

Providence

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Harkins Hall - May 25, 1919

INSIDE PROVIDENCE

- 3** **IN THE BEGINNING**
 Recollections of the Opening Year
 by Robert Lloyd '23
- 9** **FORWARD THRUST IV:**
 THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MASTER PLAN PART I
- 14** **WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**
 A fifty-year look at basketball heroes
- 19** **CHANGE AND CHALLENGE . . .**
 IN A PERIOD OF POSSIBILITY
 by Senator Edmund S. Muskie, Hon. '69

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in the beginning

recollections of the opening year



The author - 1919

I think, in the spring of 1919, nothing was much farther from my mind than going to college. I was a senior at La Salle Academy, then located on the site of the central police and fire station at La Salle Square in downtown Providence, and, since I was the oldest of a family of five of a widowed mother, the only prospect seemed to be getting a job after graduation.

Some of the more well-to-do members of the class were planning to go to college, but, naturally enough, they were headed toward Holy Cross or Brown, or to a seminary. We were vaguely aware of the new college being started by the Dominican Fathers, and which had recently received a charter from the state. We

also knew that a drive for funds for the new institution had been carried out throughout the diocese. The Dominican Fathers were no strangers to those of us who were studying Latin and Greek, since Father Jordan and Father Conlon taught these subjects, coming over from St. Raymond's Parish.

Some of us were given an afternoon off from classes that spring to visit the new college. We met Father Galliher and saw the nearly completed front portion of Harkins Hall, which was set in the middle of an unlandscaped area with no paved roads or drives. This was a college? The afternoon was not wasted, however, since we stopped at Davis Park on the way back to watch the La Salle baseball team at practice.



The author - 1969

After graduation from La Salle, it was quite difficult for a sixteen-year-old boy to find a significant job. World War I had just ended, and the veterans were returning. That summer I worked in the American Wringer plant in Woonsocket, my home town, alongside Joe Dowling of the Class of 1924, doing whatever the straw boss told me to do. The turning point came when, after a boat trip to Newport on Labor Day, and a return by the old Bristol Ferry with Joe O'Gara '23 and some friends, and a late arrival home in Woonsocket, I found myself the next morning head and shoulders in a barrel sorting out rusty bolts. This was it. I decided, and I remember the instant fifty years later as though it were yesterday, that there must be a better way.



John Feeney '23



Joe O'Gara '23



John Reed '23

I talked with my mother, and we decided that I would try Providence College. I came down from Woonsocket and talked with Father Galliher; and I enrolled. The tuition was \$100 per year, but the collection was very flexible, and I got the distinct impression that getting the students enrolled was much more important than collecting the money.

So, now I was a member of the first class at Providence College, which consisted of about seventy-five local boys and four Dominican students, of whom I remember Vin Dore and Matt Carolan. I missed the opening day because of having a boil lanced on my face, but when I showed up, I found many familiar faces. Although not a majority of the class, there was a core of my classmates from La Salle, and several from the class of the preceding year. Among my classmates were Ryder, Reed, Forestal, Feeney, McGwin, Langello, Lyons, O'Gara, McGowan, Dewdney, Kearns, Flana-

gan, Dunphy, McIsaac, and most likely others that I do not remember at the moment. The earlier class was represented by Denny McCarthy, Jack McCaffrey, Dick Murphy, and others. I also remember one war veteran, Leo Slattery, and one little chap, Galligan, who had sailed on oil tankers.

The other members of the Class were a wide assortment. There was Jim Higgins from my neighboring town of East Blackstone, who used to travel back and forth on the train with me and McIsaac, Charlie Ashworth, and Vic Perri from Classical, Len Girouard and Ed Ryan from down the bay, one on one side and one on the other, but in general mostly Providence and Pawtucket boys.

There were others who had worked for some time and grasped the opportunity to go to the new college, such as McDermott, who had worked at Universal Winding and owned a Stanley Steamer and later a Daniels automobile, and George Donnelly,

who had been designing seaplanes for that long-gone Rhode Island airplane manufacturer, Gallaudet, down East Greenwich way. There was also Rocco Abate, Bill Coffey and Ray Roberts of the musical Roberts family, who later became a band leader and who died just the other day, all of whom at least seemed older than the rest of us. Walter Rozpad held a job in the railroad roundhouse on the night shift even while attending college.

Since I have already mentioned what the physical plant of the College consisted of . . . Father Galliher was still arguing with the contractors about details when we entered . . . the big thing, or major factor of the College was the people and what they did. Bishop Hickey called us the tradition makers.

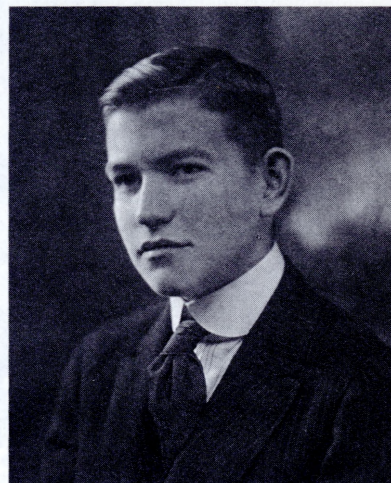
The faculty was Fathers Galliher, Casey, Walsh, McCarthy . . later president . . Cunningham, Howley, Level, who had been a 'poilu' in the French



Ray Dewdney '23



Jim Flanagan '23



John C. McIsaac '23

army in the war, and Father Donovan, a brother of Wild Bill Donovan of World Wars I, II, and Korean fame, Fathers Jordan and Chandler. These were all Dominicans, and there were no lay teachers. Brother Louis took care of the housekeeping and officiated at the coffee urn and hot dog kettle in the basement lunch room.

The curriculum was somewhat flexible, and changes were made in the early days. I remember we in the B.S. course were taking analytical geometry when Father Galliher decided that we should take trigonometry as well. Father Walsh handled math, Father McCarthy chemistry, Father Howley physics, Father Cunningham biology, Father Donovan English, Father Level French, and Father Conlon religion, as I remember it. The assignments were not too onerous, a fact which was brought home to me when I saw the work my son had to do when he entered forty years later.

Very shortly after college opened, we were favored with a visit from Cardinal Mercier, the Belgian cardinal who had become famous for standing up to the Germans in World War I and was making an American tour. I think he received an honorary degree, and if so, it must have been the first one awarded. There was a ceremony in the rotunda of Harkins Hall.

Since the front section of Harkins Hall was all we had, it had to do for everything. The room at the south end of the first floor (now the president's office) was the chapel, and later became the first church of St. Pius Parish. The room at the north end of the first floor (now the alumni office) served as gymnasium, assembly hall, dance hall, and even as a theatre.

Isolated as we were in that part of the city, many of us took to exploring the neighborhood during the mid-day recess which was set aside for lunch. I remember one instance of

this activity which did much to shape my later life.

John Reed was a very close friend from La Salle days, and at that time, he wanted to become a doctor, although he was ordained a priest and died about thirty-five years ago. This particular day he decided that he would like to go through City Hospital, what later became Chapin Hospital, then a hospital for contagious diseases. The Assistant Superintendent, a Dr. Jordan, was very gracious and showed us through the hospital. Then he did a little selling on his own. He was in the process of forming an ambulance company in the National Guard after having served in the war. He convinced John that if he was going to be a doctor, the experience in the guard would be good for him. So John signed up and would not be satisfied until I had enlisted as well. I was only sixteen at the time, but the enlisting officer was not too particular. That's how we came to be in the



Opening Day . . . September 18, 1919

first National Guard outfit formed in Rhode Island after the war, and I suppose, the first of a long line of Providence College military men. I was in the guard, reserve, and on active duty until retirement, and the tidy pension I now receive is very welcome. Captain Jordan, by the way, was for many years the superintendent of Lying-In Hospital in Providence, and Lieutenant Connor, who enlisted me, was for many years superintendent of Chapin Hospital.

