

EDITORIALS

Socialism?

Out of almost every tragedy comes good for someone, or at the very least provides means for some individual to gain an end. Now, less than three weeks after the assassination of President John Kennedy, Senator Thomas Dodd (D.-Conn.) is using this tragic event to strengthen backing for a bill which he introduced into Congress. This bill, among other things, would outlaw the mail-order buying of firearms. Sen. Dodd believes that if firearms could be bought only in person, there would be less chance of mentally unbalanced or emotionally disturbed individuals gaining possession of firearms. We agree there would be some infinitesimal less chance, but there would always be other means by which questionable persons could and would obtain firearms. Need we call upon an overworked example -- the prohibition law of the early 1900's -- to illustrate the fact that human nature cannot be changed in a whole-sale manner by governmental legislation for denial of certain things.

Senator Dodd explains that his bill also would require a dealer to register with proper authorities (?) that he has sold a firearm to a particular person. In most states a permit issued by the local law enforcement agency is required in order to buy and possess a pistol or other small gun that can be carried or concealed on the person. Also, in many states it is a felony to saw off or shorten a rifle or shotgun to allow it to be carried on the person.

Our question is, of what good is it that these "proper-authorities" know of everyone who owns a firearm? Is it so that in the case of misuse of a particular firearm, all persons known to possess that type of firearm can be hauled before a judge or magistrate on suspicion, or so all the firearms in question can be collected and checked through a system of ballistics? We can see that such a law, if passed, would obviate the necessity of checking into an individual's background, which in many ways would constitute governmental invasion of an individual's private life.

There are 25 million people in this country who possess and use firearms for recreation and sport. Are these people all to be persecuted as a result of the maniacal act of one individual? That is presupposing an affirmative answer to Cain's question of "Am I my brother's keeper?" The automobile -- an inestimably dangerous machine, which can be owned by anyone with the funds to purchase one and can be operated by anyone from age 16 up -- in the year 1960 alone caused the death of 38,200 persons. Obviously some of these deaths were caused by persons unfit to drive an automobile. But should we ask for legislation requiring certificates of complete sanity and perfect emotional balance before one may own and operate a motor vehicle? Could we, even then, account for such instances as anger, frustration, grief, depression, elation, or drunkenness, in which everyone loses partial mental balance and emotional control?

In the form as it now stands and as this writer understands it, Sen. Dodd's bill is only one step more down that ever-shortening road to socialism.

The Roving I

By LONNIE MANN

Student-Faculty Communication

I believe that it should be an important part of the educational experience at St. Andrews to have a closer faculty-student relationship. By this I do not wish to imply that students should file their tongues to a shiny point kissing the feet of the faculty members, but that there should be a closer extra-classroom communication. A great deal could be learned by both faculty and students by the heightening of these contacts. The student and the professor could both indirectly enhance the efficiency of their respective roles in the educational system. Many students are reluctant to encounter professors in a purely social or non-classroom situation because of the marked hierarchical social configuration in the classroom.

Perhaps if more social events were planned with the purpose of opportunity to meet socially a great many cumbersome barriers could be eliminated.

St. Andrews, being a relatively small college, could make this personal warm contact an important intellectual tradition. Since imitation constitutes a great part of the learning process, a professor naturally becomes a better teacher by further exposing students to various facts of his personality and to the various modes of thought. It is also significant that increased communication will result in greater understanding and insight into the problems that confront both students and professors.

I therefore challenge and urge both consciencious students and professors to "break the ice" in order to make the college community a more understanding and efficient team.

Adds Study In Middle East

A summer study in Jerusalem, worth six semester hours, has been added to the summer program at St. Andrews. With headquarters in that city, there will be five weeks of travel in the Holy Land and Middle East. The group will study "Archaeological and Historical Geography of Palestine" for three weeks at St. George's College, an Episcopal school in Jerusalem. The courses will be taught by a St. Andrews Professor and Dr. Zimmerman of St. George's College. The students will leave New York on June 11, for Cairo, Beirut, Damascus, Jericho, and Jerusalem. On the return trip there will be stops in Tel-Aviv, Athens, Corinth, Rome, and London, arriving in New York again on July 16.

The full cost will be \$1,108, and enrollment must be made by January 10 in order to assure a reservation.

St. Andrews is also offering two other credit courses -- an around-the-world flying tour and an extended tour of the Middle East.

