

John F. Kennedy

THE ASSASSINATION of President John F. Kennedy is a cruel, shameful mark in this city's history and a tragedy for the country which has been under his guidance. In society, the assassin—like the anarchist—is the enemy of all mankind who defies the established rules of public order and justice and whose mind is warped by hate. The tragic act apparently was not directed against the country or its highest office, but against the man.

Dallas, already tarnished by political bitterness, bows its head in the incredible shock of such an incident. It cannot be charged with fairness that an entire city is in national disgrace, but certainly its reputation has suffered regrettable damage.

The President, only a few minutes before the tragedy, was calm and charming before the crowds. Now he is history, under the sad conditions that felled Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley before him.

We join the rest of the nation in expressing heartfelt sympathy and trust that the warped and distorted who become unstable in their opposition will retreat into

darkness and not emerge until they regain the light of reasonableness and balance.

The youthful chief executive was a patriot and blessed with an articulate intelligence. To such a mind and personality, success came early because his talents were utilized to the utmost. He was a master in the field of political science, the most tricky of all professions—and the most uncertain as far as continuity of service is concerned.

Those who have been concerned with the expansion of governmental control and power nevertheless admired the sincerity and conviction of his philosophy, the gentlemanly restraint he showed in the face of criticism and the good taste he always exhibited in public appearance.

It is a sad hour for the nation, which bows its head in sympathy for his wife and family. The mourning is in genuine, profound and indescribable sadness. The sorrow and shock are balanced with the consolation that a good and benevolent God carves our path of national destiny.