

Contends Natural Law Under Insidious Attack

INDIANAPOLIS —(NC)— A priest-law professor charged here that the traditional American philosophy of law is under "serious attack" within the legal profession by advocates of a new ideology which "denies the rational foundations of American liberty and ordered justice."

Several hundred representatives of state and local governments heard Father William J. Kenealy, S.J., of Loyola University law school, Chicago, contend in his sermon at the first Red Mass of the Indianapolis archdiocese that if the viewpoint of modern legal positivists prevails the legal profession "is destined to play a tragic part in the disintegration of the free society our forebears so gloriously constructed."

He identified the modern legal positivists as those who "attack the very concept of the natural law as medieval fiction, which served a useful purpose in its day but is now obsolete and never had any objective existence."

"To them inalienable rights are simply metaphysical nonsense,"

Durham Knights Show Movies

The Council presented the first two of a 13-run McQuade "WE Believe" movie series. This program concerns one of the best visual-aid programs on religious education. Produced by the National Council of Catholic Men under the direction of Rev. James J. McQuade, Head-of-Dept. of Religion, John Carroll Univ., Cleveland, Ohio, the films are of 28 minutes duration, each.

The first showing at the council's social meeting and open house included these subjects: "RELIGION" and "GOD." Owen V. Syman, Activities chairman, is in charge of the showings.

Winston-Salem K of C Exemplify 1st Degree

The First Degree was exemplified for Rev. William N. Pharr, assistant pastor of St. Leo's Church and two other candidates, Harold Lloyd and John Cenicola, at a recent business meeting of Santa Maria Council No. 2829, Knights of Columbus, in Winston-Salem

Father Kenealy said. "They deny the existence of objective principles of justice and liberty, thus recognizing no absolutes except pragmatic public policy."

Father Kenealy termed this thinking as the fundamental philosophy of the absolute state, which he called a "retrogression to ancient Caesarism."

The personal philosophy of the late Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the U.S. Supreme Court, which reflects scepticism concerning the nature of truth, of man, and of life, was cited by Father Kenealy as "gaining an alarming acceptance in the current trend of legal writing and jurisdictional thinking."

Although expressing satisfaction with Holmes' judicial restraint, Father Kenealy said he is not confident that "the exuberant idolizers of (Holmes') personal philosophy will exhibit a similar restraint in the future development of our law."

"The construction and maintenance of a corpus juris (body of law), applying the natural law," Father Kenealy said, "is a monumental and perpetual task demanding the constant devotion of the best brains of the legal profession."

Fundamental principles of the natural law "require rational and practical application to the constantly changing political, economic, social and technological conditions of dynamic human society . . . (which) repudiates a smug complacency in the status quo," he declared.

First Priest To Serve As House Chaplain

ATLANTA, Ga. —(NC)— The journal of the house of representatives of the Georgia general assembly has published an editorial by a priest-editor and noted that he was the first priest to serve as chaplain of the state house.

The editorial was written by Father R. Donald Kiernan, editor of the Atlanta edition of The Bulletin, newspaper of the Atlanta and Savannah dioceses.

It urged citizens to visit their local senators and representatives while the general assembly is in session.

Italian Party Faces Tough Coalition Test

ROME —(NC)— Christian Democracy in Italy faces probably its most crucial test since it came to power after the Second World War.

On January 27 the Catholic-oriented party, which is Italy's dominant party, holds its national congress at Naples. The crux of the meeting will be the answer to one of three questions:

—Shall the party move to the political left by aligning itself with Italian Socialist party?

—Shall the party align itself with neofascist and monarchist parties, thus veering to the extreme right?

—Or shall the party refuse both alliances and take its chances in a new series of national elections?

No matter how serious the consequences, one thing is clear. A choice has to be made.

The choice has been forced on the Christian Democrats. While the Christian Democrats have been Italy's largest party for the past 15 years, they have not held an absolute majority in parliament and therefore have had to rely on rightist or leftist support to stay in power.

The present government, headed by Premier Amintore Fanfani, came to power by forming a coalition government with the support of the Social Democrats headed by Giuseppe Saragat, together with the Liberals and Republicans.

