

## Kennedy Speaks Out Against The Lunatic Right

The nation's homicidal fringe on the far right came under a scorching attack last weekend by President John F. Kennedy. Evidently Kennedy and his advisers are a bit more worried than some observers who dismiss such organizations as the John Birch Society and the "Minutemen" as harmless.

We agree with the President that these organizations are engaged in a wicked and deceitful campaign to destroy our country, and we are fortunate that the President has the courage to help lead the nation in recognizing the fact that these ultra-conservatives wish to escape responsibility by, "finding a simple solution, an appealing slogan or a convenient scapegoat."

No intelligent American questions the danger from the far-left, the evil of communism which would destroy every element of freedom and democratic government. But, on the other hand, we must not destroy those elements of freedom and democratic government which we cherish by launching witch-hunts and equating the Democratic Party with socialism and socialism with communism — as the ultra-conservatives do.

There are intelligent methods of destroying communism, and we must recognize that the real danger to America is from the Soviet Union and Communist China. Our danger is not the Democratic Party, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy and Truman, the UN, foreign aid, flouridated water, or integration — as the lunatic rightists would have us believe.

Fortunately, some other leaders are also beginning to speak out against the danger of Birch-type thinking. The

Roman Catholic bishops of the United States voted last week to sharply criticize "anti-Communist extremists." The bishops said the far-right organizations were diverting attention from critical gains of communism in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. They said the Birchers were "unwittingly aiding the Communist cause by dividing and confusing Americans."

In addition, the Reform Jewish movement and the Protestant and Eastern Orthodox National Council of Churches issued similar statements.

It is time for more of our religious, economic, political and social leaders to wage a fight for decency, freedom, and democracy by convincing our fellow citizens that the Birch-type method of thinking will never destroy communism, but only ruin our nation. Many well-meaning people have been misled by the far-right campaign of hate and terror.

In the end, the new fanaticism — if not halted soon — may destroy the Republican Party in America. Serious observers are now admitting that Richard M. Nixon considers the Birch conservatives of California a great danger to the GOP. If the conservative movement gathers more steam, it will attract only conservative Republicans and Southern Democrats to its fold, thus splitting the GOP hopelessly. The Democrats have proved that they can win without their bigoted Southern brethren.

There is a wealth of time left to stop the insidious movement from the far-right before it destroys our ability to meet the more urgent challenge from the far-left.

## Administrator Government

Only five village residents (and one newspaper reporter) were at last night's meeting of the Village Board of Trustees when the Trustees began discussion of a Village Administrator plan for Potsdam. It is rather distressing to view such apathy, especially when the Board's ultimate action will greatly change government of the village.

After an hour of questions and discussion, the Board of Trustees decided wisely to move ahead on the Village Administrator plan as quickly as possible. A public hearing will be set up at the next regular meeting, Dec. 4. After the public hearing, the Board may enact an Administrator government without a vote by village residents.

Some people may believe that this

new and efficient form of government is being forced upon them. This is simply not true. What is evident after last night's show of apathy is that most village residents either do not care or are in favor of the change.

The Courier and Freeman supports the Board of Trustees in moving as quickly as possible to bring the Administrator form of government to Potsdam, but we urge our readers who may not be as enthusiastic to make their opinions known. There are opportunities left to speak out before the new system is approved.

If the Board approves a new government, however, apathetic citizens will then have no right to criticize the action.

## Quiet As A Mouse

Saturday, Nov. 11, believe it or not, was Veteran's Day throughout the United States (and parts of Europe). On that day, the President paused to honor those who died in World Wars that we might remain free peoples. Many communities paused, too, but not Potsdam.

The only evidences of the memorial holiday here were (1) a parade by

Clarkson College ROTC students on Friday afternoon, (2) the post office closing, and (3) television broadcasts of President Kennedy's address from Washington.

With two veterans' organizations in the village (VFW, American Legion), we would hope that appropriate celebrations could be arranged for future years.

## - LETTERS -

### Compliment From A Visitor

(The following letter, sent to Dean of Students F. Gordon Lindsey of Clarkson College, is printed here because of its complimentary references to the entire community. — Editor)

Dear Dean Lindsey

Mrs. Hogenauer and I want you to know that we appreciate the courtesies that have been extended to us by Clarkson and the whole community of Potsdam on our two visits.

