A prominent atheist who keeps trying to change state-church relationships in the United States is in the news again. Some deranged person threw a pie in her face, but it was no joke because the pie was laced with needles

pie in her face, but it was no joke be-cause the pie was laced with needles and pins.

Why would a protestor against a protestor resort to cruelly? It reminds noe of the assassinations of the '66s and the ever-present threat to the safe-y of national leaders.

Our first thought on the matter is that society must be ready to stop men-tally till people before they harm some-one. This solution means increased se-curity forces and more extensive lists of 'dangerous people.' This strategy demands massive protection for lead-ers.

ers.

How about improving moral under-standing and spreading responsibility across all of society? All of us can get involved in changing the climate, the tone, the sense of what behavior is in-tolerable. Society, through us and our



moral perspectives

Rev. Charles **Erickson**

organizations, can make it clear that violence is an inappropriate response to people we don't like.

TENSIONS EVERYWHERE and in-TENSIONS EVERYWHERE and instant communication heighten a feeling of insecurity. A massive craving for security is a major hunger of our time, Religions promising the only truth and the one way to live appeal to many. But security based on an exclusivist ideology often carries with it a feeling of hate toward any who disagree.

Believing we must stamp out disa-

greement becomes a ferocious need to stamp out people who disagree with us. Labels and slogans about the "enemy" make ordinary people dangerous, And in this instance we reach the harsh conslusion that poor religion is far worse than no religion at all. But passion to teach others my truth even if we destroy them in the process is hardly noble

is hardly noble.

AMERICA NEEDS a burst of pride in pluralism. We need devotion to the old ideal of liberty in which the first

principle of morality is to defend the right of others to say what I may think is incorrect.

America needs people and organiza-tions with an outspoken respect for

tions with an outspoxen respect, up any who disagree. Self-righteousness and bigotry cannot be eradicated by force. The cure is at the level of values. Joy in disagreement and pride in variety is the anti-dote. The moral response to terrorism is increasing respect toward those who seem to us to be wrong.

TRUTH GROWS during vigorous di-alogue. Open sharing strengthens the roots of security. If it is true, my notion will win out in fair debate, and if it is not true, the very disagreeing will cause ro-examination and movement toward a fuller truth. The clue to dis-arming any terrorists is to honor their need for security and join them in quest of a large enough security to include us all.

We may be right to disagree with

atheism, narrow religion, provincial-ism, liberalism, or the PLO. But any of them, or all of them together, are not the enemy. The enemy is violence and destruction of dialogue. Rather than fight over verbal issues, we must grow to see that violence is the ultimate obscenity. The enemy is

bigotry and the self-righteous root of that lurks in all of us. We need protec-tion and the only security is to discover. the joy of pluralism. Differences de-serve the response of dignity, honor and respect. Democracy cannot sur-vive if the social climate rests on the old adage that might makes right.

Thomas speaks

Helen Thomas, White House bureau chief for United Press International (UPI), will speak about her work in lectures in Southfield and Detroit during November.

The Mt. Carmel Guild will present "Conversation and Coffee with Helen Thomas" at 10 a.m. Monday in the Michigan Inn, 16400 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield. Cost is \$8.50.

\$8.50.

On the following day the Wayne State University graduate will speak on the White House scene on the White House scene
in Cobo Hall under the
sponsorship of the Women's Economic Club. The
event includes a luncheon
and will start at 11:45
a.m. To make reservations contact Agnes Scott
at 873-7200.

In her position as UPI bureau chief, Ms. Thomas bureau chief, Ms. Thomas traditionally asks the first question at a presi-dential news conference. She cues the close with "Thank you, Mr. Presi-dent."

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Area rabbis talk to Brotherhood

Local rabbis will participate in the Nov. 14-18 meeting of the board of the Nov. 14-18 meeting of the board meeting will be acknowledged that the Nov. 14-18 meeting of the board meeting will be necessary to the subject "Blacks and Jews" Narer was conversion of the Nov. 14-18 meeting of the

Auction to benefit Temple Beth, El

A ride in a race car, a Saturday, Nov. 10.
1920 harpsicord and a primball machine are anong the items to be auctioned to benefit Tempum, offering an opportunity between the items fund starting at 8 p.m. available. Temple Beth

The auction is sponsored by the temple's Married Group and Brotherhood.

El is at 14 Mile and Tele-

Saturday morning.

Highlight of the board meeting will be a reception and dinner on Saturday honoring life members of the Jewish Chautaqua Society, the brotherhoods' project for interfaith understanding. Douglas Bloom of Temple Beth El and an NFTB board member, is chairman. David Krem of St. Louis, chancellor of the society, will preside.

Rabbi Richard Hertz, senior rabbi of Temple Beth El, who teaches a JCS sponsored course in Judaism at the University of Detroit, will speak on "Who Needs Chatauqua."

Formal presentation of a new JCS

A special Brotherhood sabbath service will take place in Temple Beth El on Friday. Lawrence Halperin of Memphis, president of NFTB, will address the congregation on "Brotherhood in the World Today." Chairman of the local hospitality

niversity of Detroit, will speak on Who Needs Chatauqua." committee is Maurice Stewart of Temple Israel. Entertainment chairman is Aid Kushner of Temple Beth El.

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"Another Man's Armor Never Fits: A
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Rev. t. Edward Davis
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Wednesday School of Christian Education Family Dinner 6:00 p.m. Classes & Choirs 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Service Broadcast 9:30 a.m., WMUZ-FM 103.5

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Sunday 10:10 A.M.
Bible School
11:00 A.M. Worship
6:00 P.M. Praise Service
Wednesday 7:15 P.M.
Bible Study 645-1202

First Baptist Church







9 a.m. First Worship Service 10:15 a.m. The Church School 11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship

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