

College Slates Lecture On Art, Literature

Claude Louis Bourcier, dean of the School of French at Middlebury College, Vermont, will lecture in the auditorium of Nazareth College on Thursday morning, Dec. 15.

On this occasion, Bourcier will speak twice. At 9:35 a.m., he will deliver a lecture in French to the faculty and language students; and at 10:30 a.m., he will speak in English. Bourcier's topic for these talks, which will be illustrated with slides, is "Art and literature in France from Romanticism to Today."

Bourcier was born in Paris, France, in 1910. His primary and secondary education were obtained in Bayonne and his higher education in Bordeaux. He became a fellow of the Ecole Normale Supérieure, in Paris, in 1932.

AFTER COMING to the United States he became an instructor at the University of Maine, and in 1937 went as an associate professor to Middlebury College where he has since remained. Bourcier has served Middlebury as professor in the College, instructor, acting dean,

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**Dean Offers
Mass Of Thanks**

Auburn — Rt. Rev. James D. Cuffney, V.F., celebrated a solemn Mass of thanksgiving in St. Mary's Church on Monday morning. This Mass was offered in thanksgiving for a successful recovery from a serious eye operation.

Assisting Monsignor Cuffney were Rev. John T. Walsh, deacon and Rev. Ignatius de Foucauld, subdeacon. The children of St. Mary's School attended the Mass and sang the responses.

School Youngsters 'Try-out' Bus

ST. THEODORE school children joined their pastor, the Rev. Elmer W. McIndoe, this week for a free ride on a school bus being considered for purchase to transport parish pupils.

BOOK SHELF

Pioneer Pilot

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA
Nazareth College

Saint-Exupéry, by Marcel Mige, tr. H. Briffault, McGraw-Hill '40. Illustrated, \$10 pp, with appendices.

The Scarlet Pimpernel and Le Comte de Vinci rolled into Notre Dame to lean against for this poet who could have come with a bit of Lawrence of Arabia and of Charles de Foucauld added — Saint-Exupéry was like that: venturesome, inventive, domineering, needing solitude, needing friends, needing God.

He became a true writer, a master of the unsayable, by a very slow process of finding himself as he struggled to find a vocation and a living. The vocation and livelihood turned out to be writing: the very earliest, domestic, amateurish sketches depicted during France's agony in the First World War. Airplane-manufactured Lebacore dreamt up "La Ligre," Paris-Toulouse-Biarritz-South America, and France and her daredevil aces had a great pioneering outlet, a glory to serve, after the bitter scars of defeat.

Saint-Exupéry was born to be the chronicler of "La Ligre" and its heroes: Night Flight was the great opening, and Wind, Sand and Stars the major opus. A poet and a genius were needed, and he must be one of "the Gang" as well, one of the pilots, to know and feel the plane, the cockpit, the ship-shaking and intense, silent silence — no radio, no radiooperator, no margin of fuel, not much heading at home and none in the lonely spots where he might crash down just courage and a box of wood and steel.

Count Antoine de Saint-Exupéry had the flying skill, the diplomacy, the charm, the art of writing — and all the trouble needed to make his career difficult, since he was a hopeless traitor (for a pilot) absent-minded. He would forget he was in a hydroplane and land as far from firm as he could get to close the cockpit door, and the wind of high altitude would wrench it off; he would take a frightened landing, a plane and forget that he had been flying at such a height, so high, so ferociously, so recklessly, he would remember to write for money but forget to write for love.

So his employers adored him and were ready to dismiss him, and his Countess-mother had no easy life of it, despite her pride in him.

But World War II became his great employer, more than willing to use to the full every talent of this wild knight, sending him at least to his death in the Mediterranean in '44. This is most enjoyable biography, studded with the glorious phrases of Saint-Exupéry, "beaches of clarity" for lightning in a high room; "One should learn not how to write but how to see," for advice to the world, and with numerous echoes to The Little Prince — who was Saint-Exupéry, possessor of royal blindness and royal sweetness.