We also thoroughly explored Harkins Hall itself, except for the fourth floor, which was the faculty living quarters. Even the tower did not go unexplored, and today, there may still be pennies inserted under the cross at that time.

As I have mentioned, only McDermott, with his Stanley Steamer and later Daniels, had a student-owned car. This certainly reduced the parking problem to miniscule proportions, but it meant that once we had arrived at class in the morning, we were pretty much restricted to within a walking radius for the rest of the

day. We roamed about in good weather, but in inclement weather, card games, handball, and basketball filled in the noontime break. I remember John McGarry getting water on the knee from some of the impromptu athletic activity.

Reaching the college might seem today to be a bit of a problem without personal transportation, but at that time, it was considered no problem. Taking my own case, for example, there were about ten trains through Woonsocket each way daily, and monthly student tickets were not expensive . . \$3.65 . . as I remember. These trains came from or went to either Blackstone or Worcester. There were also trains to the Pawtuxet Valley and to Pascoag, as well as the electric trains on the "Consolidated" line to Bristol and Fall River. These were all in addition to the trains on the main line as we know it today.

The trolley cars ran out Smith Street from downtown, and they were supplemented by a phenomenon of the time called "jitneys". These examples of individual capitalism competed

with the trolleys until they were snuffed out by the politicians setting up laws requiring licensing and insurance. All that was required to go into business was a Model "T" Ford touring car and a sign on the windshield showing destination. The fare was a nickel or "jitney", hence the name, which is perpetuated on the "Jitney" license plates on busses today. The jitney ran to Atwells and Academy Avenues, and though there were no regular schedules, as they started out when they had a load or at the whim of the driver, they were convenient and got much of our business.

Since we were strictly a commuting student body, with the exception of the four Dominican students, most of the student activity took place during the daytime. However, in that first year, we made an attempt to run a few dances and these were quite well attended. I remember playing the violin with Forestal on the drums, but I can't remember the others. "Dardanella" and "Ja Da" were the big hits in those days. We didn't have the wherewithal to hire an orchestra, and I think the piano was donated. We also started the Glee Club in the spring, with sixteen members.

Father Donovan was the director of the glee club, and shortly after it started, he arranged a trip to New York City to take part in the International Congress of Gregorian Chant to be held in St. Patrick's Cathedral in June. When I heard about the trip and that they needed second basses, I immediately became a second bass. We went to New York on the sleeper, and Father Donovan met us in Grand Central. It was a case of the country boys getting to the big city for the first time, and we made the most of it. Father Donovan explained the street layout at breakfast that morning so that we wouldn't get lost too often. He still didn't have any expense money, but had made arrangements for us to eat at the Carroll Club, a Catholic girls' club on Madison Ave-

nue, along with many of the seminarians attending the Congress, and for us to stay nights at the Christian Brothers Novitiate at Pocantico Hills, about forty miles up the Hudson, near the Rockefeller estate.

The sessions of the Congress were held in the mornings and filled St. Patrick's with priests, nuns, monks, and seminarians. We were lost in the crowd but were quite faithful in attendance. The afternoons and evenings were our own, and we made the most of them. The first night we made the trip by train to the novitiate at Tarrytown, where we slept in a dormitory. The train trip spoiled the evening, so the next day some of us started experimenting. There was a rumor that there was a later train, so Forestal and I decided to take it. We took the "rubberneck" bus trip through the Bowery and Chinatown. The bus on which they sold the trip was fairly good, but when it was full it only made it around the corner, and the passengers had to be transferred to another for the trip. The busses in those days were really only trucks with crosswise benches. After a bite to eat in a Chinese restaurant off Broadway, we went over to Grand Central. There we found that there was no late train, so we were stranded. This did not dismay Forestal, so we went back to the Carroll Club, and he convinced the night watchman that we were seminarians and had missed our train. He talked him into letting us sleep in the lobby on a couple of wicker divans. The only drawback was that he got us up very early in the morning because he knew we were seminarians and that we would want to go to early Mass.

Father Donovan picked up some expense money, we didn't know how, and passed it out. The story was that he knew some nice old ladies who gave him the money to support his endeavor. So, with money in pocket, a group of us got a bargain rate for eight of us in a couple of big rooms in a small mid-town hotel for the next

couple of nights. I'm afraid the volume of our voices did not add much to the Congress, but we did sing by ourselves at one evening service at St. Vincent Ferrer Church on Lexington Avenue.

The size of the instruction classes at the College at first was quite small, and they were quite informal. The subject matter seemed rather flexible, and the instructors did not hesitate to detour from the subject for rather lengthy discussions. When my son entered forty years later, I saw an astounding change in the difficulty of the courses, with greatly increased assignments. The instructors' work load was naturally rather light, with only one class in the College, but this changed in the second year with the arrival of the Class of 1924.

The second class was larger than the pioneer class as I remember. The Woonsocket contingent was enlarged by Joe Dowling, Timmy Mee, Henry Roberge, and Francis Dwyer, all of whom distinguished themselves in later life. Since Bishop Hickey had called us the tradition makers, we set

out on the arrival of the new freshmen to make a few traditions. There was a small amount of hazing of the new men, with one member kidnapped, and a couple transported to Oakland Beach and abandoned. But this ceased when the freshmen organized themselves and rushed the sophomores in the gymnasium one noontime. The superior numbers of the freshmen told the story, and the sophomores quickly found themselves subdued. This affair was more or less patterned after the flag rush and chapel rushes which were a fixture at Brown at the time. Then a student council or court was set up to enforce rules made for freshmen behavior, rules that were honored mostly in non-observance. In a very short time after the start of the second year, harmony prevailed with little or no distinction between the classes.

As I have mentioned, athletics were quite impromptu in the first year, but with two classes in the College, under the guidance of Father Howley, a baseball team was organized, and uniforms and equipment furnished. A

Dedication of Harkins Hall May 25, 1919



in the beginning

coach was hired in the person of Jack Flynn, who had both semi-pro and professional experience, and whose brothers later became Governor and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in Rhode Island, respectively. Home games were played at Davis Park, on the site now occupied by the VA Hospital. Games were arranged with college freshmen teams and with schools like Dean Academy, now Dean Junior College. Trips were made to Harvard, MIT, Brown and Dean. The trips were made in a couple of hired Cadillac touring cars which were in vogue at that time as Providence-Pawtucket jitneys. I remember that when we played the Harvard freshmen at Soldier's Field, the Harvard varsity was playing a team from a Japanese university on another diamond. Also, that the field at MIT had a gravel surface. I was the scorer that year and got to make all the trips.

Other memories of that first team include the voluble freshman who had talked himself into the position of first-string catcher, with Vin Dore as second-string. When we went up to play Dean, however, this chap chickened out and told Vin that the coach had said that he, Vin, was to catch. This was unknown to the coach. I think Father Dore remembers this incident. I also remember that in that game, our team left the field in one of the middle innings with only two out. They were getting away with it, but soon the Dean coach, Dan Sullivan, a hard case, came bearing down on me with: "How many out, kid?" I meekly answered, "Two," and that was that.

Father Howley was deeply involved personally in the team and used to get into uniform himself. When we played the Brown freshmen at old Andrews Field he went on the first base coaching line. Doc Marvel, the Brown Athletic Director, thought he looked a bit old for a student and protested, so Father Howley desisted.

The team improved gradually, and was on the verge of taking the Holy Cross Freshmen until Spencer Kelly got a broken leg when he collided with a runner at second base and the winning run scored while he was lying on the ground. Spencer was lifted carefully into McDermott's car and taken to the hospital.

As the second year progressed, new subjects were introduced, and the instruction was more advanced. Father Cunningham's biology class in the laboratory advanced through the different forms of animal life using specimens which were provided. When it came to cats, however, the students had to provide their own specimens, so that backyards in many neighborhoods became hunting grounds, and the Animal Rescue League found supposedly good homes for more candidates.

