

FR. HENRY ATWELL
**Toward
Tomorrow**



One of the legendary figures in our diocesan history is the late Rev. Dr. Edward A. Byrne, professor of Sacred Scripture at St. Bernard's Seminary.

He was a sedate gentleman, a scholar in the old tradition.

Like so many professors, he developed a set of his own personal cliches which are still quoted by his former pupils, now priests in scores of our parishes.

One of his sayings was, "Gentlemen, learn the value of words, learn the value of words."

In our present day world of instant communication, words have become devalued, mere sounds of blather rather than for the exchange of thoughts.

Two recent publications reveal all this in contrary but humorous ways.

One is the new book 'Rome wasn't Burned in a Day' by Leo Rosten, a book subtitled 'The Mischief of Language.' It is simply a compilation of the blunders of authors and speakers such as, "A rolling stone gathers no moths" or "Don't bite the hand that lays the golden egg."

Religion, of course, provides numerous possibilities, such as these:

"Don't blame God — he's only human."

"Joshua won the battle of Geritol."

"The three Magi were named Frank, Incense and Mur."

"Noah's wife was Joan of Ark."

"Infidels are not Christians, they practice infidelity."

The second item is an article in 'The Critic' magazine, a batch of quotations from ancient saints and sages about the hazards of women, such as:

"There is no evil so terrible as a woman," said Euripides.

"Women may be said to be an infer-

ior man," said Aristotle, echoed by St. Thomas Aquinas who commented, "As regards the individual nature, woman is defective and misbegotten."

St. Jerome took an even more dismal view of the fair sex, saying quite bluntly "Women are the gate of hell."

St. John Chrysostom wasn't much better. "Woman — a foe to friendship; an inescapable punishment, a necessary evil."

Aristophanes added his licks, "There's nothing in the world worse than a woman — except some other woman."

Even President Grover Cleveland voiced his opinion, "Sensible and responsible women do not want to vote."

Those women who demand liberation today can at least take heart in reading these quotations and realize, "You've come a long way, baby!"

But I must admit women still have a long way yet to go, especially in the Church.

Christianity was born in a world where the ideas expressed by the philosophers and saints quoted above were prevalent. Women were considered to be inferior and were certainly treated as such, despite the somewhat moderating influence of the Church's radical teachings and practices on the subject. The Church gave the sacraments, except one, to women, as to men. Women were ordinarily not segregated from men at worship, as was, and sometimes still is, the practice in Jewish synagogues.

But there is still a remnant of discrimination. The Church still refuses one sacrament to women, the priesthood.

Someday soon that barrier will have to come down too so the Church can become, at last, a bit more truly catholic.

"Catholic" is a valuable word. We should live up to its full meaning.



FR. PAUL J. CUDDY
**On The
Right Side**

DEAR EDITOR,

Did I now know otherwise I should think that the C-J deliberately sabotaged OTRSide articles. For example, see what happened to the May 17 article on the ROSARY. The true copy read: "... a subtle hostility toward the Blessed Sacrament has developed in the strangest places. The rosary struggles and survives in many places, thanks to good parents, etc. ..." The article came from your press thus: "A subtle hostility toward the Blessed Sacrament has developed in the strangest places, thanks to good parents and grandparents and to a few religious education teachers."

TO SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY:

Your fusillades against the President's desperate strategy to safeguard American soldiers, our nation's honor, and to strengthen an ally are a neat study in lopsidedness. Will you please explain why you are so inexplicably silent about the invaders from the North into the sovereign state of South Viet Nam? The South is defending itself!

Your words remind me of a note a kindergarten teacher is reputed to have received from a progressive mother of a hellion son. "Dear teacher, If Rodney causes any trouble in the classroom, please slap soundly the boy next to him. I am sure this will scare Rodney enough to make him behave." We do hope for a rational explanation from you or, sufficient enough, from your office.

TO SENATOR JAMES BUCKLEY:

May I express my regrets that some reporter to the Rochester COURIER-JOURNAL reported the clerical FLIGHT ON WASHINGTON, May 15, so shabbily. It reads: "Though our congressmen were indeed most gracious, there was a feeling that Sen. Buckley's office was less than that." (C-J May 17) Most of us, I think, do not equate bland smiles and public relations pats on the back with integrity or reason. The group and all of us share the same sorrow and frustration which the Pope himself suffers as he works with such little success for

"peace based on justice." Whoever can get the North Viet Nam invaders to go back home with their Russian tanks and weapons, to settle down in peace, deserves every peace award available.

Despite the unfortunate remark about the "ungraciousness of your office" most of the COURIER READERS have not forgotten your courageous and clear cut opposition to the Herodian abortion laws of our State, which you gave when many smiling and gracious legislators voted to continue the death warrant for little unborn babies. For this we thank you.

TO MR. CLIFF CARPENTER, Columnist for Rochester Democrat and Chronicle:

I am sincerely sorry to read your blanket blessing on the killing of the unborn children, especially since you are usually on the side of the angels. May I make a request? It is this. Please arrange with some local hospital for permission to observe two kinds of abortions, preferably of fetuses four or five months old. It would be better for your study and for your reporting afterward if one abortion is done by salt poisoning of the child; the other either by the suction or the scraping method. Then please give your account of what you observed and how you reacted, to your readers.

Editor's Note: Larry Keefe points out that he merely reported on the trip and feels it is an accurate summation of the feeling of the peace group that they were treated with less than courtesy by Sen. Buckley, the only one of the diocesan elected officials who did not see the clergymen. The others, some of whom disagreed with the mission, nevertheless were described as "most gracious" in the statement. Reporter Keefe wishes to assure Father Cuddy that he does not "equate bland smiles and public relations pats on the back with integrity or reason" and points out that no place in the story is this implied. He invites Father Cuddy to ask members of the group if they felt his story was accurate. Far from apologizing to Sen. Buckley, Father Cuddy should realize it's as American as apple pie for the electorate to expect a hearing from their elected officials.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Tour Spain & Portugal

with **Father Paul J. Cuddy**

Including visits to:

- Shrine of Fatima
- Lisbon
- Seville
- Madrid
- Grenada
- Toledo
- Cordoba
- Costa del Sol



Father Paul J. Cuddy
Father Cuddy is Chaplain of St. James Mercy Hospital and author of the Weekly Courier-Journal Column ON THE RIGHT SIDE.

See Fatima, the ornate Cathedral at Seville, the Cathedral at Toledo, the great monastery at Seville.

See Lisbon, the water color city on the banks of the Tagus — the resorts of Estoril and Cascais—Spain, a world in itself with Andalusia's fascinating Seville, Moorish Cordoba and Grenada —the bright and sunny Costa del Sol, Madrid with its famous Prado Museum.

15 DAYS

September 25th thru October 8th

\$725.00

for everything, both to and from Rochester including scheduled Jet Air Fare

FOR BROCHURE WRITE

TOUR DEPARTMENT
COURIER-JOURNAL
RICHFORD BUILDING
67 CHESTNUT ST.
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14604

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP CODE

PHONE