

Bp. Haas Honored by Union; Predicts Wider FEPC Laws

CHICAGO, Mich. (NC)—Bishop Francis J. Haas of Grand Rapids said here he looks for passage of Federal anti-lynching legislation "much, sooner than later."

But he said he is not sure as to think we can have a Federal FEPC by tomorrow or the day after.

The Bishop made his prediction in an address at a dinner here, tendered by the Michigan CIO Council which presented him with an award for "distinguished service to the cause of human rights."

Bishop Haas was the first chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during World War II. He resigned the post in 1945 when he was elevated to the hierarchy.

He said he is "firmly convinced" of the ultimate passage of FEPC legislation. He based his optimism on the conviction that "laws are made to give life and vitality to the moral convictions of the people" and that applying this "conviction" to racial injustice, one can say that the underlying sentiment of our people is against discrimination in employment, and they will see that this sentiment is embodied into law.

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Debate Growing On UMT Bill

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speeches being made by proponents of the bill, there is no doubt in their minds that it would be the law of the land from here on in.

SENATOR RUSSELL challenged the arguments that UMT might "militarize the country," corrupt the morals of young trainees and disrupt educational programs throughout the country. He also said "Some men of the cloth have been deceived into making fantastic arguments against it."

It is not known what "fantastic arguments" Senator Russell has heard, but for the most part arguments put forward by "men of the cloth" have seemed pretty sensible.

"Men of the cloth" have pointed out that UMT establishes a permanent policy of compulsory military training and that this is contrary to the American tradition—and it is. Many people, not necessarily "men of the cloth," have said that UMT might militarize the country, and it might. Certainly compulsory military service, as a national policy, has tended to militarize some other countries.

"Men of the cloth" have been among those who have questioned the wisdom of acting upon anything as serious and as permanent as UMT as though it were emergency legislation. In this, they would seem to be right.

FATHERS AS well as "men of the cloth" have expressed fear that military training might help to corrupt the morals of trainees, especially such young ones. Despite what Senator Russell may feel in this regard, this is a very real cause of anxiety.

It cannot be argued, to the contrary, that in general military service (of itself) will produce good characters in the trainees. There are too many people with experience who will testify to the contrary. It is not the business of the army to produce good characters.

And there seems little doubt that UMT would cause serious dislocations in educational programs. Many small colleges, not having state support, are having a very hard time of it right now because of Selective Service, which is only temporary.

Early debates in Congress had brought up the question of whether we ought to have Selective Service and UMT at the same time. That leads some people to ask why do we have

UMT when we already have Selective Service?

Proponents of UMT say it offers a better plan for preparedness than does Selective Service. But some observers point out that UMT would have little chance of enactment unless it were brought up during an emergency, and to meet the present emergency we already have Selective Service. UMT is not an emergency program, but it can only be put through while an emergency exists.

In any event, Americans have the right to debate UMT, and it ought to be debated. If adopted it means a definite break with our past traditions. It is a step about which we ought to have all possible knowledge before we take it.

Huntington, Ind. (NC)—Prime responsibility for moral training will remain the home, the school and the church even if a Universal Military Training Program is enacted, according to an associate editor here.

The Rev. James Conroy, who represented "Our Sunday Visitor" at a recent clergy conference in the Pentagon on the proposed UMT bill, made these two salient points about UMT in his column:

1. Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, Assistant Secretary of Defense, and other military officials at the conference did not attempt to gloss over the point that cooperation of civilian religious agencies with the Chaplain Corps will be needed for character guidance or moral training if UMT should come into being.

2. At the same time parents and educators should not listen to UMT supporters if they should go overboard with their promises of what the UMT bill can accomplish in the moral training of our youth.

Stressing that UMT "is to be primarily a military program," Father Conroy wrote that consequently it is "not a universal, seminary, or character building institute." Yet, he added, "at no time during the conference did we hear any military authority pooh pooh the expediency of character guidance or moral training in the program."

"IN FACT," he went on, "the Army's Major General Devine presented us with quite a lucid explanation of the Armed Forces' attitude on 'character guidance.'"

However, Father Conroy declared, "we will make a ser-

ious mistake" if we "expect the UMT Program to take the full responsibility of what should be or should have been done in the home, in the school and in the church."

"There is no gainsaying the fact that when 800,000 boys of all beliefs and many of no belief, of morals both good and bad, are thrown together we have then created a problem which no one agency can solve on its own."

"While we cannot excuse the military from all responsibility and while we expect their full cooperation, nevertheless the prime responsibility for moral training is where it has always been—in the home, the school and the church," he said.

Washington (NC)—All 4,787 units of the Catholic War Veterans have been directed to alert parents to the CWV plan for military training of youth, which the veterans group has proposed as an alternative to proposed universal military training.

Calling the UMT plan of the National Security Training Commission "a serious threat to the integrity of the family and home," the CWV will urge parents to make known their wishes on military training to Congressional representatives.

The CWV training proposal provides for military courses in high schools and colleges, with two 12-week field training periods designed not to interfere with schooling. Government scholarships would go to specialists.

Under the National Security Training Commission plan 18-year-olds would be required to take six-months' continuous training, and then go into the reserves for seven years.

ACCORDING TO the CWV, this plan would interrupt the education of youth, destroying the incentive and desire for higher education, would remove the youth from the family's protective influence, would impede the expansion of industry due to lack of technically-skilled personnel, and would add a new and heavy burden to the already over-taxed economy.

Donald J. McQuade, CWV national commander, calling on parents to fight UMT, warned that "America's first line of defense is the wholesome influence of her orderly, well-regulated homes."

Editors Say Vatican Envoy Will Aid Foreign Policy

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their hopes and will help achieve them.

By establishing diplomatic relations with the Vatican, they argue, the United States would "go a long way toward proving to the world that we respect the very institution in the West which is everywhere identified with the tireless endeavor to find peaceful solutions, based on morality and justice, to the tensions which imperil peace."

"As for Asia and Africa," they add, "... the Church's sole purpose has been to help, without thought of gain for herself. The political, cultural and business leaders of Asiatic peoples all know this. The United States can only profit in prestige throughout these 'continents of the future' by diplomatic relations with a worldwide, nonpolitical institution which has brought so many benefits to their peoples."

DISCUSSING Protestant opposition to diplomatic ties with the Vatican, the authors note that its "major impetus" seems to come from the books of Paul Blanshard, "which picture the Catholic Church as a 'threat' to American democracy and even a blood brother of Soviet imperialism."

They cite the admission of the Protestant National Council of the Churches of Christ that no constitutional question is involved, adding that there would be no violation of the principle of "separation of Church and State."

"There is just one argument," they admit, "that has some political importance. Protestant spokesmen predict that sending an envoy will 'disrupt American unity.' This can only mean one thing: if the Senate confirms a Presidential nomination, Protestants will never cease making a bitter issue of it." But, they ask, "can we conduct our foreign policy in this way, backing away from actions that seem to be in the national interest but which will, in view of threats from recalcitrant pressure groups, be used to disrupt national unity?"

The booklet's authors are the Rev. Robert C. Harcourt, S.J., editor-in-chief of America and the Catholic Mind and former director of the political science department of the University of

Information Office Set Up at Duquesne

Pittsburgh, Pa. (NC)—The Holy Ghost Fathers have established a central office of public information at Duquesne University here. It has been announced by the Very Rev. Francis J. McGlynn, C.S.S., provincial superior.

The Rev. Joseph A. Laurita, C.S.S., who founded the university's department of journalism in 1948, will be director of the new office.

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