Toward the end of the second year, the gym was made into a theatre. The stage was built mostly from scrap lumber from Swift-McNutt wreckers, where one of the students' brothers worked. Most of the work was done by a chap named Rock who had had some experience as a carpenter, and who I think later became a Dominican. Wilfred Roberts, another member of the musical family, built a water rheostat to control the lighting.

The play performed was "The Private Secretary", an old standard. The gym was filled to overflowing for two nights.

There was no drinking problem at the College in those days. It is true that it was the beginning of Prohibition, but this was not the answer. Later I found out at Brown that all kinds of home-made and bootleg booze was very plentiful, so it was the people that made the difference.

It is obvious that the college grew 'in wisdom and in grace' after the first two years, but I was not around. Since from the beginning, I had wanted to study Engineering and it was not available at Providence, I transferred to Brown after the second year and was credited with all the courses I had taken at Providence.

It is astounding to look back and see the successes achieved by the members of the first two classes. There is a very large number of monsignori, priests, a president of the College, heads of the state bar and medical associations, doctors, dentists, lawyers, judges, school and civic officials, business men, and many ordinary guys like myself whose lives were made more comfortable through having had the opportunity to go to college.

It is interesting also to consider the waste of human resources that would have occurred if their had not been a Providence College for them to attend, and the importance of providing for the generation of the future. I do not have a roster of the early classes, but I have tried to "tell it like it was" and as something to be filled out and better defined by some of the other pioneers.

FORWARD THRUST IV:

the providence college master plan for development

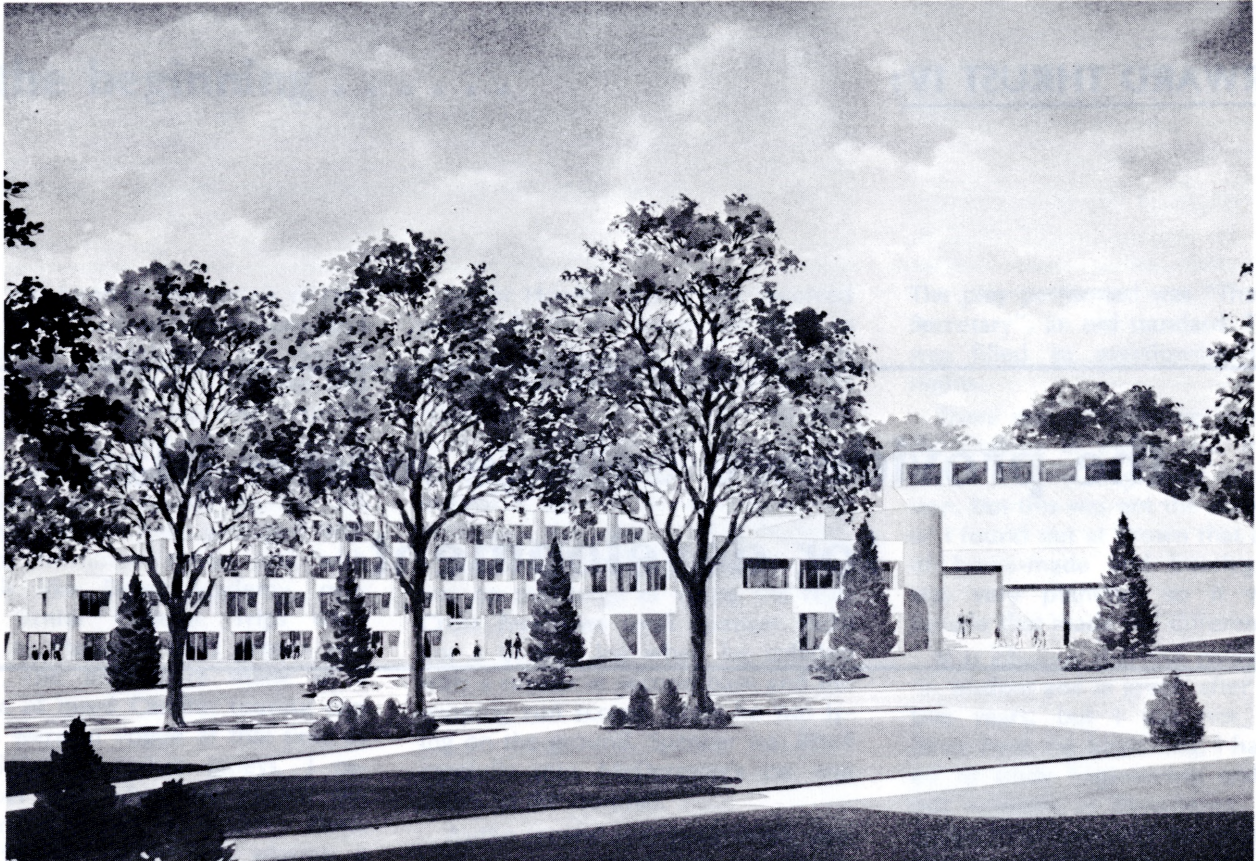
*In a previous issue of **Providence**, the Providence College Master Plan for development was unveiled. That plan outlined the building expansion program to be undertaken, as well as the faculty and curriculum improvements.*

The following article, which will be presented in two parts, summarizes two other objectives of the planning studies that began four years ago: first, to develop a schematic design for the campus landscape, showing the functional and design organization of pedestrian paths, service ways, and parking areas, and the use and design structuring of plant materials; second, to quantify long range parking and playfield requirements and to locate the required facilities on the campus.

The existing Providence College campus presents an unusually handsome public image when viewed from its principal approaches along Eaton Street and River Avenue. This favorable public impression is an important and desirable characteristic and can be attributed both to the character of the neighborhood development, and, more importantly, to the placement of campus buildings back from the street with handsomely landscaped lawns in the foreground. New development, whether buildings or parking areas, should not intrude or interrupt these handsome edges of the campus along Eaton Street or River Avenue. The new library shows how a new building can be placed in the existing campus landscape without disrupting the desirable image of the campus from the surrounding streets.

Unfortunately, this favorable public impression of the campus is not continuous on its entire perimeter. The "working back" of the College is all too prominent from Huxley Avenue. Along Huxley Avenue buildings are set close to the street and open service courts and the large asphalt parking area behind Raymond Hall are visible to the street. The impression of the campus has been greatly improved from Admiral and Annie Streets with completion of the new playfields. Landscape development of the earth banks between the fields and the street would further improve the appearance and reduce the possibility of erosion.

Site accommodation studies for a 3,000 student enrollment show that, while there are sufficient building sites on the main campus, parking



Proposed Dominican Faculty Residence

Photo Courtesy of Robinson, Green and Beretta, Architects and Engineers

and playfield requirements can only be met by further utilization of the Elmhurst property. Growth of the College beyond the 3,000 student level can only be accommodated by increasing the density of development on the campus resulting in a significant change in the existing campus landscape image and/or in the construction of parking structures.

The history of physical development at Providence College, as with most American institutions of higher learning, has been one of growth. Internally, the campus retains, for the most part, the handsome impression gained from Eaton Street. The campus grounds are beautifully landscaped and well-tended. Harkins Hall, Albertus Magnus Hall and the main dormitory complex

. . . Aquinas Hall, Meagher Hall and McDermott Hall . . . and the new library are well positioned and comfortably sited on the rolling landscape.

New development requires that campus paths, parking areas and service ways be reorganized and that large parts of the campus landscape be reconstructed. The campus has tended to develop in concentric rings from the corner of Eaton Street and River Avenue. As a result, campus buildings are sited front to back as with Hickey Laboratory to Albertus Magnus, Harkins to Alumni Hall, Aquinas to Antoninus, and Raymond to Stephen Halls. Functionally, this pattern of development has placed a series of service courts and drives in an intersecting pattern to the paths of student movement.