Information can be obtained from Dr. Louis C. Lamotte, director of the Summer School.

The program has been especially designed for students, but it will provide an interesting experience for anyone interested in deeper understanding of the Bible.

Assassination Of President Kennedy

Some Views

By Rebecca Carter

The day that President Kennedy was shot was a time of deep thinking and questioning on the part of students and faculty at St. Andrews. Persons interviewed were asked to tell their immediate thoughts concerning the assassination.

Melinda Webster -- I was stunned and in a state of unbelief. My thoughts flashed back to the picture in TIME of the President smiling down at his son -- a picture that can be no more!

Bill Campbell -- Heard the news while on the way to a Clemson game. Felt sick at first to think that anyone would do such an outrageous act. The President meant so much to the people with his interest in youth and physical fitness program besides the political side.

Mr. David McLean -- Had a feeling of incredibility. Thought of the children in relationship to their family. Wondered how capable Johnson is and how much he had been taken into the President's confidence. I felt a grief deeper than if it had been one of my own dead.

Carly Rehm -- My first thoughts after the shock was WHY?

Bob Shaffner -- At 1:25, I had looked at the clock and later learned this was the time of the murder. The whole situation seemed ironical -- Lincoln-Johnson, Kennedy -- Johnson.

Dr. Carl Bennett -- Whole thing seemed unreal. I thought of Dallas as a hotbed of extremism of all kinds. Felt we were all responsible for creating a climate of suspicion and hostility which makes it easy for a psychopath to prove himself a hero by an act of insanity.

Ann Stradley -- At first I had a period of depression and sadness; later I thought of Mrs. Kennedy.

Dwight Bayley -- Thought the whole thing was a joke -- wondered what will happen next.

VENEZUELA

A FREE COUNTRY

By Dr. Jose M. Bohigas

Election day has been realized successfully in Venezuela. In spite of the terror, crime, destruction and threat by Castro-communists, the people of Venezuela went in big majority to vote. Under bullets they voted for a man who represents democracy. In this way communism has been defeated in this Hemisphere.

It is possible that more days of death and terrorism will come to Venezuela. However, that country has honored the memory of one of its most devoted friends: John F. Kennedy, who said one day to Romulo Betancourt, President of Venezuela: "We wish the United States to be identified with leaders such as you -- liberal, progressive, leaders who believe that the problems of this Hemisphere can be solved in cooperation under a system of freedom." The people of Venezuela also answered "present" to Romulo Betancourt, the valiant President that could resist, to the last minute, the ferocious attack of Castro-communists.

The threat of another Cuba in this Hemisphere has disappeared. A triumph has been procured for democracy, for a country of this Hemisphere, for Romulo Betancourt, and for John F. Kennedy.

Mr. Spencer Ludlow -- I thought of the growing trend in the past months to solve social problems with violence. The U.S. has a growing image of a hero, as one who occasionally takes the law into his own hands. I wondered what is happening to our country to let this ultimate of lawlessness break out.

From the S.A. Office

Last year at the Student Association Spring Convention several proposals were drawn up in regard to changing the existing structure of the Student Association, and also in regard to modifying certain areas of the SA constitution. This year the Cabinet has approved the Constitutional Executive Committee to work these proposed changes into the old constitution, and to revise the constitution as a whole. The Committee is made up of the Executive Committee of the Cabinet, plus Mike Long and Bob Zeh, with Dean Davenport and Dr. Fulcher as advisors.

This Committee has undertaken a difficult task, but feels that it is important that it establish a strong and flexible constitution, with and through which we can work in the years to come. We will all be deprived of working under the proposals made last year until the last part of this year, but this is a sacrifice that will profit the entire college in the years ahead.

Register At Rizk's College Shop for a Holiday



Sung Shot Cardigan Sweater to be give away to a St. Andrews Student on Dec. 17th.

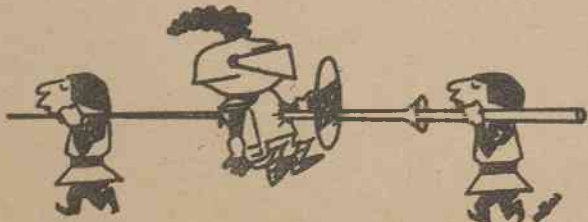
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