



The Torch Is Passed

... but No Man is an Island

TWO AMERICANS ENJOY A HAPPY MOMENT. This photograph of the late President John Fitzgerald Kennedy and President Johnson was taken shortly after their election in 1960. President Kennedy, slain

by an assassin in Dallas, on Nov. 22, 1963 was succeeded by the Vice President, Lyndon Baines Johnson, who becomes the nation's 36th Chief Executive. (RNS PE1010)

Few people would have thought at the beginning of this year that by its end we would have lost Pope John in Rome and the President of the United States. We've been very aware of death this year.

But with the murder of John Kennedy, death has become immediate to people all over the world. For the first time, because of the stature of the man and the nature of a shrinking world.

People everywhere feel they have lost someone they'll miss. Yesterday, one man died. Today, in America, sixty lost their lives in a fire. Yet, somehow, it is the one that matters. Even in death, it seems, we're not equal. Death is not the great leveler. Death reveals the eminent.

With Kennedy in office, the dream had come true. Behind the rocking chair, Caroline, and the parties in Bobby's swimming pool, behind the trappings of the image, was the first Western politician to make politics a respectable profession for thirty years—to make it once again the highest of professions and not just a fabric of fraud and sham.

When most statesmen die they have to be explained away with words like integrity and cunning and courage. But Kennedy did not need such apologies, for he was simply and unequivocally a man of his age who understood his age who put all his own energy on the best brains of his country into solving its problems—and who ended up, in more cases than not, by doing the right thing at the right time because he'd gone about it the right way.

There are two men in the world, for the first time since the world began, in whose hands lies the possibility of bringing all life on this globe to an end and making its charred remains uninhabitable until the end of time.

One of those men looks out on the loneliest view in the

(Great Britain's BBC weekly televises a live program entitled "That Was The Week That Was." It is a cutting, lampooning, satirical and often sadistic expose that makes our Mike Wallace and David Susskind look like Boy Scouts.

The studio audience comes each week to laugh or hiss, and a knock-em-down-drag-em-out fist-fight is not an infrequent on-camera occurrence.

Our late President Kennedy was often a target for the program's barbs.

Last Saturday, Nov. 23, studio and home viewers sat in absolute silence as the "Week That Was" spellbound them by "doing it straight."

Here are some excerpts from that program—rare and beautiful tributes to America by foreigners who wept with us last week.—The Editor.)

world—the view from the White House windows in the middle of the century.

And yet how little true it is that all power tends to corrupt, and that absolute power corrupts absolutely. It would be nearer the truth to say such power transforms, elevates, even purifies its holder.

The assumption of so terrible a burden, even as it marks out its bearer as a man forever apart, at the same time gives him the strength to lift it.

In what manner this man whose identity is less important than his office, has come by degrees to bear the burden of hundreds of millions who know nothing of him, is no longer important even if it could be explained.

What matters now is that we recognize what we have done. The loneliness of power is a universally accepted truth. There remains the recognition of the loneliness of absolute power, the responsibility for all life and death, a responsibility hitherto reserved only to God.

In a sense, so terribly real it transcends paradox, mankind has by a conscious decision appointed for itself a God-substitute. And the blasphemy of the appointment by men of one man to live and die for us all is

and at Sarajevo, the loudest shot the world has ever heard one bitterly ironic coincidence has gone unnoticed.

A few hours before he died, President Kennedy had taken time out of his crowded program to look in on the birthday celebration in Dallas of John Nance Garner, who was ninety-five yesterday, was Roosevelt's first vice president and, by far, the senior surviving former holders of that office.

At the 1960 Democratic Convention in Los Angeles, Lyndon Johnson, defeated by Kennedy for the presidential nomination, offered the vice presidency to him. He hesitated. To help him make up his mind, he telephoned his fellow Texan, Garner, who had held the post all these years before, to ask whether he would advise acceptance. No, said Garner, he would not. And, in a typically Texan phrase, added "London the vice presidency isn't worth a pitcher of warm spit."

Nevertheless, Johnson accepted Kennedy's offer and in consequence became yesterday evening the thirty-sixth president of the United States.

The succession was immediate. In the world today, neither gun nor check can be permitted to create an interregnum in the chain of power. The president is dead. Long live the President.

And such as the pace at which the modern world moves, that even before the morning is begun, we must begin to think not of the past but of the future.

What then can be said of the future with President Johnson? (Continued on Page 8)

Scholarship Of 2 Diocesan Women Cited

Two diocesan young women were cited for scholarship at Marymount College, Scranton, Pa.

