## University of Notre Dame Notre Dame, Indiana

## DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC INFORMATION James E. Murphy, Director - Area Code 219, Phone 284-7367

For release in PM's, Thursday, October 1st:

64/60

Notre Dame, Ind., Sept. 30 -- The lives and work of twelve towering Catholic and Protestant scholars are sketched in Theologians Of Our Time, a book just published by the University of Notre Dame Press.

Edited by Leonhard Reinisch, the volume presents profiles of Karl Barth, Rudolf Bultmann, Emil Brunner, Paul Althaus, Paul Tillich, Reinhold Niebuhr, Karl Adam, Romano Guardini, Heinrich Schlier, Hans Urs von Balthasar, Yves Congar and Karl Rahner. It includes a complete bibliography of their books, essays, articles and pamphlets.

In a Foreword, Rev. Charles H. Henkey, notes a "current upsurge of theological interest" and "the emergence of great, zealous theologians." Theologians of our time, he writes, "like the prophets of the Old Testament, are the beacon lights in the darkness that is enveloping human existence today. They manifest and express the vital reaction of faith in a faithless, secularistic world..."

Father Henkey cites "two really positive achievements" of the "new theology." First, "Catholic theologians have become deeply influenced by problems which were originally raised by Protestant theologians, without deviating from Catholic truth, while Protestant theologians are borne more and more by the weight of their own honest thinking towards an affirmation of the Catholic point of view." Secondly, he reports, "there is also a growing rapprochement between theology and the natural sciences: theologians no longer regard suspiciously the new discoveries as being potential enemies of the old faith. Scientists, on the other hand, no longer identify the theologians with dark-garbed inquisitors, ready to obliterate innovations without even questioning the merits involved."