

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

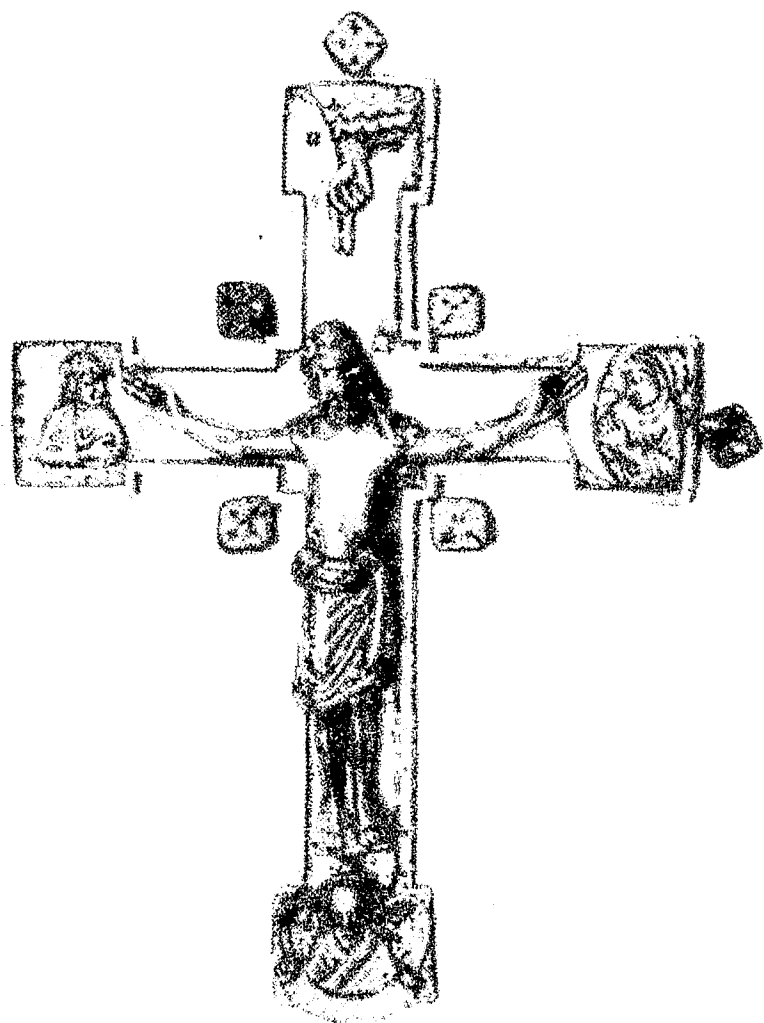
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Monday, November 7, 1960

Notre Dame, Ind.

ON ELECTION NIGHT in 1916, Woodrow Wilson sat at home nibbling crackers and drinking milk while waiting for returns. At 10:30 when the returns indicated certain defeat for him, Mr. Wilson announced, "I am going to bed....you will soon be glad." He retired believing that he had lost. Next morning, returns from California gave Wilson thirteen additional electoral votes, enough to ensure his re-election. Our elections have always stirred emotions. Especially in recent campaigns. The campaign of 1940 climaxed in a flare of violence which saw Mr. Willkie and his wife being bombarded with everything from overripe fruit to rocks and metal waste baskets. Afterwards, Mrs. Willkie cried, "How could we lose? We tried so hard!" In the 1952 election, Mr. Stevenson, after conceding the victory to Mr. Eisenhower, remarked that he was "too old to cry, and it hurt too much to laugh". Tomorrow evening, local partisans of the two candidates will watch the returns. The fact that many will have cast their ballot for the first time in a presidential election may cause emotions to run high. Where is the enterprising Sorinite who'll come up with a couple thousand pins bearing the word "SMILE". Well.....with or without pins, remember to keep your temper and tongue under control, whatever the outcome.