The pattern is visually disrupting because the architecture of the buildings reflect the traditional front and back relationship, and the continuity of the landscape is disrupted by the inter-mixed service courts, drives and walks. A particularly unsettling pattern now exists between Aquinas Hall and the buildings to the rear: Antoninus, Raymond, and Stephen Halls.

The site and landscape development in some areas of the campus could be improved. Mention has already been made of the edges of the campus along Admiral Street and Huxley Avenue. Grading and site development between Raymond and Aquinas Halls in unnecessarily complicated. Some remedial planting to the rear of Aquinas Hall would im-



New Dormitory (Presently under Construction)

prove the appearance of this building. Some planting to the rear of Raymond Hall would also relieve the stark appearance that it now presents. The form and edges of the large parking areas tend to be uncontrolled. This lack of definition and of landscape development makes them unsightly.

Internal campus circulation and the parking area related to the access roads create a series of disrupting internal crossing situations. In particular, the large parking areas between Harkins and Alumni Halls, and the traffic that it generates through the campus to surrounding streets, presents a real hazard to student movement from the dormitories to the principal academic buildings. One of the principal objectives of long

range campus development is the removal of all through-campus drives.

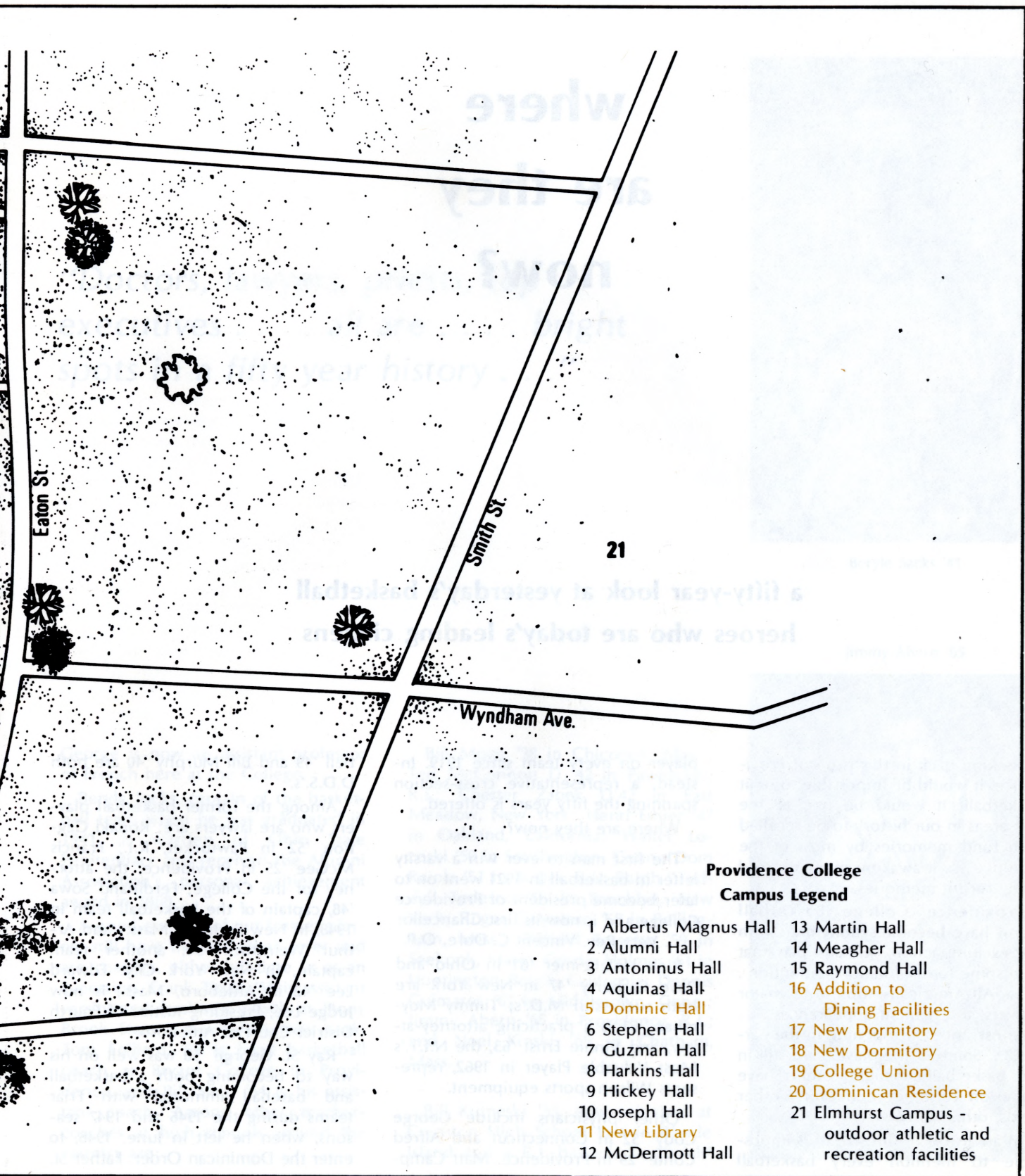
An academic quadrangle will be developed between Harkins, Aquinas and Alumni Halls. Existing and proposed academic buildings will be grouped around the quadrangle. The new quadrangle is terminated on the southern axis by the new library and on the northern end by the proposed new College Union. The new quadrangle permits a close relationship between academic disciplines and allows uninterrupted student access from the dormitories to the academic facilities.

The new quadrangle will be a handsome and tranquil open space knitting together existing and proposed buildings and providing visual

relief and recreational opportunities. Its rectilinear form will help to organize existing buildings and create additional academic building sites. One such site will be created between Alumni and Harkins Halls. The new library has been sited to permit a significant expansion of the existing science facilities in Albertus Magnus Hall. Two new high-rise dormitories, the first already under construction, will be located on the hillside north of Meagher Hall. The removal of some parking, the relocation of service access, and remedial site and landscape work behind Aquinas Hall would permit the integration of existing residential facilities in Raymond, Joseph and Stephen Halls about a series of interconnected landscaped courts.

(To be continued)





**Providence College
Campus Legend**

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1 Albertus Magnus Hall | 13 Martin Hall |
| 2 Alumni Hall | 14 Meagher Hall |
| 3 Antoninus Hall | 15 Raymond Hall |
| 4 Aquinas Hall | 16 Addition to Dining Facilities |
| 5 Dominic Hall | 17 New Dormitory |
| 6 Stephen Hall | 18 New Dormitory |
| 7 Guzman Hall | 19 College Union |
| 8 Harkins Hall | 20 Dominican Residence |
| 9 Hickey Hall | 21 Elmhurst Campus - outdoor athletic and recreation facilities |
| 10 Joseph Hall | |
| 11 New Library | |
| 12 McDermott Hall | |

where are they now?

a fifty-year look at yesterday's basketball heroes who are today's leading citizens

Looking back in this issue of *Providence*, it would be impossible to omit basketball. It would be one of the first areas in our history to be recalled with fond memories by most of the alumni . . . it awakens many old and many recent memories.

Providence College basketball teams have become synonymous with the exciting action, skill and play that gain some form of national attention . . . All-Americans, upsetting major powers, tournament appearances . . . almost since our opening in the early 20's. Some of the players are still in the basketball limelight; others have gone on to other endeavors, other fields, other successes.

In an article of this size, it is impossible to mention every basketball

player on every team since 1919. Instead, a representative cross-section spanning the fifty years is offered.

Where are they now?

The first man to ever win a varsity letter in basketball in 1921 went on to later become president of Providence College and is now its first Chancellor . . . Very Rev. Vincent C. Dore, O.P.

