

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
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Mr. Kinsley, produce!

In the report of his interview with Professor William Duncan MacMillan, "gray haired astronomer, mathematician, and philosopher of the University of Chicago," Philip Kinsley states in the Chicago Sunday Tribune of September 2 that

"Scientists have a disciplined method of thinking, it is true, and they have rendered futile and illogical all the old personifications of God which regard him as a separate being controlling the universe which he created in seven days."

Will Mr. Kinsley be kind enough to substantiate that statement? Which scientists render "futile" and "illogical" what Mr. Kinsley claims, and what is their line of reasoning?

Will Mr. Kinsley point out, for example, the "disciplined method" that scientists use to prove futile and illogical the five scholastic proofs for the existence of a separate God and the scholastic proof for a personal God?

These proofs are "old". They are the most important ever drawn by human reason to prove God's existence and His personality. And Mr. Kinsley says all the old proofs have been rendered futile and illogical.

There is a certain gentleman in Italy named Guglielmo Marconi. Perhaps Mr. Kinsley has heard of him. Signor Marconi's method of thinking may or may not be regarded as highly "disciplined" by Mr. Kinsley, but a large number of people think that Mr. Marconi does fairly well at disciplined thinking.

This Signor Marconi, it seems, according to the Chicago Tribune at least, on September 10 at Venice, addressed the international congress of electro-radio-biology. Signor Marconi declared in that address, not that science has disproved the existence of a separate, personal God Who created, but that science is unable to solve the problem of life, which problem Mr. Marconi says, is the origin and future of humanity.

This incompetence of science, according to Mr. Marconi, "would be truly frightening were it not for faith."

A very humble attitude of the scientist, a very peculiar importance for Signor Marconi to assign to faith, Mr. Kinsley, if science has definitely proved what you say it has proved.

Do you know, Mr. Kinsley, that Catholics hold (and among them many skillful scientists) that the existence of God can be proved--really proved, Mr. Kinsley--by reasoning from the creatures that surround us?

You laid down your statement as incontrovertible and by it you implied to thousands of readers of the Chicago Tribune, that Catholic philosophers are "undisciplined," unscientific, that there are no fully competent Catholic scientists.

Your honor and honesty, or your competence, demands that you have incontrovertible proof to back up your statement.

Now, Mr. Kinsley, will you kindly produce that proof?

Total Communions received at Mission Mass this morning lowest during any Mission within six years.

PRAYERS: Deceased, father of alumnus, Ill, mother of Bill Brukhart; Friends of Bob Ervin (Alumni) who were seriously injured. Three special intentions.