to start in the spring of 1951.

Mr. Gibberd designed London Airport and numerous public and industrial buildings in this country, and has won several awards, for his work. As his prize in the cathedral contest, he was awarded 5,000 Pounds (\$14,000).

### Cardinal O'Hara, Scholar, Diplomat

Philadelphia — (RNS) — Pope John XXIII joined Catholics throughout the United States in mourning the death here of John Francis Cardinal O'Hara, Archbishop of Philadelphia, one of six American Princes of the Church, at the age of 72.

A former president of Notre Dame University and Bishop of Buffalo, Cardinal O'Hara succumbed at the Misericordia Hospital five days after he had undergone surgery for peritonitis. When news of his death was brought to Pope John at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, the Pontiff knelt in prayer for his soul.

In New York, meanwhile, Francis Cardinal Spellman eulogized Cardinal O'Hara as "a saintly priest" who had added "strength and luster" to the Sacred College.

CARDINAL O'HARA, who also had served as Military Delegate to Catholics in World War II, belonged to the Congregation of the Holy Cross and was the first member of that order to be given the Red Hat.

His outstanding achievements as a scholar, administrator and leader of men were in marked contrast to the gentle, humble and easy-going manner that made him one of the country's most beloved prelates. He was especially rated for deep dedication to the cause of U.S.-Latin American friendship and understanding.

A native of Ann Arbor, Mich., where he was born on May 1, 1888, Cardinal O'Hara was the seventh member of the Sacred College to die during the pontificate of Pope John and the third to succumb this year. His death leaves the College with 83 members, 52 Italians and 51 of other nationalities.

One of a family of five boys and three girls, the future cardinal attended parochial and public schools in Peru, Ind. In 1905, his father, who was in the U.S. consular service, was sent to Montevideo, Uruguay. There the son attended a Jesuit college and served for a time as secretary to the U.S. Minister to Uruguay. He also made market surveys for the American Bureau of Commerce.

Having spent 21 years at Notre Dame as student, teacher, and a father confessor, Cardinal O'Hara counted thousands of alumni as friends. He was a contemporary of such Notre Dame stars as the football stars of the thirties.

In his six years as president, the Rockne Memorial and other new college halls were erected. Stonehill College, at North Easton, Mass., a Holy Cross institution, recently named its new men's dormitory for Cardinal O'Hara. A year ago, Cardinal Spellman presented the college with a \$5,000 Cardinal O'Hara scholarship.

Cardinal O'Hara was probably the most vocal critic in the hierarchy of increased federal aid to education. He wrote several front-page editorials in the weekly newspaper of his archdiocese, arguing with statistics that the need for additional public school classrooms was not as extensive or urgent as public educators claimed.

"No religious group and no ethnic group can claim a monopoly on patriotism or devotion to our nation's welfare," he declared. "This is a virtue which all loyal Americans share—a fact that underlies our past history, growth and progress as a democratic nation."

The resolution, introduced by the Rev. Mr. Louis Willis of Cleveland, Tenn., said that the Catholic Church has always exhibited a political-religious nature. It did not mention the name of Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, Democratic presidential nominee.

The ministers' passed the resolution without a dissenting vote. Some 7,000 lay delegates also attended the assembly.

Washington — (NC) — Two groups which say they represent the majority of American Jews have urged the U. S. Supreme Court to rule that state laws banning Sunday business are unconstitutional.

The request was made by the Synagogue Council of America and the National Community Relations Advisory Council in an "amicus curiae" brief submitted to the high court.

### Bus Rides Ruled Out In Dakota

Oakes, N. D. — (RNS) — Parochial school students won't be transported in public school buses here during the coming year, according to a decision made by the public school board.

The practice was challenged by a resident of the district last spring, and after contacting the North Dakota attorney general and the state superintendent of instruction, the board decided to stop it, according to L. H. Parker, president.

How 30 parochial pupils, who live in the country, will reach their school this year is being studied by the local priest and a parish meeting is planned to discuss it shortly.

The decision by the Oakes board came at the school board in nearby Lisbon, N. D., was challenged by the local ministerial association for its position in a similar situation.

In Lisbon, the school board has said it will continue to give free bus rides to some 60 children attending St. Aloysius Catholic school in Lisbon.

The Lisbon ministerial association filed a complaint about the practice with the attorney general, charging it violates state and federal constitutions.