Rich Holzheimer '61 in Ohio and Dave Carberry '47 in New York are both successful M.D.'s; Timmy Moynihan '61 is a practicing attorney-at-law, and Vinnie Ernst '63, the N.I.T.'s Most Valuable Player in 1962, represents Wilson sports equipment.

Other physicians include George Cody '32 in Connecticut and Alfred Conte '29 in Providence. Matt Camp-

bell '49 and Bill Murphy '40 are both D.D.S.'s.

Among the former basketball players who are lawyers are: Ronald Gagnon '52 in Pawtucket, R.I.; Francis McGee '25 in Providence, the attorney for the College; Ferdinand Sowa '48, captain of the basketball team in 1948, in New Bedford, Mass.; and Arthur Weinstock '50, another team captain, in New York City. Edward Lee '42 in Attleboro, Mass., is now Judge Lee, Presiding Justice of Fourth District Court of Attleboro.

Ray St. George '50 was well on his way to becoming both a basketball and baseball immortal with Friar teams during the 1946 and 1947 seasons, when he left in June, 1948, to enter the Dominican Order. Father St.

“Doctors, lawyers, priests, top executives all are bright spots in a fifty year history . . .”

George is now an assistant professor of French here at the College.

Beryle Sacks, captain of the basketball team when he was graduated in 1941, is warden of Ohio State Penitentiary and received the Alumni Association's personal achievement award in 1960.

A good number of our former players still have the basketball fever and are coaches, either full-time or as an avocation. Frank Tirico '58 is assistant varsity and freshman coach at Stony Brook State University in New York. Tom Folliard '62 is head basketball coach at Bryant College in Providence, and Bill Stein '64 is his assistant coach. Among other teacher-coaches at high schools around the country are:

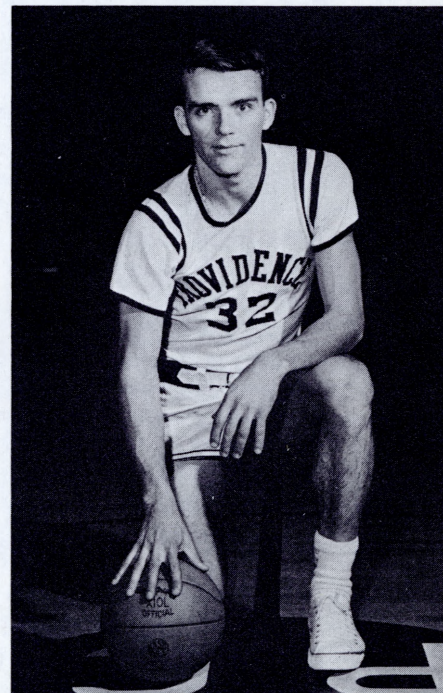
Bill Moge '38 in Chicopee, Mass.; Ted McConnon D '42 in Pawtucket, R.I.; Chester Zabek D'42 in East Meadow, New York; Henri Ethier '47 in Oakland, California; Walter Lozowski '50 in Southington, Conn.; Dom Raiola '51 in Bristol, R.I.; Ralph "Teddy" Tedesco '56 in Brooklyn, New York; Roger Canestrari '58 in Bellingham, Mass.; Richard Bessette '59 in Seekonk, Mass.; Gordie Holmes '61 in Huntington Beach, California; Dennis Guimares '61 in Middletown, Conn.; Jimmy Ahern '65 in Providence, R.I.; and Noel Kinski '65 in Chatham, Mass.

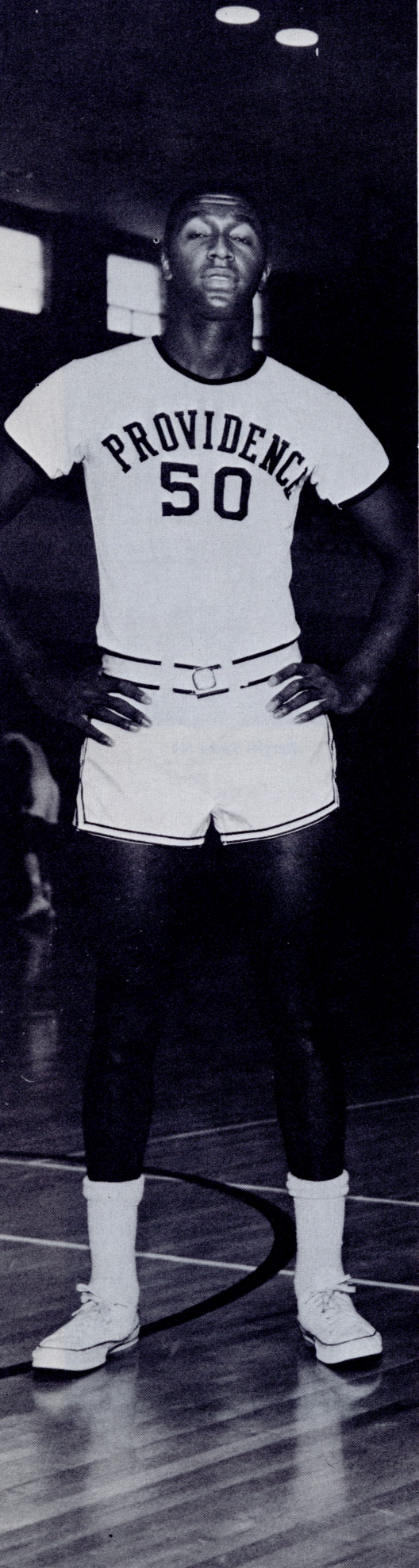
Bill Kutneski '35, now principal at Cranston High School East in Rhode Island and a R.I. basketball officials'



Beryle Sacks '41

Jimmy Ahern '65





“an unusually large number of former Friars have become involved with helping youngsters . . .

director, was formerly a teacher-coach at Central High in Providence for eight years.

Four, of course, are still very much in basketball and making news as professional players. Lennie Wilkens '60 is now with the Seattle Sonics, after spending seven seasons with the St. Louis Hawks. Johnny Egan '61 is playing for the Los Angeles Lakers. Mike Riordan '67 is a New York Knickerbocker, and his classmate and former teammate Jimmy Walker is with the Detroit Pistons.

“Jumbo” Jim Hadnot '62, the first of our “big men”, was a pro with the Oakland Oaks, but in November, 1968, he quit the court for a front office position as their director of group sales. His new assignment involves public relations work, some coaching and some scouting.

There are also Friar court men who have distinguished themselves in the world of big business. Ed Wineapple '31, Oliver Roberge '34, Milt Blieden '39, John Barnini '40 and Robert Reilly D'42 are among them.

Ed Wineapple, who was the College's first basketball All-American in 1929, is with Russ-Togs as Sales Executive. Oliver Roberge joined the New York Yankees upon graduation (he played varsity football and baseball, too), and is now vice-president of Bloomingdale's, the New York department store. Milt Blieden of the 1938 and 1939 teams is now the president of Warwick Shoppers' World, a

chain of discount department stores in the Rhode Island area.

John “Slip” Barnini also played baseball and football as well as basketball. He played two years as center for the professional Providence Steamrollers football team and is now president of the Hale Construction Company in building and real estate, one of the largest firms of its kind in Connecticut. Robert Reilly was captain of the 1942 team and is now executive vice-president of the Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation.

Doctors, lawyers, priests, top executives, and, it is heartwarming to note, an unusually large number of former Friars have become involved with helping youngsters, underprivileged and delinquents.

Jim Swartz '59, captain of the 1959 squad that first brought Providence College to the National Invitational Tournament, is the latest ‘drop-in’ to this vocation. He left a comfortable teaching and coaching position at Chaminade High School in Mineola, New York, to teach physical education, history and economics on the high school level at the Holy Rosary Indian Mission School in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. There is no salary only room and board plus expenses. His wife also works with the children and does clerical tasks.

Jim now joins former Friar stars like John Thompson, Ray Flynn, Frankie Williams and Ed Koslowski in doing that something extra to help children.