It is very heartening to parents to find the colleges, the churches, and the community as a whole, doing so much for the undergraduates. We have had three other children go to college and we know that the situation at Clarkson is unusual and the exception. We also know that this condition is accomplished only through the cooperative effort of you and your associates and the community.

Thank you again for your fine work.

Howard J. Hogenauer  
Pawling, N.Y.  
Oct. 21 1961

### Likes Knapp

To The Editor:  
Thanks for the excellent column (by Mike Knapp) in the Courier & Freeman (Oct. 29). I received a copy from Arnold Fiske, secretary of the

Potsdam Hockey Assn.

Please forward four or five copies of the Oct. 26th issue, as I would like to forward them to the other divisions here, in America, and overseas—and especially one for John R. Taylor (M.P.) as his physical fitness bill has passed the House of Commons and the Senate and will be in operation this year.

Kind regards and may I say that Mike Knapp writes a very pleasing style. Not everyone in journalism can write a column.

J. J. Kissella, Commissioner  
International Silver Stick Hockey  
Ottawa, Canada  
Nov. 3, 1961

### Education TV

To The Editor:  
I wonder how many parents are taking advantage of the fact that you can see on television some of the in-school educational programs that your young people are viewing.

Many of the schools in your district are subscribing to the programs offered by the St. Lawrence Valley Educational TV Council through the facilities of WCNY-TV, Channel 7, Carthage-Waterbury.

The Council, a non-profit, educational organization, is responsible for the broadcast-

ing of ten hours of programs per week in such fields as Science for Kindergarten through the sixth grade, Junior High Science, Children's Literature, and Social Studies.

More than thirteen thousand students in fifty schools in the counties of Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Lewis, Oswego, and Wayne will view programs during the school year. These students will have the advantage of seeing outstanding programs which will enrich the learning process.

Discover which programs your children are viewing and view with them in the privacy of your home.

Richard A. Jones  
Director, St. Lawrence Educational TV Council  
Watertown, N.Y.  
Nov. 17, 1961

### Appreciation

To The Editor:  
I want to thank you very much for your courtesy. We are looking forward to playing in Potsdam again in the near future.

Thank you again for your help.

Omar K. Lerman  
Assoc. Managing Director  
Phoenix Theatre  
New York City  
Nov. 10, 1961

The compassion of the American people for their fellow men in need, whether at home or abroad, is nowhere more clearly expressed than in the services performed by our great religious faiths through their world-wide, year-around programs of assistance to those in need abroad.

Not only are these great ministries of mercy an expression of a basic Americanism; they also give witness to the Biblical answer to Cain's "Am I my brother's keeper?"

And because their motivation finds parallel in the religious teachings of almost all peoples, these programs achieve an acceptance among individuals — particularly the impoverished, hungry and homeless to whom they minister — that is well nigh impossible to governmental or other impersonal efforts.

It is eminently fitting that each of the religious faiths — independently but in common purposes — chooses our national Thanksgiving Season to

emphasize its ministry to the suffering abroad, by which it carries into everyday action the Spirit of Thanksgiving we in America express on one Thursday in every November.

At this time, in Protestant churches throughout the United States, there is being launched the 1961-62 appeal for the Share Our Surplus program carried on for the churches by Church World Service to finance free distribution of U. S. Government-donated food supplies to

millions of those in need overseas.

In Catholic churches, there is being made the Catholic Bishops' Thanksgiving Clothing Collection — an appeal for wearable used clothing, shoes, bedding supplies, etc. for similar distribution.

