

A COMMUNITY is never so strong as when it is threatened. In time of war, sociologists tell us, the people of a nation are most closely united. Indeed, it is the sorrowful, the shocking, the painful moments which supremely test and wonderfully re-affirm the bonds of community. In this momentous year we have been driven as a nation to re-examine the concept of national unity. Because it is our purpose to apply the idea of community to St. Francis College, the editors of the *Franciscan* dedicate this book to the memory of John F. Kennedy whose life best exemplified the goals of young Americans and whose death brought an awareness of community to the nation.

In a sense, this year's graduates carry with them the traditions of a St. Francis College which no longer exists. For, the feeling of community threatened by the College's recent move to Remsen Street is just beginning to strengthen and re-define itself. We are no longer a small institution in which everyone knows everyone else. It is no longer possible to locate at a glance of the student lounge the student leader or faculty member you are seeking. We are in the era of the jangling inter-com phone which need not be answered and the faculty-office door which need not be opened. The unity of personal contact is no longer our distinguishing mark.

We are beginning a new experience: a community-of-the-mass. We, like modern society in general, are becoming a community of semi-isolated individuals bound mainly by those factors capable of reaching all—the I. B. M. report card, the bulletin board memo, the galvanizing clatter of the period bell.







*at the heart of the city . . .*