1928 - 29 Varsity



John Thompson '64, the much talked-about 'big man' of the 1962-64 seasons, played professional basketball for one year with the Boston Celtics, disliked the gypsy-like existence of the pros and quit to work with the poor and coach in his native Washington, D.C.

John now spends his time with the Neighborhood Youth Corps aiming to get youths between 16 and 21 years old off the streets and interested in earning a weekly paycheck. Since 1966, John and his Youth Corps crews have visited every park in the city of Washington with shovel, broom, and clippers.

In the evening, the youths under John's supervision have to go back to school with a special program of classes called STAY, if they want to remain in the Corps, continue working and earning a salary. They are allowed to remain in this program for six months, and, by the end of that time, most of them have either found career jobs with the park service, or are back in school on the road to better things.

To keep his basketball ardor alive, John coaches the St. Anthony's High School team in Washington, very successfully we might add; but the Neighborhood Youth Corps is his main concern.

"This is their home," said the big man of the Corps. "If we weren't here, they'd have no place to go."

1959 N.I.T. Team



"Thy sons shall thee with noble deeds adorn."

Ray Flynn could tell you where these kids would go if they didn't have something like John Thompson's youth corps. A 1963 graduate and captain of the basketball team that year, sharpshooter Ray is a Probation Officer at Suffolk Superior Court, Suffolk County, Boston, Massachusetts, and a member of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

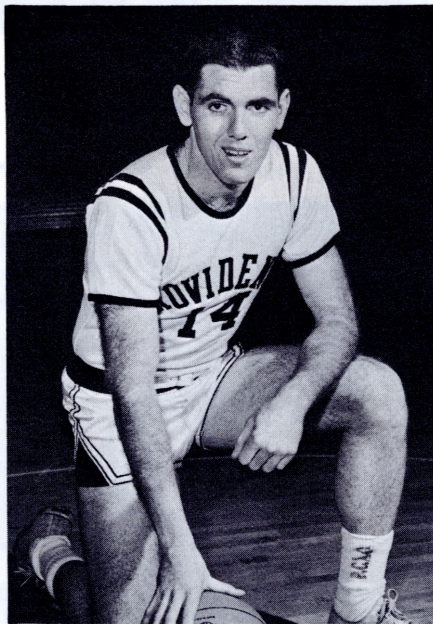
The Council of which Ray is a member works to develop effective juvenile, family and criminal courts; to improve probation, parole and institutional services and facilities, and to stimulate community programs for the prevention, treatment and control of delinquency and crime.

Ray, too, has never quite managed to forget basketball. Until the end of the 1967-68 season, he was also assistant basketball coach at Stonehill College in North Easton, Massachusetts.

Many of you will remember Frankie Williams. Frank was one of the original "little men" on the Friar squad. He played varsity basketball for two years, the first under Vin Cuddy and the second under Joe Mullaney. He was graduated in 1957. For the next ten years, he was the second baseman for the softball Raybestos Cardinals, and one of the best hitters they ever turned out, several times All-American. This was only an avocation,

though sports and recreation have remained important to his life.

His love of sports had naturally led him to community recreational work. He received his M.E. in Group Work and Community Organization from Springfield College (Mass.) and then joined the staff at the Stratford, Con-



Ray Flynn '63

necticut YMCA as the community program secretary. At Stratford, he expanded the community recreation programs to the highest volume of total members and groups in its history.

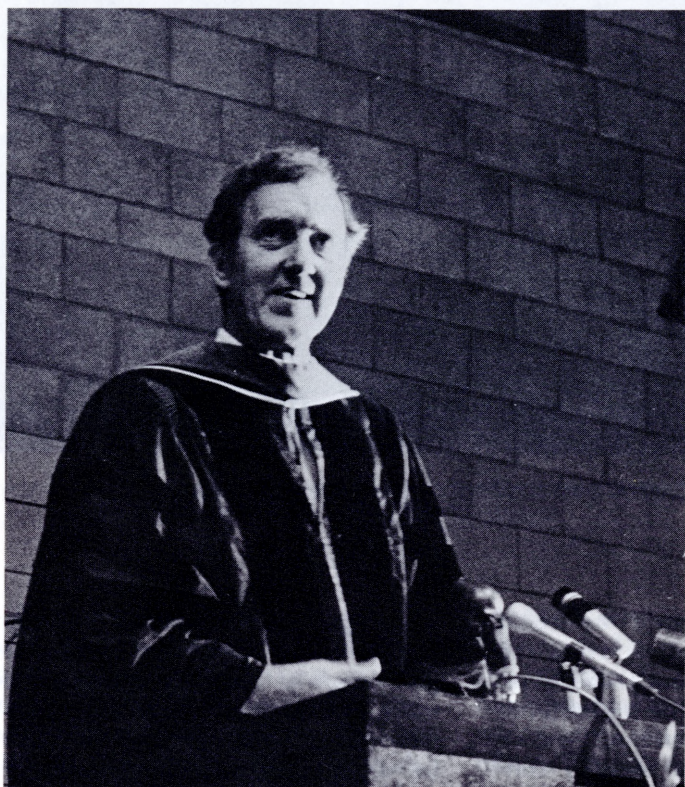
In January, 1968, Frank became associate area executive of the Ohio-West Virginia Area Council of YMCA's. His job consists mostly of consultative assignments on youth work and camping around both states.

Frank still has had the time to steer a few boys like John Woods and Den- nie Guimares in the direction of Providence College.

In an allied position, Ed Koslowski '34, captain of the basketball team in his senior year, has been involved in Boys' Club work since his graduation. He is now executive director of the Boys' Clubs of the Tonawandas in Tonawanda, New York.

Coach Joe Mullaney says that nearly all of the present professional basketball players previously mentioned also do recreational or volunteer work with children during the summer months. They work at basketball clinics, camps for the underprivileged, or as playground directors.

There have been many omissions in each of the categories mentioned. There are other doctors, other lawyers, other teacher-coaches. Priest, athlete or executive, all are credits to the name of Providence College . . . bright spots in a fifty year history that bear out the line in our alma mater: "Thy sons shall thee with noble deeds adorn."



change and challenge . . . in a period of possibility

by SENATOR EDMUND S. MUSKIE
Honorary '69

The Commencement Address delivered to graduates at the
51st Annual Commencement of Providence College on June 3.

Not long ago, I engaged in a contest of give and take, an old traditional one in American life, and everything I've learned over a full lifetime was tested to its fullest in that contest last fall. But I learned some very useful and, I think, fundamental things. I learned that regional differences are still less than the common desire of Americans to find a better life. I learned that respect for the opinions of others and the willingness to listen can still open hearts and minds, and I learned also that young and old alike yearn for a new day in which the promises of America will be realized for all Americans.

In one of the last interviews he gave before his death, Robert Frost, whom you remember from John Kennedy's inauguration, was asked his distinction between poetry and politics. He said this: "Poetry is about grief, and politics is about grievance." That's a statement of breathtaking clarity. It tells us much about the politics of the last few years, when this nation has learned of more grievances than any of us care to count, and too many of them very real. As a result, the body politic, the nation has been subjected to incredible strain.

In reflecting on the mood of this country to which I have been ex-

posed almost constantly for eight months now, I am reminded of the story of a young man who was poised to jump from a bridge. An older man came by and asked why he wanted to jump into the river. The young man said that he had been meditating about the problem of our time, about the war in Vietnam, about the divisions in our country, about the inflationary spiral, pollution, the noises of the jet age, with the conclusion that there was no alternative but to jump. His optimistic older friend suggested that it wasn't as bad as all that and suggested that they take a long walk around the block for a dialogue

"Force will shatter a society . . . original grievances are soon lost in the passions unleashed by violence."

on these problems to discuss them in depth. So they did. They had their long walk around the block. They discussed all the problems in depth, and when they came back to the bridge, they both jumped.

