

Reviewer Calls New Book 'Christian, Disturbing'

Totally Christian—and very disturbing—was the final judgment of a Catholic priest on Martin Luther King's new book, "Strength to Love." The Rev. Robert Kreckel was the priest-critic on last Tuesday's Sunday Book Review at the Catholic Evidence Library.

Praising the Negro minister as "the most eloquent and dynamic leader in the American civil rights movement," Father Kreckel said the book is a meditation in Christian social ethics.

His review characterized the collection of Dr. King's addresses as "deeply Biblical," and a "successful effort to bring the Gospel to bear on current social problems."

Noting that Dr. King frequently is critical of Christians and the churches, Father Kreckel stressed that it is a judgment of compassion, from a believer who wants "other believers to really give witness to their faith."

While the theme of the race question is central in the King address, the book also includes his views on such problems as disarmament, agnosticism and communism.

Father Kreckel devoted the latter part of his review to select quotes from Dr. King's talks to illustrate his "totally Christian, but disturbing" comment. Some of these were:

"For many Christians are 'thermometers,' registering the climate of public opinion, instead of being 'thermostats' to change public opinion."

"The Church should neither be the servant nor the master of the State—but it's conscience!"

"We must be tough-minded but tender-hearted!"

In his conclusion, the moderator of the Catholic Interracial Council said:

"In today's world, with its straining tensions, and frightening weapons of war, we are all realizing that we must either love one another—or perish!"



Mercy Nuns Educational Institute

SISTERS OF MERCY held an educational institute Oct. 11 at the Motherhouse. Speakers included in upper photo, Sister Helen Daniel, S.S.J., president of Nazareth College; Professor D. Lincoln Cantfield, chairman of the foreign language department of the University of Rochester; and Miss Catherine Sullivan, assistant professor of education, consultant in English at the U. of R. Lower photo shows Rev. Ernan McMillin, assistant professor of philosophy at Notre Dame University; Sister Mary Beatrice, program chairman, and Dr. John P. McGuire, consultant in testing, New York State Education Department.

Public Apathy, Not Laws, Help Smut

New Berlin, Ill.—(NC)—Community pressure, rather than legislation is the best defense against the smut traffic, Michael J. Howlett, State Auditor of Public Accounts, told a Knights of Columbus meeting here.

HOWLETT WAS the guest speaker at a breakfast meeting (Oct. 14) of the New Berlin Council, Knights of Columbus, in the Community Building.

He said Illinois laws already on the books are adequate to control indecent literature when properly enforced.

"The loneliest man in the world is the young prosecutor, all by himself in a courtroom, representing the people of Illinois in a complaint against smut, contesting with expensive and expert counsel for the well-heeled offender," he said.

"It takes people to make a law work. An aroused citizenry which demands action of law enforcement authorities, and backs them up when action is taken, can accomplish wonders. But a disinterested community is fertile soil for the smut producer."

"If smut is growing, it is the fault of the people, not of the legislature. Attitudes and customs of the people can modify the law, or even put it to death. A law that is not enforced is a dead one," he said.

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THE NEW LAW replaced a 137-year-old one held to be unconstitutional because of its vagueness. Among items banned from Sunday sales by the new law are automobiles, clothing, furniture, appliances and housewares.

Georgetown Plans Jubilee

Washington—(NC)—"Wisdom and Discovery for a Dynamic World" will be the theme of year-long observances celebrating the 175th anniversary of Georgetown University, oldest Catholic institution of higher education in the United States.

The university said in an announcement that the observance of its founding in 1776 will include "conferences, symposia, lectures and meetings of scholars and other eminent men to consider and illustrate the key ideas, issues and opportunities



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Negro Homes

St. Paul, Minn.—(NC)—Visits to Negro families by 40 white couples of the Christian Family Movement here are being planned this month.

At a preliminary meeting, the panel will be briefed by a panel that includes members of the Urban League and the Catholic Interracial Council.

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