### Ministers See Threat In Bishops

Memphis — (NC) — Two thousand ministers assembled here doubted a resolution expressing "back at a Roman Catholic President could or would fully resist the pressures of ecclesiastical hierarchy."

The resolution was adopted (Aug. 18) at the 48th biennial assembly of the Church of God, which claims it has over 300,000 members.

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### Group Discussion Of Moral Problems Ends In Confusion

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J., St. Louis University Sociology Professor.

A group of us were discussing teen-age moral problems the other night, and you'd be surprised to hear what conflicting opinions were expressed. Some of the girls insisted they were repeating answers they had received in retreats or confession. We'd like to know if soul kissing and petting are considered mortal sins, and if so, why? Are such practices permissible for engaged couples? Frankly, we're quite confused.

Group discussions of moral problems are bound to produce little more than confusion unless decision in the practical order always represents the application of a general moral principle to a clearly defined set of facts. We must understand the relevant principle and the pertinent facts of group discussion will produce only pooled ignorance. This is not to deny, of course, that though ignorance clarifies nothing, it can lead to some mighty interesting arguments.

First, let's look at the facts in the case. All normal men and women are born with sexual faculties designed to fulfill an important function in their growth and development throughout the entire life-cycle. During puberty these faculties become capable of performing their special reproductive function, and associated with this development is their ability to give pleasure when stimulated or aroused. Sexual excitation is a highly complex process, differing considerably in men and women and even among individuals of the same sex. Affection, desire, intent, imagination and physical contact may play important though variable roles in the total process.

Although individuals may differ considerably in their capacity to react to various sources of stimulation, there are certain actions that are designed by their very nature and regardless of the intent of the agent to cause definite sexual excitation. In common language these inflexible physical contacts are summarized under the general heading of "kissing." Whether the couple intend it or not, such activities have as their objective purpose that to stimulate them sexually.

It should be obvious that the type of kissing you mention falls into the same category. On close analysis we find that it involves relatively prolonged contact and stimulation of highly sensitive

nerve endings, an embrace and physical closeness, couple possessing fully developed sexual faculties which, at their age, should be, and normally are, highly sensitive to such stimulation.

Ordinary kissing may be a legitimate means of expressing affection and love, but the type you describe is designed to its very nature to produce sexual arousal. This remains true even though a given couple become so caloused in stimulation through prolonged exposure that they protest they experience little excitation.

These are the pertinent facts. What are the relevant moral principles? When discussing the morality of sexual conduct, we proceed from the general principle that it is morally sinful and deliberately to arouse and take pleasure in sexual feelings outside of the marriage state. This principle is based on the following line of reasoning. In using our sexual faculties, as in all our conscious activities, we must follow the order of right Reason enlightened by faith. It tells us that the Creator has endowed us with sexual faculties not for our pleasure use but in order that we may cooperate with Him in the procreation of life. But fitting procreation implies marriage, since only in marriage can a couple bear and rear children in a manner consonant with human dignity. Hence the conclusion follows that the use and enjoyment of sex is morally permissible only in marriage.

At our analysis of the facts revealed, the practices you mentioned are designed by nature to produce sexual excitation. The result follows whether the couple intend it or not. Since unmarried couples have no right to the use of sex, they would sin seriously if they indulged in such practices.

What about engaged couples? I think you know the answer. Neither courtship nor engagement grants any sexual privileges. Engaged couples are presumed to be in love and consequently may show their mutual affection in a reasonable manner. The mere agreement to marry at a future date, however, confers no sexual rights. Engaged couples are not "as good as married." They are bound by no sacred vows—engagements are frequently broken. They have exchanged no marital rights — only the contract accomplishes this.

(Father Thomas will be unable to answer any personal letters)



### They Don't Like Us

Medicine Lake, Minn. — (RNS) — Delegates to the annual meeting of the Minnesota Baptist Convention (Conservative) opposed election of a Roman Catholic as President. They charged in a resolution that Catholicism poses "as serious a threat to America as atheistic Communism."

In another action, the group, which represents about one-third of Minnesota's 40,000 Baptists, disapproved cooperation with any program sponsored by the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.

In other resolutions, delegates commended a Congressional committee "which is constantly engaged in the difficult and thankless task of investigating and exposing subversive elements," and praised the Rev. Kenneth B. Abel (Presbyterian) of Lisbon, N. D., for opposing "local violation of the law in the transporting of parochial school children."

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