

The patience of Job,
The grace of God, and
The persistence of the devil.

No other profession includes such a wide range of positions and interests. Teaching extends from kindergarten to university, embraces every variety of effort, whether academic, artistic, industrial, commercial, agricultural or professional. I mean by that, that to belong to the teaching profession one is not confined to teaching primary grades or high school grades. Every line of work requires teachers to prepare others for that work. Thus, all other professions depend on the teaching profession.

There is a social instinct in human beings which impels us to share our knowledge with our fellowmen. Wasn't it Cicero that reported the Pythagorean, Archytas, as saying that if a man were to ascend to Heaven and there see the nature of the world and the stars, he would still enjoy naught of his happiness if he had none to whom he could relate the wonders he had beheld? And there is a medieval proverb which says that if you hide your knowledge it will decrease, but it will grow if you spread it abroad.

It is a great stewardship to be entrusted with the training of God's royal family of children during those years on which their after-life almost entirely depends. The reward will be great, both here and hereafter. The Great Teacher Himself has promised that "Whosoever shall give to drink to one of these little ones a cup of cold water, he shall not lose his reward." What then, may they expect who have given not merely a cup of cold water, but have opened to others the streams of knowledge, both human and Divine? We have the answer too. "They that instruct many unto justice shall shine as stars for all Eternity."

SISTER MARGARET MARIE, C.S.M., '58.

AUTOMATION

The subject of automation is one which is being discussed by an ever increasing number of people who are concerned either with the methods used to reduce the high cost of labor, or with the detrimental effects of automation on our industrial society. Because the cost of labor is an important factor in determining the cost of goods to the consumer, and because we are affected in many ways by changes in industry, the subject of automation is not one to

be considered lightly. It is because of the high cost of labor, the inefficiency of man as a machine tender, the increasing consumer demand for goods, and the demand on the part of labor for shorter working hours that scientists and industrialists have turned to the automatic machine for a solution to some of the major problems confronting industry.

A mistaken idea, which is prevalent among those who are not directly connected with industry, is that automation is a unique subject which is concerned only with the automatic factory. The fact of the matter is that we have been living in a world of imperfect automation since the beginning of the 20th century. The current interest in automation results from the fact that machines have been invented which eliminate the human element in their operation. Thus there is a definite possibility that within the next 10 years the laboring factor in industrial society will have a very limited effect on industry. The automatic factory, in which a usable product is produced without the use of a human operator is but a very small part of automation.

The tremendous interest in the automatic factory results from the almost total dependence of many families on the factory. Those families which are depending on the factory for existence have reason to worry, for every day products are being made which reduce the need for labor in industry. However not all the automatic machines are being used in the factory. We have only to look to the modern home to see the effects and uses of automatic machines for such things as preparation of meals and the heating of the home in winter. There are many instances where with the turn of a switch an entire operation is performed without human intervention.

Such devices, however, will not always operate the way they should and until such time as science can find a way for machines to correct their own mistakes or perhaps to perform operations without error, many people will experience some costly and even embarrassing situations. Such a situation occurred in a London airport recently. A customer put a coin in a drink vending machine which had "gone out of its mind". The result was that he received not one but 37 glasses of orange juice in quick succession.

Whether automation will become part of our society or not, one thing is certain: There will be some lively discussion take place among those connected with industry, and those who advocate automation will be advocating a tremendous change in society in general.

IAN GILLIES, '57.