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PEOPLE'S COLUMN

**Separation of Church, State
Not Catholic or Protestant
Doctrine, Says Woman Writer**

To the Editor:
Perhaps a look into history and church-state relations in the modern world will correct the mistaken notion presently being circulated by the millions of current anti-Catholic pamphlets that union of church and state is a peculiarity of Catholic doctrine and that separation of church and state is a Pro-

testant concept.
Church and state were united in all Catholic and Protestant Europe. It is true. This concept did not change, however, with the Protestant Reformation. The Protestant Reformation was the advent of Protestantism that church and state would now be separated; argument existed only over which church should be the established one.
Lutheran intolerance of Calvinists and Anabaptists is well known, as are Calvin and Zwingle's insistence that Calvinism alone should be established in Geneva.

THROUGHOUT EUROPE, the argument revolved itself in that the religion of the overwhelming majority of the people become the state supported one. Even so to this day the Scandinavian countries support the Lutheran church, England supports the Church of England, and Spain supports the Church of Rome.
In the U. S., the practice of a united church and state continued in colonial days. Colonists fleeing religious persecution in England came to the New World not to establish religious freedom as such but to be free to practice their own religion.

The theoretic form of government in the Massachusetts Bay colony was so strict that Thomas Hooker and Roger Williams were forced to found new colonies in Connecticut and Rhode Island, because their religious doctrines differed from the prevailing Puritan ones and the colony's government would not allow them to preach.

THE ROYAL colonists established the Church of England. In fact, it was in Maryland, the only English colony in which a significant number of Catholics settled, that one of the highest degrees of religious freedom existed. Religious freedom was practiced from the founding of the colony.

This toleration was solidified into the Act of Toleration in 1649. When Puritans became the majority in 1654, they repealed the Act of Toleration and outlawed Catholicism.
In 1691, Maryland became a royal colony and in 1692 the Church of England became the established one—supported by a poll tax.

EVEN WHEN the constitution forbade the establishment of a religion by Congress, a few states continued the public maintenance of an established Protestant Church until the 1830's.
Thus, the constitution, in separating church and state on the national level, did not express a moral consensus of the American Protestant population concerning the inherent goodness of religious freedom as such, as the present pamphlets would lead one to believe.

The First Amendment provision on the separation of church and state is a purely practical working arrangement, based on the reality that a heterogeneous religious population could not possibly decide upon a common religion as the established one of the nation and that this matter ought, therefore, to be removed from consideration.
The Catholic bishops of the United States, in their statement of 1948 on separation of church and state, supported this practical working arrangement as the best form of church-state relations for the U. S. Given the historical data quoted above, there is no more reason to doubt the sincerity of their proclamation than there is to doubt that of the many ministers and bishops who declare their support of the First Amendment.

IT IS OBVIOUS from history that union of church and state is neither a Catholic nor a Protestant doctrine; it is, rather, the practical arrangement that exists between church and state in countries with homogeneous religious populations as witnessed today in Lutheran Sweden and Catholic Spain, for example.
Conversely, separation of church and state is neither a Catholic nor a Protestant doctrine; it is, rather, a practical American political precept which recognizes that union of church and state would be neither possible nor just in the U. S. If Catholics, by the mere fact of their religion, were unable to hold

to this precept, they should logically be denied citizenship. Since this is obviously not the case, Catholics would appreciate it if their sincerity on this matter were accepted once and for all by their fellow citizens.
SHARON M. FINNIE
1079 Pilgrim
Birmingham



ERIC PAVEL

**Travel Series
Starts Saturday
With E. Pavel**

Eric Pavel of Los Angeles—native South American who was educated in Europe—will show color movies of "Amazing Argentina" at the Birmingham Community house at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday.
Pavel is the first of eight forthrightly speakers who will inaugurate the new World Adventure series branch of color movie shows. Both single and season tickets for the afternoon shows are on sale at the Community House. The evening course is sold out.
Pavel pictures gay Buenos Aires, South America's largest city. His films the arduous life and robust games of gauchos of the Patagonian Pampas.

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD By William Ferguson



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**Pre-Collegiate Invited
To AAUW Advisory Night**

High school juniors and seniors with college on their minds will be able to meet with 74 college and university representatives tonight at Hazel Park high school, 23400 Hughes.
The occasion is the 20th annual College Advisory Night, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., to which about 1,500 students and their parents are expected to flock.
Sponsor is the American Association of University Women, Oakland branch. Mrs. Oren J. Wallace of Pleasant Ridge is chairman.
Among high schools whose students will be attending are Seabolt, Groves, Bloomfield Hills, City and Country school of Bloomfield Hills, Cranbrook, Kingswood, Southfield and Troy high schools.
REGISTRATIONS for the two-hour session will be taken by counselors at the high schools. Students will be given information on financial assistance available at colleges.
That old desk in the basement just might be a valuable antique! Sell any of your old household goods, whether they are antiques or just useful used furniture, through a response bringing Birmingham Eccentric classified ad.

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PROCLAMATION
WHEREAS, Oakland County needs an able and vigorous man as its prosecuting attorney, and
WHEREAS, Oakland County needs constructive action to reduce juvenile delinquency,
To protect the consumer and the legitimate businessman against consumer fraud,
To rid the county of organized crime, and
To improve the administration of criminal justice, and
WHEREAS, GEORGE J. FULKERSON, the Democratic candidate for this office, is a practicing attorney with a positive program to meet the county's needs, and
WHEREAS, GEORGE J. FULKERSON is an active and respected member of the Birmingham-Bloomfield community,
NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Birmingham-Bloomfield Committee for Fulkerson, do hereby proclaim the day of November 8, 1960, as ELECT GEORGE J. FULKERSON PROSECUTING ATTORNEY day in Oakland County, and do urge that all citizens observe this occasion at the polls.
BIRMINGHAM-BLOOMFIELD COMMITTEE FOR FULKERSON
James C. Allen C. Allen Harlan
Mrs. Edward E. Bolle John P. Hincley
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ELECT **GEORGE J. FULKERSON** Prosecuting Attorney
LAWYER — VETERAN