And so it is today, from Chicago to Cambridge, from Paris to Prague, the institutions and the values which have formed and guided our modern industrial society are being challenged . . . universities, political parties, corporations, organized religion, governments themselves . . . all are being asked, often violently, to justify their objectives, their procedures, and, indeed, their very existence.

This isn't a bad exercise to be forced to experience. My own generation was shaped by two traumatic experiences in the 1930's which aroused our concern and which generated a determination on our part to do what we could to avoid any repetition . . . the great depression and the second world war.

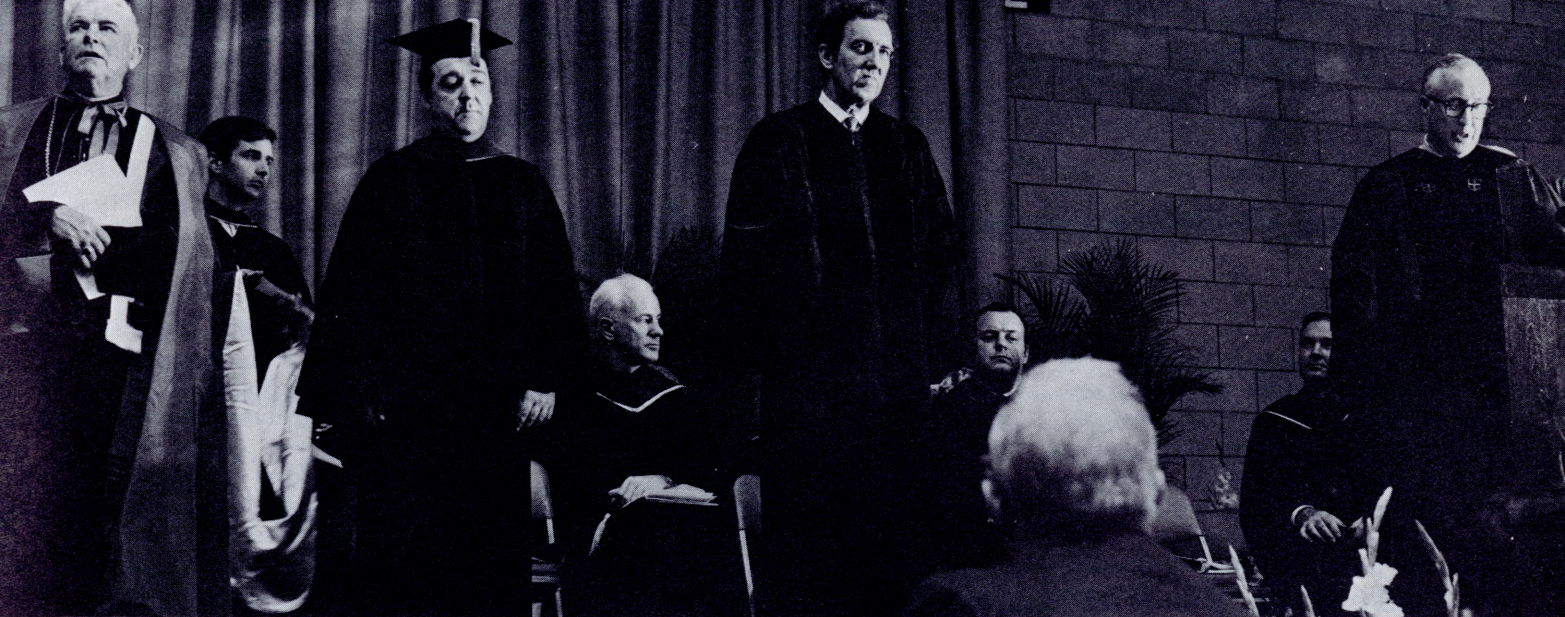
The great depression visited upon our families, our community, our friends, and ourselves, burdens, sacrifices and hardships unprecedented in the previous history of our country. It narrowed our horizons, limited our opportunities and raised the specter of destruction to everything we held

dear. We vowed that if we could make any contribution at all to the future that stretched out ahead of us, it would be to avoid the repetition of such a traumatic experience. And so we became economic security conscious. We felt that the way to deal with the problems which plagued our generation was to build economic growth . . . economic security.

And then there was the second experience which actually originated in the 1920's. I don't know if you still study in American history courses man's attempt to outlaw war, but in the late 20's, Mr. Kellogg, the American Secretary of State, and Mr. Briand, the French Foreign Minister, drafted the Kellogg-Briand peace pact to outlaw war. The previous generation of Americans, their instincts so violated by the idea of war as an instrument of national policy, subscribed to the proposition that it could be eliminated by the stroke of a pen and a piece of paper. Yet, there have been more war casualties, more war dead, more suffering attributable to war since then than in the entire previous history of mankind. Nevertheless, the western democracies and western man bought the idea, and when Hitler marched they were unprepared to stop him.

So we became military security conscious. We vowed, my concerned generation of the 1930's, that we'd make sure that never again would the freedom-loving peoples of the earth be unprepared to stop those bent upon aggression. For thirty years now, my generation, since emerged from college becoming a part of our time as citizens, as leaders, as public men, have concentrated upon the development of public policies which would avoid those two traumatic experiences of the 1930's. Rightly motivated, appropriately concerned, and dedicated to what we believed to be the right answer to the future, we committed ourselves to an approach.

Your generation doesn't know those experiences, and all you see as the fruit of our effort is preoccupation with materialism, national policies which have not brought peace, and a world which is in greater jeopardy today at home and abroad than it was in the 1930's. And so you question our values, you question our assumptions, you question our policies. Your generation, which has known neither depression or oppression, has decided that material abundance and military strength are insufficient foundations upon which to build a society. And I must say that I think you are right.



Honorary degree citation for Sen. Muskie is read by Dr. Thomson, vice president for academic affairs, as Fr. Haas and Bishop McVinney prepare to present degree.

But I must say in addition, that as one of the generation who made mistakes, I'm not sure either that you are incapable of making mistakes, or that your preoccupation with a different kind of experience necessarily leads you to the wisdom needed to build a brighter future than we did.

I know what you think we need to do. You think that we need to finish the job of eradicating poverty and discrimination in America, a job we started but didn't finish. You think we need to obtain a just and lasting peace, a goal sought by every generation anew. And you think we need to fill the void in men's souls, a void that went unnoticed while there was hunger in men's stomachs. And each of these goals are goals to which we all subscribe.

The problem is . . . the problem that you face is . . . that having concluded that some of our values are wrong, that some of our policies are wrong, you now ask whether any of them are right. This question poses more of a challenge for you than it does for us.

Ambrose Bierce said that youth is the period of possibility. The period of possibility not just for yourselves, but for this country and for mankind. What are those possibilities? How do

we build on them? To what should they lead? He might have said that you are also the generation of continuity because it is through you that we take into the future whatever was best in the past that needs to be preserved. It is through you that we sift out of the present that which ought to be left in the past, and it is through you that we develop the new values, the new approaches, the new relationships among men which can make the future better.

Each of these evaluation processes poses a tremendous responsibility upon you. If there is nothing else that you take from us, take at least this much . . . that this process of evaluation isn't a simple one, and that preoccupation with too little of the present can narrow your focus so that you can make great mistakes for the future.

There are some values out of the past, out of the present, which, in my judgment, you must take into the future . . . the idea of rational, peaceful resolution of our differences. We have exercised very freely and vigorously our right to use methods other than speech to dramatize our protest and our concern, and our right to do these things is enshrined in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. But

this right is meaningless unless there is an obligation to listen, and I don't mean standing passively while others speak. I mean listening with a real effort to understand why others believe as they do; why others say what they do, why they do what they do. It is the why that the four years of college should prepare you to answer.