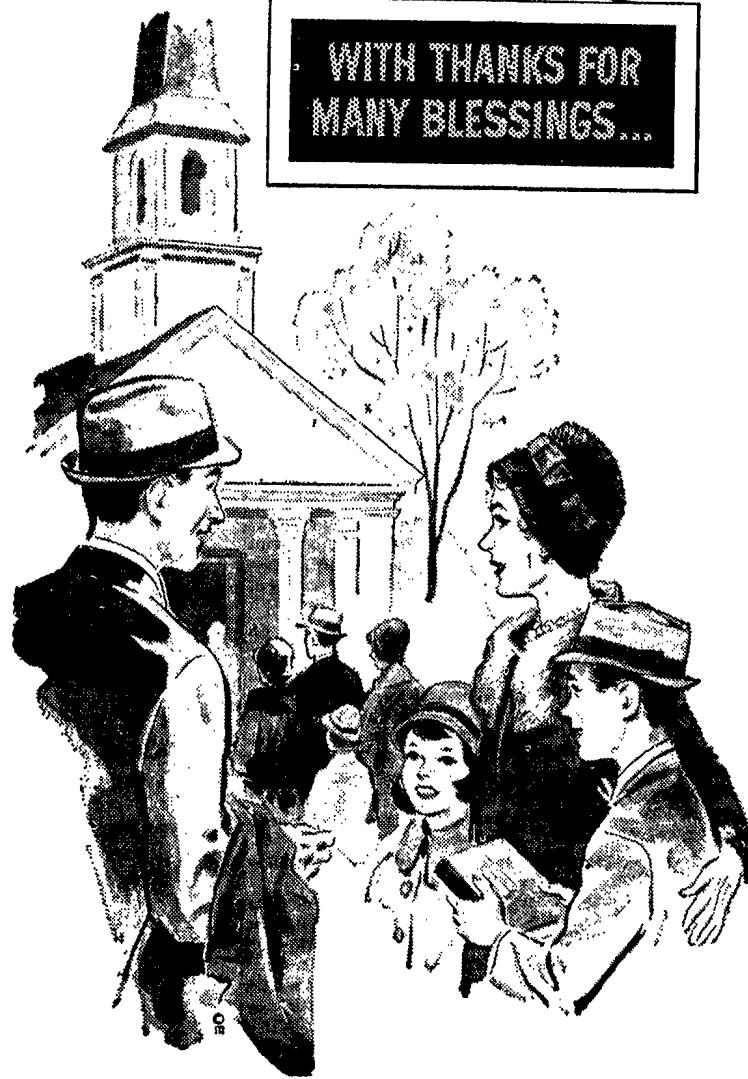
Concurrently the United Jewish Appeal, as the instrument of the American Jewish community, is asking funds to help Jewish men, women and children in need throughout the world, including new immigrants to Israel and

Jews in distress in other countries.

In each of these efforts, our people — each through his own faith — has opportunity to give evidence of his gratitude to God for the blessings we in America enjoy.

Each by his response — in the measure of the thanksgiving that is in his heart — will put his gratitude into action that will make millions of others thankful.

## Thanks Giving Urged By All Faiths



### Albany Report:

## State Conservation



by Verner M. Ingram  
State Assemblyman

Because New York State has such a diversity of natural resources and there are so many activities and services for their protection and management, the Conservation Department has a wider variety of functions than any other executive department.

The impact of a fast growing population upon our natural resources means that conservation must keep moving ahead on many fronts. One evidence of this is the fact that nearly ten per cent of all the laws enacted by the Legislature deal with conservation and related matters.

As more people, with more leisure time at their disposal, use State parks, the space and facilities available to individuals for outdoor recreation diminishes. Increased and shifting population also has placed new demands on our natural resources — particularly water.

To cope with these important problems Governor Rockefeller appointed the first professional conservationist to head the Department of Conservation, Commissioner H. G. Wilim. He immediately established an effective administrative structure under which it has been possible to plan and develop programs to fit the growing needs of the State.

Take for an example the spectacular population increase, a general rise in personal income, improvement in automotive transportation and highway construction, and increasing awareness of the benefits of relaxing in the outdoors — all these factors have produced a great responsibility in providing adequate public outdoor recreation for the State's citizens and the thousands of tourists who visit the Empire State every year. The key to these recreational facilities is land appropriate for development because suitable land is disappearing at an alarming rate.

The situation was crucial when Governor Rockefeller came into office. He immediately directed that a comprehensive survey be made to measure the needs of the future in terms of lands for

public fishing rights — 21 contracts which will add 10.5 miles to the 900 miles of fishing rights on the best trout streams in the State.