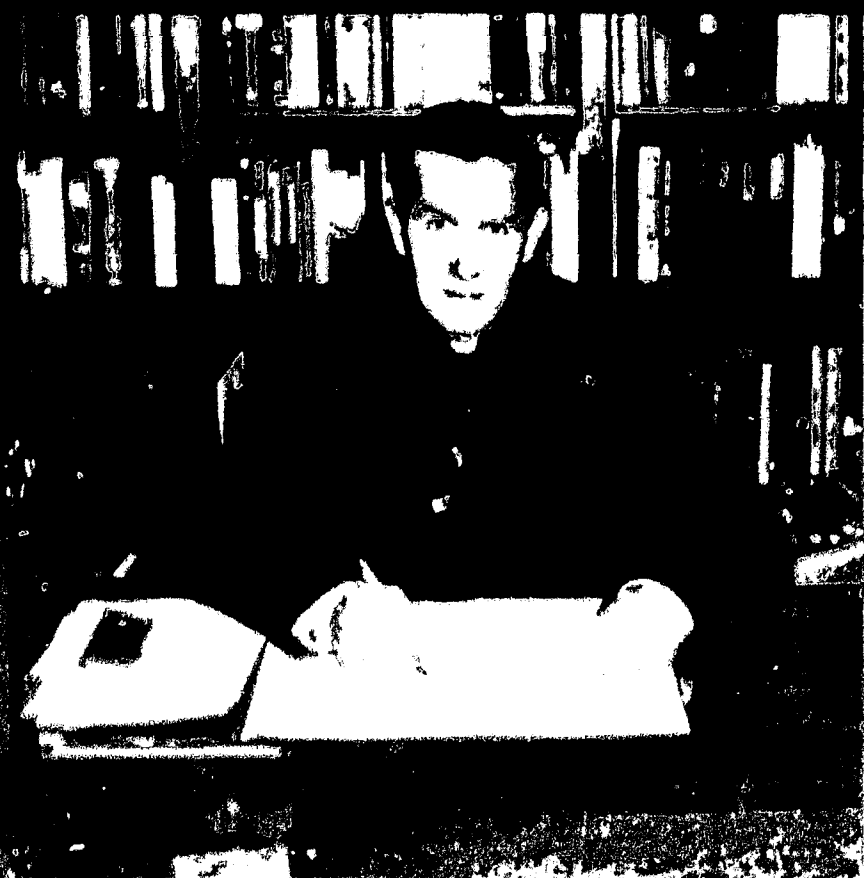
● "ONE YEAR FOR CHRIST IN THE MISSIONS". This is the title of a talk by Rev. Fred Underwood, C.S.C., slated for 8:00 P.M. Thursday evening in the Law Auditorium. There have been numerous inquiries about the chance of a student spending a year working in the missions. Here's your chance to talk with someone who can give you the facts. Father Underwood is one of the founders of The Volunteer Teachers Mission Service.



THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL IS CONCERNED WITH THE ROMAN-ESQUE PERIOD. SPEND A FEW MINUTES IN BETWEEN CLASSES IN THE O'SHAUGHNESSY GALLERY. OR, BETTER STILL, ATTEND THE LECTURE THERE THIS EVENING AT 8:00. PROF. PARKHURST OF OBERLIN COLLEGE WILL LECTURE ON THE EXHIBITION.

**FESTIVAL
OF THE
ARTS** 1960

● PRAYERS. Deceased: Mrs. Emma J. Hammer, aunt of Thomas Martin of Fisher; Thomas J. Curtin; father of Wilbur, '40, Elmer, '41, and Gerald Kamm, '44. Ill: Friend of Mike Sullivan of Pangborn; mother of Jim McGoldrick, '39.



IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL for October 6, 1960, appeared an article by Ray Vicker entitled "The Catholic Church". The article has been much-quoted for its remarks on the fiscal condition of the Church. Worth noting, too, is what Mr. Vicker has to say about a Catholic becoming President.

The Papacy itself has not made any official statement about the Church's "position" on the possibility of a Catholic becoming President of the U.S. and whether a Catholic President would face conflicts between his obligations to his faith and his obligations to the Constitution.

"We have taken no official position concerning the candidacy of Senator Kennedy nor about any possible conflicts which might arise from it," says one Vatican official privately. But some Catholic churchmen in the U.S. have indicated what they believe the Church's position is on this issue of separation of church and state.

Archbishop Karl J. Alter of the Cincinnati Archdiocese recently said in a Catholic publication: "There is no doctrine of the Catholic Church which is in conflict with the Constitution of the United States, and hence there can be no conflict between the obligations imposed by the Church and those imposed by the Constitution."

In a recent and widely-disseminated speech, the Rev. Gustave Weigel, a prominent Jesuit theologian at Maryland's Woodstock College, said this about the possibility of a Catholic President: "As for the interference of the bishops or the Pope, it can be said without hesitation that there would be none of it. The Pope does not meddle with the political activity of Adenauer or DeGaulle, nor would either man permit it." The leaders of West Germany and France are Catholics.

The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano not long ago issued a statement defining the role of a Catholic in public life; it was issued to clarify the position of Catholics holding public office in Italy, where Communism has been a definite threat. Positions taken by the Vatican newspaper are not binding on Catholics, of course, but they may represent the thinking of top Church officials in some situations.

Basically, the article in L'Osservatore Romano contended that you can't separate the Catholic from the citizen. A Catholic, it said, "must in every sector of his life draw the inspiration for his conduct in both private and public from the laws, orientation and instruction of the hierarchy." The statement said that sometimes "politics touches the altar" and when it does, the Church has a duty to inform the faithful concerning directions they should take in their conduct. But the statement was tempered by the thought that "there is a very broad field" in which a Catholic politician can move without conflicting with any Church regulations.

No Catholic Church officials have risen to dispute the statement made by Sen. John Kennedy last month before a meeting of the Greater Houston Ministerial Association. At that time Sen. Kennedy said, among other things: "Whatever issue may come before me as President, if I should be elected—on birth control, divorce, censorship, gambling, or any other subject—I will make my decision in accordance with what my conscience tells me to be in the national interest, and without regard to outside religious pressure or dictate. And no power or threat of punishment could cause me to decide otherwise."

In answering a question about the possibility of any state-church conflict in the Presidency, a member of the Curia, the church's ruling body in the Vatican, answered irritably: "There have been many Catholic governors in various states of the United States, while Catholic mayors have been common in numerous American cities. There are many Catholics holding such positions today. I know of no case where Catholic doctrine conflicted with the official duties of the elective office. If there are no such conflicts at the local and state levels, why should we assume there should be any at the national level?"