I can't think of anything more inconsistent with the university than the idea of non-negotiability. I can't think of anything more inconsistent with the objectives being expressed so loudly, so honestly, and so sincerely by this college generation than the idea of repressing the rights of other students to disagree.

I wonder what would happen on any college campus today if a student were to defend the ROTC, or if a student were to defend our policies in Vietnam, or if a student were to defend any other idea, concept or policy unpopular with his fellow students. How many students would defend his right to be in such a small minority? As you sift out the values that you take into the future with you, as you become the policy-makers of this country, consider that and consider it well. We think its fundamental.

I can understand why, in this period of affluence and preoccupation

change and challenge . . . in a period of possibility

with materialism, you believe that my generation is content with the status quo. I don't know of an American I've met who is satisfied with America as it is. I don't know of an American I've met who feels secure in America as it is. And I exclude none . . . the rich, the poor, the white, the black, the young, the old. They all want change. They all want security measured by different values. They all want to improve what we have. How then do we achieve change if all we do is concentrate upon the mistakes of previous generations?

Over a century ago, Disraeli said, "Change is inevitable; change is constant." Reasonable men have always recognized that change is an inevitable part of any viable, meaningful society. But today, in the twinkling of history's eye, we are being swept away on a tidal wave of change, and the question is how do we do it. Who mans the tiller? What directions do we take?

Francis Bacon said years ago that if a man begins with certainties, he shall end in doubt; but, if he is content to begin with doubt, he shall end in certainties. There are too many on the campuses who are certain about themselves, about their convictions, about their views of society, about older generations. Can you be that certain?

The learning process takes many forms. We learn by reading. We learn by listening to advice. We learn by making mistakes. As I understand the ferment on the college campuses, it represents an urge on your part for the right to make mistakes. But let's not forget that it involves mistakes and that it is inconsistent with certainty about anything . . . about the form institutions ought now to take, about the policies which are to set the new direction.

I remember the story of a young Maine farm boy who hadn't had much schooling. When asked if he could read, he would answer: "Kind of. When I get to a crossroads and look at the sign, I can tell how far, but I can't tell where to."

Well, isn't that our problem in this country? All of us understand the magnitude of our problems . . . the need to end the war in Vietnam, a way to govern ourselves, the preservation and enhancement of our environment, physical and otherwise. The magnitude of our problems . . . we hear it from every platform, every campus, from every classroom, from every speaker on the Senate floor . . . are infinite. Are we sure of the direction? Do we really know that much about the answer to the question, "Where to?" . . . and that's the question we've got to answer.

You can't do it by shouting all the time. You can't do it by constant physical confrontation. You can't do it by violence. You do it by confronting ideas from whatever source. You do it by digesting ideas from whatever source. Force will shatter a society. As most revolutions in history demonstrate, original grievances are soon lost in the passions unleashed by violence. Isn't that what the French Revolution tells us? Isn't that what the Russian Revolution tells us? And have we forgotten that the English Revolution produced Cromwell?

So each of you must make a personal decision in your relationship to the role of society. You can accept what is right and seek to change what is wrong by the democratic process. You can reject society and seek to change it by all available means including violence, or you can try to ignore society . . . to drop out. These are the courses of action available to you.

I'm not really too much concerned about what your choice would be, but I think as you thrash around for the answer that you ought to contemplate that the kind of constructive and wise change which we need will not come from repressions that are practiced by the young, or by others in response to the young. It will not be produced by the young if they are preoccupied with the certainties which they have developed too quickly.

This is a time of turbulence and of ferment, and it is in such times that creative, as well as destructive, energies are released. There is no guarantee as to which will predominate. It is you who will decide which will have the dominating influence in the years ahead. As you move into those years, may I wish you the kind of luck that free men make for themselves.

Mankind has moved along a torturous road for thousands of years; and we often wonder whether out of the cumulative experience of all the human beings who've ever occupied this planet, there is a residue of good . . . a net plus out of all the efforts of all of the men whom God has created. As I read the history of man, there is such a residue. We are better than we were at the beginning. We are closer to fundamental truths than when man began his journey.

The remainder of the trip stretches into the indefinite future, a future which can be exciting, fulfilling, growth-producing, and a period of happiness, as well as turmoil from time to time.

You've got much with which to build. There is much to change, and both of those tasks are yours. I think you're capable of building on the period of possibility in which you live.

HONORARY DEGREES PRESENTED AT 51st COMMENCEMENT

Rabbi William Gordon Braude - Doctor of Literature (D. Litt.)

Rabbi Braude has been rabbi of Temple Beth-El, Providence, since 1932. Born in Telsiai, Lithuania, he received his A.B. degree from the University of Cincinnati, completed his rabbinical studies at Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati and earned his M.A. and Ph.D. at Brown University, where he has lectured in Biblical Literature and the History of Religions and where he will lead a graduate seminar next Fall. Author, lecturer and Biblical scholar, he has also been most active in civic affairs with such groups as the Urban League, the World Affairs Council and the Providence Commission on Human Relations.

John Francis Cavanagh - Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)

Mr. Cavanagh is a native of Providence, a 1935 graduate of Providence College, and a 1939 graduate of Rhode Island School of Design. Artist and silversmith, he served for many years as designer in the silver and bronze division of Gorham Manufacturing Company before joining Cavanagh Company, religious goods manufacturing firm, of which he is now president. He designed the Providence College Mace, which is carried on all ceremonial occasions at the college. He is a member of the President's Council at the college and is a past president of the Providence College Alumni Association.

Ed McMahon - Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)

Mr. McMahon is a native of Lowell, Mass., where he began his career in broadcasting on local stations. In World War II he served as a Marine Corps instructor and fighter pilot. He was recalled to active service in the Korean War and is now a colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve with a record of 85 combat missions and six air medals. He was graduated from The Catholic University of America in 1949 and is now president of the Catholic University Alumni Association. In 1954 he went to New York City to join television personality Johnny Carson, and they have been associated ever since. In addition to his broadcasting duties, he is president of Unicorn Creations, a creative design company, and he has made many theatrical appearances.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Daniel Patrick Reilly - Doctor of Laws (L.L.D.)

Monsignor Reilly is a Providence native who was educated at Our Lady of Providence Seminary and at Grand Seminaire, St. Brieuç, France. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1953, then did graduate work at Boston College's School of Business Administration. After serving as an assistant at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, he was appointed assistant chancellor and secretary to the Most Rev. Russell J. McVinney, Bishop of the Diocese of Providence. In June of 1964 he was made Chancellor, the post he still holds. He is active with the Knights of Columbus, the Rotary Club, the United Fund, and Citizens Committee for Action on Rhode Island Courts.

Richard Anthony Riley - Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.)

Mr. Riley is a graduate of Providence College, class of 1937. A native of Fall River, Mass., he joined Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. in that city in 1939 as an accountant. He rose through the ranks and in 1956 was made president of a division of the company, World Bestos Company, New Castle, Indiana. In the years since he moved to the presidency of three other divisions of the company, and then on Dec. 31, 1968, he was made vice president of diversified products for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. He now lives in Akron, Ohio, where the parent company is located. In 1961 he was presented the Providence College Alumni Association's award for personal achievement.

Senator Edmund S. Muskie - Doctor of Public Administration (D.P.A.)

Senator Muskie was born in Rumford, Me., son of Stephen Muskie, a Polish immigrant, and Josephine Muskie, who was a native of Buffalo, N.Y. He was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Bates College in 1936 and took his law degree, cum laude, from Cornell in 1939. In World War II he served with the Navy as an Engineering and Deck Officer and began his public service career in 1946 when he was elected to the Maine House of Representatives. He later became City Solicitor for Waterville, then was elected Governor of Maine in 1954, and re-elected in 1956. In 1958 he was elected to the United States Senate and was re-elected in 1964. He was the Democratic nominee for Vice President of the United States in 1968.

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