

NEWS OF THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 1975

CHRISTOPHER DERRICK VISITS COLLEGE

The college was honored recently by a visit and lecture from Christopher Derrick, British author, lecturer and journalist. Mr. Derrick stayed on campus for a week attending classes and speaking with students, after which he sent the following letter.

Dear Dr. McArthur,

Words don't often fail me, but they do now: I just can't express my feelings about (a) the hospitality and kindness which I enjoyed during those few days at TAC; and (b) the value and desirability of this enterprise. Long may it prosper! And to speak more selfishly, I'd hate to think I was never going to enjoy that most holy and wise and civilized atmosphere again.

One judges any factory by the end-product; and I must say that I've seldom (if ever) met students with better-honed minds or more obviously in the path of wisdom. And I have met so many students that I'm entitled to make such a comparison! - Oxford, Cambridge, London, and countless colleges (Catholic, 'Catholic,' and secular) in the U.S.

There's been so much talk about 'renewal' in the Church: well, I've been privileged to see it actually happening. Floreat; and oremus pro invicem.

Yours very sincerely,

Christopher Derrick

CHAUNCEY STILLMAN HOSTS NEW YORK PARTY

Mr. Chauncey Stillman, recently elected to the Board of Governors, hosted a cocktail party for the college on November 13 in his Fifth Avenue, New York apartment. President Ronald P. McArthur spoke to the guests about the aims and goals of Thomas Aquinas College.

Attending the party were publisher Frank Sheed; Catholic authoress, Anne Fremantle; Rev. Father Robert Gannon, S.J., former

President of Fordham University; H. Lyman Stebbins, President of Catholics United for the Faith, and his wife; John A. Davenport, former Assistant Managing Editor of Fortune magazine; the President of the New York State Board of Education, Porter Chandler; Cardinal Cooke's secretaries, Msgr. Eugene Clarke and Msgr. Theodore McCarrick; and many others. Their response to the idea of Thomas Aquinas College was most favorable.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS SYMPOSIUM

Dr. Ronald P. McArthur will participate in a symposium at Hillsdale College, Michigan on "Private versus Public Education: The Founding Fathers versus Big Brother." Sponsored by the Center for Constructive Alternatives, the meeting will convene on February 3, 1975.

The Center holds four, week-long symposia during the college year, each program examining a particular aspect of contemporary America with emphasis on the spiritual, philosophical and moral values which underlie a free society. The Center's participants include Dr. Russell Kirk, nationally syndicated columnist; Dr. Charles Rice, Professor of Law at Notre Dame University; M. Stanton Evans, editor of the Indianapolis News and syndicated columnist; Dr. Erik Ritter von Kuehnelt-Leddihn, internationally known teacher and author, and William F. Buckley, Jr., editor of the National Review.

Dr. McArthur's paper is entitled "Catholic Liberal Education-A Solution." Copies of his lecture plus the talks of the other participants can be obtained by writing: IMPRIMUS, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan, 49242.

COLLEGE TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION

No independent college is accredited in the beginning. One of the requirements for accreditation is the graduation of a class. Since this requirement will be fulfilled in the Spring, Thomas Aquinas College is applying to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges for status as an accredited institution.

Mr. Thomas Dillon, tutor at the college, has been named to head the committee responsible for collecting the materials required by the Association. Mr. Dillon's committee hopes to have the college's self-study filed with WASC by June, in anticipation of a visitation in the Fall. If all goes well, the college can be accredited by December.

LECTURE SERIES

The Thomas Aquinas College lecture series concluded a most successful first semester on January 17 with a talk by Rev. Bertrand de Margerie, S.J. on "The Sacred Heart of Jesus." Father de Margerie is a prominent French Jesuit theologian.

Also included in the first semester program were: Christopher Derrick, British author, publisher and journalist, who spoke on "The Thought and Work of C.S. Lewis and G.K. Chesterton"; Rev. Matthew Naumes, O.S.B., President of St. Martin's College in Olympia, Washington, on "The Rule of St. Benedict"; John Davenport, former Assistant Managing Editor of Fortune magazine, on "A Need for Metaphysics"; Robert Speaight, author, lecturer and Shakespearean actor on "Shakespeare and the English Genius"; Thomas Molnar, Professor of French literature at Brooklyn College, on "Reflections on Art"; Dr. Erik Ritter von Kuehnelt-Leddihn, journalist and author, on "Crisis in the Church in Historical Perspective"; and Stephen Tonsor, Professor of History at the University of Michigan, on "Universal History in the Current Climate of Opinion."

The lecture series is an integral part of the program at Thomas Aquinas College and aims at bringing to the school speakers of note to talk on subjects relevant to the curriculum.

MONSIGNOR GALLAGHER JOINS COLLEGE COMMUNITY

Monsignor John F. Gallagher, a retired Pastor from the Diocese of San Diego who was appointed last year to the administrative post of Consultant to the President, has taken up residence on campus.

Monsignor Gallagher took his doctorate in the School of Canon Law in 1949 at Catholic University where he spent last year doing research centered on the rights of parents in the education of their children. Monsignor has written several articles dealing with the subject in leading Catholic publications. Monsignor Gallagher contributes to the spiritual life on the campus by saying daily Mass, hearing confessions and counseling students.

ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR URGES EARLY APPLICATION

Mr. Dennis Koller, Director of Admissions, announced that as a result of the outstanding return rate of the student referral cards enclosed in the last newsletter, more than 70 new prospective students have been sent information on Thomas Aquinas College. "There is a direct relation between the number of people who hear about the college and the number of applications we receive," stated Mr. Koller. "This year applications are running about 10% ahead of last year and I expect the college to be full earlier than it was last year."

Mr. Koller urges all students interested in being considered for admission to complete and return their applications as soon as possible.