Mestrovic of N.D. Noted Sculptor, Dies

NOTRE DAME, Ind — (NC) — Solemn Requiem Mass for Ivan Mestrovic, 78, internationally known sculptor, was offered in Sacred Heart church on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, where he had been professor of sculptor since 1955. Burial will be in his native Yugoslavia.

Mestrovic died (Jan. 16) in St. Joseph's Hospital, South Bend, after he had suffered two strokes. He had been working earlier on the day of his death in his studio on the campus.

The Croatian-born artist was an outstanding sculptor of religious subjects. His works were exhibited in international exhibitions for more than 50 years.

Mission Helpers Leave For L.A. Mission Field

By Sister Madonna

On January 8th, four mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, left for work in South America, the first foundation being in Caracas, Venezuela. These four Sisters are all veterans of many years in Puerto Rico, and fluent in Spanish. A departure ceremony was held in Baltimore on Sunday, January 7th, with Rt. Rev. Msgr Joseph M. Nelligan, Ecclesiastical Superior of the Congregation, presiding.

This new foundation is the Mission Helpers' response to the call of His Holiness, Pope John XXIII, for missionaries in Latin America. The scope of their work there, sponsored by His Eminence, Jose Umberto Cardinal Quintero of Caracas, was detailed in a recent visit to Caracas and to Barcelona, Venezuela. Vast numbers of children without religious instruction and families in destitution await the help which the Sisters can give them.

1890-1902-1942-1953-1962 —These are headline dates in the history of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart. 1890 saw the seed of the Congregation planted in Baltimore, Maryland, as a small group of women joined together to meet a great need—the teaching of religion to children not in Catholic schools, and the searching out of spiritually needy adults through parish census work, institution visiting and other apostolic activities.

1902 brought the first foundation outside the "States," as the Mission Helpers went to the country's newly acquired territory of Puerto Rico, being the first American Sisters on the island. 1942 marked a new expansion, into the far west, Bisbee, Arizona, as the earlier foundations were in the eastern part of the United States. Fall of 1953 welcomed to the Tar Heel State four Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart in Henderson, N.C. A mighty challenge met the four Mission Helpers in a state which is less than 1% Catholic. In 1955 another Catechetical Center, Our Lady of

the Missioner, was opened in Charlotte and five years later was moved to Statesville, N.C., where two of the pioneer Sisters are still busily engaged in the apostolate in the western part of the state. The Henderson center was moved to Farmville. Besides their work of catechizing a vast area in the eastern and western part of North Carolina they have served the entire diocese in establishing the various departments of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. They work closely with the diocesan CCD office and are available as resource persons. They conduct courses in Methods of teaching Religion on both elementary and high school level, and also give other leadership courses as requested.

Presbyterians Urged To Enter Church Talks

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — (NC) — Delegates to the North American area council of the World Presbyterian Alliance, were told here that churches of the Reformed faith "must undertake, or develop, discussions with the Roman Catholic Church."

In his annual report to the Council, Marcel Pradervand of Geneva, Switzerland, general secretary of the World Presbyterian Alliance, said the calling of the Second Vatican Council in 1962 is an event which the Reformed churches cannot ignore.

"Sympathetic and discerning theological study of the meaning of the recent developments in the ecumenical movement is a responsibility we must take seriously," Pradervand said.

The report of the general secretary was presented to the delegates at a meeting in the Ritz-Carlton hotel by James I. McCord, president of the Princeton Theological Seminary and secretary of the North American Area Council.

The Pradervand report said 89 churches, 22 of which are in Africa, now belong to the World Alliance. Five churches were admitted to membership in 1961. Of these three were African churches, one is located in Pakistan, the other in South America.

Twelve churches in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean area with a membership of 6,527,221, constitute the North American Area Council.

Parish Board Maps Churches

The Parish Board has drawn up and distributed to hotels, motels, bus, train, and airport stations a clearly outlined map of Greensboro, showing place of the four Greensboro Catholic churches, and listing times of Mass and other devotions.

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