

Prayers: grandmother of Pat University of Notre Dame
Kinney died. Fr. Charles Religious Bulletin
Flynn, C.S.C., seriously ill. April 18, 1951.

Holy Hour, 4:30, Thursday, for
Jim Aoki. His paralysis may
be permanent. He begs prayers.

The Age Of Crime.

According to UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS every 4 minutes during 1950 someone in the United States was feloniously assaulted or killed. During each average day 146 persons were robbed and the cars of 469 others were stolen. Every 30 seconds on the average throughout the year a larceny was recorded. . . A study of 793,671 fingerprint arrest records received at the F B I during 1950 reflected that more than 41 percent were arrests for major crimes and the AGE 21 predominated in the frequency of arrests.

Senator Fulbright stresses his point: "Too many people in our nation do not believe anything with conviction. They question the concepts of God or of man, indiscriminately. The values of life which were clear to the Pilgrims and the Founding Fathers have become dim and fuzzy in outline."

We lift our eyebrows, are aghast, indignant. Crime-and-Politics has plowed a deep furrow, has laid bare the rotting roots of moral decay. No effective remedies will soothe national pride unless we attack the causes of our evils. An educational system, which is not based on the Ten Commandments, which does not recognize God and His fundamental rights, will not cure our ills. Our basic religious truth--dependence on God--upon which this nation was founded is our strength. How can a Christian democracy survive if public, state and non-religious schools continue to graduate men and women ignorant of the moral law and divine providence?

The soul of society is its recognition of and devotion of God. Without this religious reverence society is soul-less. . . and a soul-less body begins to fall apart in dry-rot and corruption. If home-life is non-religious, if school-life is secularistic, what can you expect of its byproducts?

What You're Up Against.

The infiltrating, despiritualizing cancer of secularism has been destroying our innards for fifty years and more. A handful of individuals, apostles of godlessness, not Communists necessarily, have been feeding this malignant growth in classroom after classroom and from one lecture platform to another.

Father (Christopher) Keller, who has the apostolic habit of calling a club a club, singles out John Dewey as the chosen leader of the forces of secularism in America. On page 182 of his own book, "What I Believe," Dewey stated:

Faith in the divine author and authority in which Western civilization confided, inherited ideas of the soul and its destiny, of fixed revelation, of completely stable institutions, of automatic progress, have been made impossible for the cultivated mind of the Western world.

Another thought molder was Court Justice (Magnificent Yankee) Oliver Wendell Holmes. "His concept of man," writes Harold R. McKinnon in THE SECRET OF MR. JUSTICE HOLMES, is an instance in point. When thinking coldly, he (Holmes) said he saw 'no reason for attributing to man a significance different in kind from that which belongs to a baboon or a grain of sand.'"

Mull over these facts. JUST PLAIN TALK won't solve national crime problems or solve your personal problems. Paying lip service to Christ and His Church won't be any more effective now than it was yesterday. Today we must live our faith. Social conditions will not be changed by the big-hearted failures whose affable smiles and soft eyes argue that they mean well but at the same time prove that they are too easy going, too often beaten, to help anyone, not even themselves. Of them we ask one favor--don't stand in our way.

(Father Butler's improvement is significant. Continue your prayers for him, please.)