There is, however, in the explanation of Saint-Exupéry's greatest depreciation, his loss of faith, a Catholic family tradition: remarry old, a devout mother, a devout childhood, a Catholic schooling, a unassisted young manhood, a drifting away and a lasting bewilderment, and no recall, no pillar

Nurses' Party Set In Elmira

Elmira Council, Catholic Nurses will hold their annual Christmas party at Dunn Memorial Nurses residence on Thursday evening, December 16 at 8 p.m.

Miss Alice Cheney and Miss Angelina Dolce are co-chairmen of arrangements. Refreshments and a program of entertainment has been scheduled.

English Asked At Mass

Notre Dame — (RNS) — After whereby the congregation, long expert has urged past-creeds priests in English church to use as much English in the liturgy. After the Second Vatican Council, advocates even the use of English in the Mass, communion, signs four hymns, inton all times when the priest was also a visiting lecturer at the University of Notre Dame.

Bourcier is co-author of the "Elementary French Series" published by Allyn and Bacon.

Bourcier is a member of the American Association of Teachers of French, the American Association of University Professors, and the Modern Language Association of America.

He serves on the advisory board of Spring Lake Ranch, in Cuttingsville, Vermont, and as secretary for the board of directors of the Vermont Council on World Affairs.

Invitations to attend Bourcier's lectures have been extended to the chairman of the foreign language departments and other faculty members of area colleges, and to members of L'Alliance Française in Rochester.

The more vernacular used in Mass by the people the better will be their active, intelligent participation in the service of the Mass," according to Msgr. Robert J. Sherry, pastor of St. William's church, Cincinnati.

Msgr. Sherry notes in an article in (Dec. 10) "Ave Maris" magazine that the use of English for many prayers and hymns at Mass was specifically the part of the service approved by the Sacred Congregation of Rites in September, and the College, he says, "Ex-liturgical scholars have been permitted" in many other church services besides the Mass.

In Benediction, for example, the use of vernacular is permitted.

HE EXPRESSES enthusiasm of many of the meaningful and vital to the faithful. A wider use of the vernacular would be a tremendous help — a great step forward."

COURIER JOURNAL
Friday, December 9, 1955

79

Msgr. Sherry writes that the vernacular Society in the United States advocates even the use of English in the Mass, communion, signs four hymns, inton all times when the priest was also a visiting lecturer at the University of Notre Dame.

This system, he adds, "leaves Latin for all the silent prayers of the priest at the altar, prayers which are neither heard nor meant to be heard by the people."

"All over the world," he says, "there is growing an irreducible desire on the part of the faithful and regular visitors for more vernacular in the public liturgical prayers of the Church, especially in the Mass."

"Popes, bishops, priests and laymen have been working together to make the liturgy more meaningful and vital to the faithful. A wider use of the vernacular would be a tremendous help — a great step forward."

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Foul With Fair Name

London — (RNS) — Three members of England's Roman Catholic hierarchy struck out at obscenity literature in Advent pastoral letters.

Their comments were seen by some observers as provoked by the recent publication of D. H. Lawrence's novel, "Lady Chatterley's Lover" after a much-publicized lawsuit. The book had been proscribed for 40 years.

BRITISH LAW, as interpreted in the "Chatterley" case, permits the publication of obscenities which in the past would have been forbidden as obscene. If they appear in the context of a work which taken as a whole is judged to have literary merit.

In his pastoral letter, William Cardinal Godfrey, Archbishop of Westminster, declared: "Foul remains foul, even with a fair name. The faithful will know that, even if a book is allowed to be on sale legally, the Christian conscience can oblige us not to read it."

"Children, after the birth of Christ, were slain by Herod the Tyrant," Cardinal Godfrey said. "In our own day they are done to death in another way by the purveyors of evil books and pictures (for the sake of filth); to use a phrase of St. Paul... Filthy is the word for such reading, no matter what name are chosen to adorn it."

Archbishop John C. Newman of Liverpool, in his Advent letter, said the sale of undesirable literature "in the name of freedom" was making life "increasingly dangerous," particularly for the young.

Bishop George P. Dwyer of Leeds said there was a time in the nation's history when "even the law of the land, with the general support of the people, made sure that a measure of modesty was preserved in books, newspapers and on the stage."

"That time seems to have gone," he said. "We are told that public opinion has changed, and the law must change with it... Perhaps public opinion is not so changed as some

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