

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Department of Public Information
James E. Murphy, Director

58/116

For immediate release:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 5 — Most religious prejudice springs from misconceptions of a group's beliefs, motives and purposes, according to Rev. John A. O'Brien, noted author and research professor at the University of Notre Dame.

Religious animosity, he believes, is generally directed "not against the actual belief and practice of people of a different religion, but against the misconceptions of them which exist in our minds."

Father O'Brien expresses his views in a new pamphlet, "Are You Fair to Jews?", published by Our Sunday Visitor Press. He has reached his conclusions about religious prejudice and why it exists after many years' experience as Catholic co-chairman of the commission on religious organizations of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Noting the long history of anti-Semitism throughout the world, Father O'Brien refutes "common charges" that Jews "control Wall Street" and "unduly influence public opinion" through control of the press and other communications media. Despite the Rosenberg case and a few others, Father O'Brien writes that the Jews "are overwhelmingly opposed to communism." From the days of the founding of the Republic, he declares, "no group has shown greater loyalty than the Jews."

Christians owe the people of Israel "a great debt," Father O'Brien asserts. For thousands of years before Christianity, he writes, Jews "held aloft the torch of monotheism when the rest of the world was plunged in the darkness of polytheism and idolatry. They carried the message of the prophets to subsequent ages and enriched the world with their religious and ethical insights."

"To honor Christ as God incarnate and then to sneer at the people from whom He sprang is strangely inconsistent and ironical," Father O'Brien observes. Laws, he writes, cannot protect the individual from the subtle cruelty of religious discrimination. "Only the enlightened spirit of fair play and good will on the part of citizens can provide this protection," he concludes.

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For release in PM's, Thursday, December 11th:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 11-- Two hundred teachers and scholars are expected to attend the 20th annual convention of the American Catholic Sociological Society at the University of Notre Dame and nearby St. Mary's College December 28-30 (Sun. - Tues.). Nearly forty papers dealing with such varied subjects as school desegregation, Puerto Rican migration and changes in family structure will be presented at the sessions.

Bishop John J. Wright of Worcester, Mass., honorary president of the organization, and Bishop Leo A. Pursley of Fort Wayne, Ind., episcopal host to the convention, will speak at the opening luncheon at Notre Dame's Morris Inn Dec. 28 (Sun.). The principal luncheon address will be given by Dr. John D. Donovan, president of the ACSS and chairman of Boston College's sociology department, who will discuss "New Directions in Sociology." Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Notre Dame president, will extend the greetings of the University to the visiting sociologists.

Most of the convention activity will take place at a series of nine sectional meetings scheduled for the three-day sessions. Sectional meetings dealing with intergroup relations, sociological theory, population, research methods, industrial sociology, the sociology of religion, and research laboratories will be held on the Notre Dame campus. Sister M. Madeleva, C.S.C., president of St. Mary's College, will be host to sectional meetings on the sociology of the family and interdisciplinary analysis at Moreau Hall there. She will greet delegates at a convention dinner to be held at St. Mary's Dec. 29th (Mon.).

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Two papers in the field of intergroup relations will be presented on the opening day of the convention. Rev. James F. Muldowney, S. J., of Wheeling College, Wheeling, W. Va., will discuss "School Desegregation: Some Variables in Social Change." Another Jesuit scholar, Rev. Joseph P. Fitzpatrick, of Fordham University, will explore "Attitudes toward Color among Puerto Ricans."

Specialists in industrial sociology will speak at a sectional meeting the first evening of the sessions (Dec. 28th). Among the talks will be one on "Human Relations in Industry -- Productivity and the Propensity to Strike" by Rev. Raymond H. Potvin of the Catholic University of America.

Four experts will participate in the sectional meeting on the sociology of the family. Rev. Walter Iborski, of Chicago's Cana Conference movement, will speak on "Entrance into Marriage: Signs of Stress and Strength in the American Family." A Marquette University sociologist, Dr. Paul Reiss, will report on "Changes in Family Structure: Areas of Stress and Strength." Dr. John Curtis, of Canisius College, Buffalo, has chosen as his subject "Adjustment to the Empty Nest." The discussion period will be lead by Rev. John L. Thomas, S. J., St. Louis University.

In addition to the sectional meetings, separate workshops will be held dealing with the teaching of sociology and sociological research on the high school, college and university levels.

Sister Mary Aquinice, O. P., of Rosary College, River Forest, Illinois, is the convention's program chairman. Local arrangements are being made by Professor Donald N. Barrett, of the University of Notre Dame, and Professor Mary Jo Huth, of St. Mary's College.

