

Deceased, mother of William
McCullough, '27. Ill, mother
of Sr. Mary Eugene, S.N.D...

University of Notre Dame
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Seriously injured in the auto-
train accident that killed
John J. Smith, '50, his father.

Another Point Of View.

Read the January issue of ACTION NOW. A thought-provoking article titled SECULARISM VS COMMUNISM will give argumenteers another slant on what's going on. The fundamental concern is not whether the U.S. will adopt the Truman, Hoover or Joe Kennedy plan for national survival. But what evil forces are at work sending our world spiralling downward to possible, complete ruin? The author of SECULARISM VS COMMUNISM has this to say: (in digest form)

For all who have eyes to see, the issue is clearer than ever before. This coming war is to be fought not between Christianity and Communism, not between Christ and Anti-Christ, but simply between Secularism and Communism.

Secularism is actually the greater evil. The Hierarchy has warned us that it is secularism not Communism that is "at the root of the world's travail today." For secularism is "the fertile soil in which such social monstrosities as Fascism, Nazism, and Communism could germinate and grow." The bishops have pointed out the evil of secularism and how its diabolical influence has penetrated every phase of our life: the individual, family, education, labor, politics, international relations.

Religion in its place; let it keep to its own sphere. . . . Secularism has departmentalized life. Many a secularist receives Holy Communion frequently, perhaps daily. But this is only for his spiritual well-being. His morning Mass-going has nothing to do with his day of working, eating, recreation or sleeping. St. Paul's words, "Whether you eat or drink or whatever else you do, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus" are meaningless to him.

Secularism is much more subtle than Communism. "It is the view of life that limits itself not to the material to the exclusion of the spiritual, but to the human here and now to the exclusion of man's relation to God here and hereafter."

The Secularist devil is much more subversive and difficult to recognize than the Communist devil, and we are in danger of unconditionally surrendering to the former so he can win a total victory in World War III.

I wonder if we Americans fear and hate Communism because a Red victory would mean suffering and a much lower standard of living. Our motives can well be examined (they may not be so supernatural as we may think) for we don't have the same fear of victorious Secularism which has already brought us so much luxury and soft living.

Secularism is the final supreme effort to serve both God and Mammon without denying either. The secularist strikes the happy mean between enjoying the friendship of Christ (but not too intimately) and also amusing himself with Satan. Secularism would fill the world with nice people and empty it of saints.

If we have not been bosom pals of secularists we have been pretty chummy with their first cousins--those with mortal-sin complexes, whose sole concern is to avoid mortal sin. If we seek only to avoid mortal sin and aim at nothing higher, ignoring the requirements of the First Commandment--to love God 100 per cent--and the impulses of actual graces, then we are inclined to live more as good pagans rather than as true disciples of Christ. Incorporated in Christ we have been raised above the whole natural order into the supernatural realm of faith, hope and charity. We must love God with our whole heart, whole soul, whole mind, whole strength. Sin comes from love of the world, and mortal sin is simply this worldliness carried to the degree of excluding God from our lives. Secularism either paves the way or is the way not necessarily to the denial of God but to the exclusion of God from our daily lives.