Miss Ann Marie D'Angelo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick D'Angelo, 325 Emerson St., Rochester; and Miss Ellen Zoltowski, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Paul Zoltowski, 452 Pennsylvania Ave., Waverly, were among 174 seniors, juniors and sophomores introduced to the assembled faculty and student body at Honors Convocation as students whose high scholastic attainments last year ranked them among the upper fifth of their classes.

Miss D'Angelo, a graduate of Nazareth Academy, Rochester, is a candidate for the bachelor of arts degree with concentration in English.

Miss Zoltowski, a graduate of Notre Dame High School, Elmira, is working toward a bachelor of music degree with a major in piano and a minor in flute.

Ithaca Nuns To Be Honored

Ithaca—Our Lady's Guild of the Immaculate Conception parish is planning a Christmas party in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart to be held at the Women's Community Building on Thursday evening, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m.

Mrs. W. Donald Cook is in charge of entertainment. Mrs. Richard Knight and Mrs. Charles are co-chairmen in charge of refreshments.

The Corporal Acts of Mercy Committee under the leadership of Mrs. Charles Schnoor will collect gifts for the needy at the door.

Catholic Action Unit Elects Mrs. Tischer

Corning—Mrs. Richard Tischer of Crystal Gardens is the new 1963-64 president of the Catholic Action Society of St. Vincent de Paul's parish following her recent election in the school hall.

Others who will serve are Mrs. James Kennan, vice president, Mrs. Gerald Craig, secretary, Mrs. Norman Cook, treasurer.

THE SLATE was presented by Mrs. Frederick White, Assisting Mrs. White in preparing the slate was Mrs. Charles Nitsche, Mrs. Harry Benza, Mrs. Joseph Daley and Mrs. Norman Cook.

Officers will be installed at the Christmas tea Dec. 9.

New members introduced are Mrs. David Fritz, Mrs. Daniel Kane and Mrs. Lawrence Gehl.

Sister Mary Aquin of the Sisters of Mercy, Rochester, was guest for the topic was "New Methods of Teaching Elementary Mathematics." She gave a history of the new method in Rochester and told how it is spreading to all schools in the diocese. Aided by a slide projector, she worked typical problems illustrating the new approach as contrasted with the older methods.

Refreshments were served 50 of SS Peter and Paul Church members and guests by Mrs. Elmira officiated.



Annual Christmas Sale of the Sisters of Mercy will be held Dec. 6 from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 11 p.m. Making articles for the sale are from left Sister Dismas, Sister Judith and Sister Monica.

Dinner Meeting At St. Patrick's

Members of the Holy Name Society of St. Patrick's Church, Elmira will hold a dinner meeting in the auditorium on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 6:15 p.m.

Father John S. Hayes pastor will speak on a cardinal Newman. News named officers of the society will be installed on this occasion.

Mercy Sisters Slate Annual Holiday Bazaar

A Christmas Bazaar will be conducted by the Sisters of Mercy and the Mercy Guild Friday, Dec. 6, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the afternoon, and from 7 to 11 in the evening. Mrs. Henry Kease is chairman of the event, assisted by Mother Mary Gabriel, Mother Mary Alphonsus and the guild members.

Games will be conducted and refreshments served throughout the afternoon and evening. The public is cordially invited according to Mother Mary Beale, Mother General of the Sisters of Mercy. Proceeds from the bazaar are used for the educational advancement of the Sisters of Mercy.

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Toiland will display a pageant of dolls, including Sister dolls, all kinds of animals and other novelties for children of all ages.

Fancy hand work, aprons, bankies, Christmas cards and

Forty Hours Sunday, Dec. 1—Sacred Heart Cathedral, St. John the Evangelist, Humboldt St., St. Mary's, St. Patrick's, Rochester, St. Mary's, Auburn, SS. Peter and Paul, Elmira

25 Years Ago

(From files of the Catholic Courier Journal, Dec. 1, 1938)

Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of San Francisco, returned a native of Rochester, celebrated Mass and read President Roosevelt's Thanksgiving proclamation in the Church of St. Susanna, in Rome on the American Thanksgiving Day.

Re-establishment of the Faculty, Matthew Teasdale, S.J., in Elmira was marked by the signing by nearly 100 young men of the pledge of total abstinence from drinking. Most Rev. John J. Lee, V.F., pastor of SS Peter and Paul Church members and guests by Mrs. Elmira officiated.

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