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For release in AM's, Wednesday, December 10th:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 9 -- A biologist doing cancer research at the University of Notre Dame has been awarded a federal grant totaling \$36,200, it was announced today.

Dr. Alfred Marshak received the grant from the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health. It will support his project during the current school year.

Dr. Marshak has been trying to determine how nucleic acids in cells may be related to cancerous growth. His studies during the past 18 years have given indications that some type of relationship does exist between these acids and malignancy.

A cancer researcher for 25 years, Dr. Marshak joined Notre Dame's biology department last September. Previously he had been associated with the Marine Biology Laboratory, Cape Cod, Mass.; New York University Medical School and the United States Public Health Service.

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For release in PM's, Monday, December 8th:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 8 -- Thirteen European and American theologians treat the entire historical development and theological significance of a major Roman Catholic doctrine in The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception published here today by the University of Notre Dame Press (\$10.00). Rev. Edward D. O'Connor, C.S.C., assistant professor of religion at Notre Dame, has edited the 700-page volume which includes an exhaustive bibliography, a number of documents and fifty illustrations.

A specialist in mediaeval theology, Father O'Connor notes in the preface that the subject of the Virgin Mary's Immaculate Conception was first discussed about the year 1100. The doctrine was defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854 after about 750 years of "what was perhaps the most prolonged and passionate debate that has ever been carried on in Catholic theology," Father O'Connor writes. The importance of any doctrine, however, he emphasizes, "does not lie chiefly in its history, but in its intrinsic significance as truth, and in its rank in the hierarchy of truth, which do not depend on historical contingencies." From this point of view, the Immaculate Conception is of immense importance, the author observes, not only for Mariology, but also for the theology of the Redemption and of the Church.

The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception is not merely a collection of miscellaneous essays on the subject. The various chapters deal with all the major aspects of the doctrine and range from "Scripture and the Immaculate Conception" to "The Immaculate Conception in Art." Among the contributors are Msgr. Charles Journet, Fribourg, Switzerland; Msgr. Georges Jouassard, Lyons, France; Rev. Francis Dvornik, Washington, D. C.; Rev. Mr. Cornelius Bouman, Utrecht, Holland; Rev. Carlo Balic, O.F.M., Rome, Italy; Rev. Wenceslaus Sebastian, O.F.M., Regina, Saskatchewan, Can.; Rev. Rene Laurentin, Angers, France, Rev. Marie-Joseph Nicolas, O. P., Toulouse, France; Rev. Urban Mullaney, O. P., Washington, D. C.; Charles DeKoninck; Quebec, Can.; Rev. George Anawati, O. P., Cairo, Egypt; Maurice Vloberg, Paris, France; and Father O'Connor.

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For release in PM's, Friday, December 26th:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 26--THE REVIEW OF POLITICS, a cultural journal issued quarterly by the University of Notre Dame, completes its twentieth year in January.

Ranked among the most respected publications of its type in the United States and enjoying a healthy circulation, the REVIEW encompasses political philosophy, theory and tradition. Its articles do not deal with the ingredients of so-called "practical politics" -- campaigns, candidates and the like.

In the words of its managing editor, Rev. Thomas T. McAvoy, C.S.C., "THE REVIEW OF POLITICS studies the whole of human culture with a political viewpoint."

The twentieth anniversary of the Notre Dame journal is being marked by three special issues. Its editors published a double-sized volume in October and have prepared for January release an equally large edition containing articles written solely by Notre Dame faculty members. They also are compiling THE REVIEW OF POLITICS READER, a collection of what they consider to be the most notable essays appearing in the journal since its inception.

The quarterly's first issue, dated January, 1939, was sent to a few hundred readers. Since then the circulation has steadily climbed and now numbers more than 2,000 subscribers throughout the world. Among them are six government officials in the Soviet Union. In Europe, Father McAvoy observes, the REVIEW is well-known and regarded as "the most scholarly Catholic voice in America."

Father McAvoy, who is Notre Dame archivist and head of the history department, explained that the REVIEW's articles generally reflect the philosophy of a Catholic university. But he emphasized that Protestant and Jewish writers are regular contributors.

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Moreover, he disclosed, the University administration has never exercised editorial control, leaving the selection of essays to himself and fellow board members: editor M. A. Fitzsimons, an historian, and associate editors Frank O'Malley and John J. Kennedy, an English professor and political scientist respectively.

For each issue these men choose five articles from 25 or 30 usually submitted. The number of manuscripts received indicates the REVIEW's high standing among scholars, Father McAvoy said. "Very seldom do we pay contributors," he added. "Often they merely want their work to appear in our magazine." He pointed out that several young scholars had become widely known in academic circles through their REVIEW articles.