Boat Launching Sites — One agreement has been signed for 4 acres at Henderson Harbor which will provide the boating public much needed access to this section of Lake Ontario.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL program has been developed under the District Fish and Wildlife Management Boards. These boards, working closely with the Conservation Department, are composed of laymen representing landowners, sportsmen and the County Board of Supervisors. A major objective is to provide increased recreational opportunities for hunting. Nearly 300,000 acres of land, most of it formerly posted, have been

The State's program to build the Saratoga Spa as a major recreational area in the Capital District region has met with an enthusiastic response. The plans include a giant swimming pool complex capable of serving up to 8,000 people a day; picnic sites for 1,000 families, with special facilities for groups; expansion and improvement of the present 9-hole golf course to an 18-hole championship course; construction of a new "par-three" golf course; and conversion of the Hall of Springs into a dignified but popular-priced dining and dancing pavilion.

In several major areas, the Conservation Department is essentially a field agency dealing with natural resources — and people — at the grass roots level.

For example, the Division of Lands and Forests and the Division of Fish and Game expanded over the years into a sprawling setup with 35 district offices at 25 locations. A major overhaul of field services has brought about a new consolidated organization of nine regions, providing a framework within which sound resource manager out programs can be developed and coordinated by both divisions. Moreover, looking ahead, the new structure pro-

vides a basis for the regional administration of the rapidly expanding Division of Water Resources and the newly established Division of Motor Boats.

Winter sports are not neglected in the Conservation Department's across-the-board emphasis on recreation. At Bearley Mountain in the Catskills, a half million dollar program is in full swing and will be completed before the next season opens. For Whiteface Mountain, under the management of the Adirondack Mountain Authority, the Legislature approved \$98,100 for a snow-making machine. A lack of snow in several recent winters has been a major handicap in keeping Whiteface from becoming one of the leading ski centers in the

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### Front Row Center

"Life is a theatre in which the worst people often have the best seats."  
—Aristonimus

By BILL JONES, Editor

#### On The Horizon

With one election just completed — two weeks ago today — the next election campaign is already underway.

Potsdam Attorney Roger Daniels, Assistant District Attorney, will run in the Republican primary next spring against St. Lawrence County Judge Donald Sanford. Potsdam seems to have its share of Republicans who are willing to battle long-endured and popular party stalwarts.

The state-wide political picture took a strange twist last Friday night with the surprise announcement that Governor Nelson Rockefeller and his wife were separating and planning a divorce. The Governor will be running for his second term next year and is looking ahead to the Presidential campaign in 1964.

Republican leaders indicate that the divorce action will cost Rockefeller only a few votes in the state race, but are cautious when it comes to the Presidential battle. A divorced man has never been elected to the nation's highest post, and political scientists report that divorce was the one most mentioned factor given as a reason by voters who did not vote for Adlai E. Stevenson in 1952 and 1956.

One thing is certain: the fact of divorce will not help the Governor, and it probably won't help the Republican Party.

LOCAL CITIZENS are still talking about the local elections on Nov. 7. No one seems to be particularly surprised by the results.

Obviously, Francis Healey is extremely popular among Democrats and a large number of Republicans. The GOP attempted to belittle any Republican support for Healey, but the election margin of victory proved how inaccurate the Republicans were.

One person summed up the election thus: "They can tell me how to vote but can't watch me in that machine. Now, of course, I'm a registered Republican — you can't be anything else here and get ahead — but I voted for Healey. I just like him. He's done a good job and he's sincere and honest to me whether or not a political campaign is underway."

For Robert Halliday, who had waged an extensive campaign to unseat Potsdam's only Democratic Town Supervisor in all of history, the defeat was not pleasant. Still, the Town of Potsdam will not be without his leadership on the Town Board, and Halliday intends to continue to fight for his campaign ideas.

The other Republicans won, by good margins, with Town Clerk Gladys McGee singled out for the heaviest voter approval, a tribute to her many years of hard work.

IN THE COUNTY, there were several interesting developments. Francis LaVigne lost in his bid to unseat GOP District Attorney Charles Bowers, and primarily because of a smaller margin than expected for LaVigne in his

hometown, Ogdensburg. The Democrats were also hopeful that LaVigne would carry Potsdam, but Bowers won in Nelson Rockefeller and his wife were separating and planning a divorce. The Governor will be running for his second term next year and is looking ahead to the Presidential campaign in 1964.

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