

lieve it so strongly as to feel that I know it.

I am speaking specially of Catholic youth, because that is the youth that I know best. I know what principles Catholic young people learn at home, in church, at school, in their activities and in their recreation. I know, in the words of Cardinal Mindszenty, speaking to those who condemned him, what tracks these Catholic lives travel, as a train travels toward its destination.

These Catholic young people do not realize how fortunate they are. They cannot realize it, because they have never been without what has been given to them, and they are not old enough to look back and understand how different their background might have been. But I am old enough to look back.

I am old enough to perceive what it means to the happiness and the future of a boy or girl to be reared in the climate of God, in the climate of Christianity—to be taught not only that two and two make four, but that the reason they make four is that the universe was made, and was made orderly, and was made by God.

I can observe the effect upon my own children, and other people's children, of Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops which turn out youngsters who not only are Scouts, with all the fine things that that im-

plies, but who are Scouts *for God*; who see Scouting as one way to serve God and one way to prepare themselves for future greater service of God.

In his book—which is certainly among the most important and most absorbing books in all literature—Whittaker Chambers tells of being raked by hostile questioners on a "Meet the Press" radio program during the Hiss Case. Citing the Russian novelist Dostoevsky, Chambers told his interviewers, "The problem of Communism is not an economic problem. The problem of Communism is the problem of atheism."

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And that is precisely why there is no problem of Communism among American Catholic young people—because the Catholic home, the Catholic school and the Catholic youth programs are invariably and uncompromisingly God-centered. "Unity—Sanctity—Action"—that is the theme of Catholic Youth Week, and that is the enormous contribution which Catholic youth movements are making to the survival, the stability and the future of the U. S. A.

The Catholic youth programs are not merely fun—although fun they are. They are also preparation for living—and if necessary dying—for God and for human freedom.