Contributors to the REVIEW OF POLITICS have included celebrated historians, philosophers, theologians, economists and political scientists. Occasionally their articles have stirred heated and widespread controversy. Although the journal receives a subsidy from Notre Dame, it is largely self-supporting with subscriptions underwriting most of its publications costs.

Among those instrumental in the founding of the REVIEW, the most prominent were John Cardinal O'Hara, C.S.C., and the late Dr. Waldemar Gurian. The Philadelphia prelate, then president of Notre Dame, felt the school should have a cultural quarterly. To political scientist Gurian he gave the job of gathering learned articles and solving other problems of a fledgling publication. Gurian, who had joined the Notre Dame faculty after fleeing Nazi Germany, served as editor of the REVIEW OF POLITICS until his death in 1954.

The REVIEW has varied little during the past two decades either in external appearance or editorial policy. Except for a change in the cover's color, from white to blue, the makeup has continued without alteration.

And in every issue there has been reprinted the journal's original objective: to pursue "the philosophical and historical approach to political realities."

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For release in AM's, Sunday, December 28th:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 27 -- "Portrait of a Young Girl," an 18th century painting by French artist Jean Baptiste Greuze (1725-1805), has been presented to the University of Notre Dame gallery, according to an announcement today by curator James Key Reeve.

Donors of the work are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wiesenberger, New York City collectors. They presented the painting to the University to commemorate "the contribution to world peace by Frank M. Folsom and Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., permanent representatives of Vatican City to the International Atomic Energy Agency."

Mr. Folsom formerly served as president and currently is executive committee chairman of the Radio Corporation of America. He received Notre Dame's Laetare Medal for 1958. Father Hesburgh is president of Notre Dame as well as a member of the Civil Rights Commission and the National Science Board.

Reeve said that the newly acquired painting will be hung in the Notre Dame gallery early in January.

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For release in AM's, Monday, December 29th:

Notre Dame, Ind., Dec. 28 --- Overt resistance to school desegregation rarely appears among high school students "independent of adult encouragement," a Jesuit sociologist declared here today (Sunday).

Rev. James F. Muldowney, S. J., assistant professor of sociology at Wheeling College (W. Va.), reported to the American Catholic Sociological Society on his study of desegregation in five unidentified communities of five different states which had compulsory racial segregation in their public schools prior to the Supreme Court decision of 1954.

Approximately 200 sociologists are attending the three-day sessions at the University of Notre Dame and nearby St. Mary's College. Bishop Leo A. Pursley of Fort Wayne greeted the sociologists at the convention's opening luncheon today at Notre Dame's Morris Inn. "Both social science and social action," he said, "must be regarded, at least from a Catholic point of view, as having a common ultimate purpose: to create, restore or improve the Christian social order."

Father Muldowney disclosed that the size of a community and its population distribution "do not seem to be significant determinants" in bringing about peaceful school desegregation. "Even the actual proportion of Negroes to whites in the community seems to be less important a factor in the change than is the definition of the proportion in the minds of white people," he said.

Rural communities, the Jesuit sociologist reported, have greater difficulty making the transition than urban areas. Just about the worst climate for school desegregation, he said, would be "a predominantly rural area with few Negroes living in segregated sections, and which had been forced to mix white and colored children by local court order."

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On the other hand, Father Muldowney observed, the best prospect for an easy adjustment to school desegregation would be "a large city with clear residential segregation and with more than a quarter of the population Negro, which had voluntarily accepted the Supreme Court's decision to desegregate." His research shows that desegregated schools "do not readily alter any other segregated social institution in the community."

Academic difference between white and colored students "was not a significant factor in the ease or difficulty of the transition" in the communities Father Muldowney studied. Nor did school grades seem to make a difference among the white and Negro students themselves.

When school teachers and administrators are desegregated professionally, the chances are better that the schools where they work will be integrated more easily, Father Muldowney told his fellow sociologists. "Familiarity of white teachers with Negroes gained from bi-racial professional meetings creates an atmosphere favorable to the acceptance of colored students in white schools," he said.

School authorities in the five communities told Father Muldowney that "early publicity of desegregation in their schools" had an adverse effect because it "complicated the situation and restricted the decision-making powers of those responsible for making the change." He also found that local school policies will be helped or hindered by policy set on a state level. He pointed out that indirect sanctions will be administered by state authorities if local communities act contrary to the state's policy. He said that the attitude toward desegregation on the part of the highest officer in the school system is "of critical importance" in any transition to mixed schools.

Nearly forty papers dealing with various aspects of sociology are being presented during the sessions which close Tuesday (Dec. 30th)

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