



Singers and Authors

The Mission Singers, regularly featured columnists in the Courier, are, l-r, Brothers Joseph Valentine, Pat Coyne, Tom Troxell and John O'Reilly. They are shown belting out a song during a recording session. Two of them, O'Reilly and Valentine, have recently co-authored a New Catholic Catechism. (RNS Photo)

Priest Fugitive Justifies Actions

Chicago — (RNS) — Father Daniel Berrigan, S.J., "alive and reasonably well," indicated in a letter published in Christian Century magazine here that he is a fugitive today because of his "concentration" on the will of Christ, "another name for history in process."

Asking "our friends to go slow in judging us, in turning us out of their minds or rejecting us from their prayers," Father Berrigan reminded that "one startling sign of the rightness of a course of action may be the initial sharp outcry against it, in church and state alike."

The Jesuit priest, formerly at Cornell University, Ithaca, and now a fugitive convicted of destroying federal property at a Catonsville, Md. draft board two years ago has been at large since early April.

The Jesuit compared himself to a wandering monk, whom the famed contemplative priest, Thomas Merton, he said, described as "a man at the edge

of both church and society, barely tolerated by either; but being at the edge he has the inestimable advantage of being able to talk with those whose lives are a long pilgrimage at the edge . . ."

"The saints were right", he noted. "Their best moments were on the run, in jail, at the edge of social acceptability . . . They might not succeed in putting a stick in the wheel of power" but "they would try for that modest disruption."

Father Berrigan is facing a three-year prison term as a member of the so called Catonsville Nine. Six others, including the priest's brother, Father Phillip Berrigan, are in prison.

FISHER GRAD GETS PH.D.

Richard W. Friday Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Friday Sr., of 263 Hinchey Rd. in St. Helen's parish, was awarded a doctor of philosophy degree at Notre Dame University on June 7. He is a 1965 graduate of St. John Fisher College.



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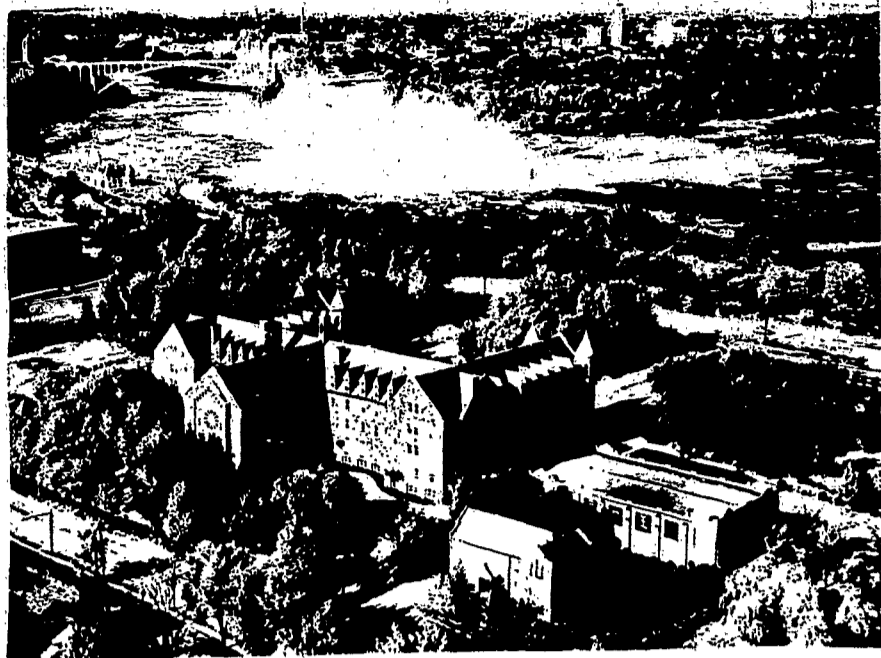
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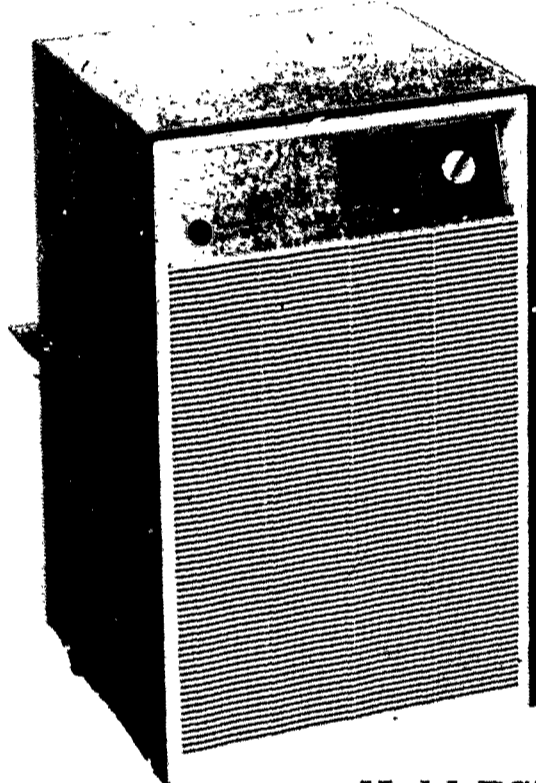
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