

Catholics Urged To Help End School Segregation

St. Louis — (RNS) — Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter of St. Louis has called on Catholics to cooperate in ending racial segregation in public schools here.

In a letter read in all churches of the St. Louis archdiocese he urged "whole-hearted support" of the plan to begin desegregating in September, a decision recently announced by the St. Louis Board of Education.

Integration of races in Catholic schools here was begun in 1947. The Archbishop said he was encouraged by its success.

Carrying out locally the decision of the Supreme Court "reaffirms before the whole world those basic principles on which under God, our nation was founded — the dignity of all human beings without exception," Archbishop Ritter said.

"The decision will go as long way in making our educational system conform with the position of Christianity itself," he added. "Besides closing the gap between what we as individuals believe and what we have had to tolerate in practice, the Supreme Court decision should strengthen us and unify us morally as a nation."

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COUNTY CWV POSTS



PICTURED ABOVE are Miss Bernice Trunk, County President of the Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary, and County Treasurer, County Commissioner of the Catholic War Veterans. Back of the group are from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish marking the first time in the history of the Monroe County Chapter of the Catholic War Veterans that the two highest offices were held by the same post. (Photo by Dick Kraft)

Jesuit Writer Advocates Federal Family Grants

St. Louis — (NC) — A plan for federal aid for larger-than-average families is advocated in a pamphlet published here by the Institute of Social Order of St. Louis University.

In "Why FEDERAL Family Allowances," Father Francis J. Corley, S.J., reiterates a proposal he made at the National Catholic Family Life Conference in Philadelphia in the Spring of 1953, for the establishment of a federal agency which would make direct monthly payments of \$12 for the third child, \$10 for the fourth and \$8 for each succeeding.

FATHER CORLEY argues that the begetting of children is "the most important and valuable contribution which man can make to society," but that the American wage system "puts the father of a large or even moderately-sized family at a serious disadvantage."

Denying that a system of federal family allowances would invite "idleness," he holds instead that it would instead be "simply an extension of the principle already recognized in income tax deductions. He concludes that family allowances will do for low-income families what tax deductions do for those better off."

End Urged To Swiss Ban On Jesuits

Geneva — (RNS) — The Catholic Conservative Party submitted a motion in the Swiss Federal Assembly calling for suppression of two articles of the 1874 constitution which sharply limit Jesuit activity in Switzerland.

Catholic leaders early this year stepped up their demands for a more liberal interpretation of the articles, which forbid Jesuits proselytizing in churches or schools and bar "collective" Jesuit activity in Swiss life.

Several months ago a report made to the Zurich cantonal assembly charging that a number of Jesuits had violated the constitution by preaching in Zurich. After some debate, the report was shelved.

In April, it was reported that a Swiss-born Jesuit priest had been forced by Zurich cantonal police to sign a confession that he acted "contrary to law" in celebrating Mass at the village of Horgen.

6,000 Aviators Visit Lourdes

Lourdes, France — (NC) — Some 6,000 members and veterans of European air forces took part in an international aviators' pilgrimage to Lourdes.

A number of the pilgrims were from the former German Luftwaffe.

Austrians Request December 8th As Public Holiday

Vienna — (NC) — Close to 750,000 signatures — all of them notarized — have already been obtained for a petition asking that the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) be recognized again as a public holiday in Austria.

The petition, sponsored by Austria's Catholic Action, points out that this feast, a holy day of obligation since 1854, "has been taken from Our Lady in 1939 and has not yet been restored to her." Celebration of the feast as a public holiday was abolished in 1939 when Austria was occupied by the Nazis, and was not restored after the liberation of the country in 1945.

Principal opponents to the restoration of the public holiday are, on the one hand, the socialists, and, on the other, the industrialists who cite economic reasons.

Monsignor Wins Slogan Contest

Cleveland — (NC) — Monsignor William L. O'Donnell's talent for turning a neat phrase has made him \$500 richer. In a contest sponsored by the Cleveland Salesian Council, the Monsignor's slogan, "Elbow Benders Make Wrinkled Fenders," won a \$500 prize. He is pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, and a former president of the U.S. Alumni Association of the North American College in Rome.

Seton Hall Bids For City Medical Center

Jersey City, N. J. — (NC) — Seton Hall, a Catholic university in South Orange, N. J., was the sole bidder here for a lease on part of the Jersey City Medical Center.

Seton Hall wants to establish a medical-dental college in the center's 17-story clinical building. It has offered to pay \$275,000 a year for rent and other necessary facilities and to provide an untouchable endowment of \$5,000,000. It also has agreed to give the city a voice in college policy development and in supply of professional personnel for the outpatient department.

Although the lease of the property would relieve Jersey City of a \$7-million annual operating deficit now borne by the taxpayers, a Citizens Fact Finding Committee, supported by the FOAU, has been organized to oppose the operation of the Medical Center by any religious group.

Haile Selassie Visits Guadalupe

Mexico City — (RNS) — Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia attended a Solemn Pontifical Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe during a state visit here. The Emperor, head of the Oromo Christian Church in Ethiopia, was received at the shrine by Archbishop Luis Maria Martinez of Mexico City, who presided at the Mass.

Marian Congress — Mexico City — (RNS) — The first national Marian Congress, organized by the Franciscan Fathers, was held here at the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe and other sanctuaries in the Mexican capital.

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Boycott Strikes Buffalo Theatres

Buffalo, N. Y. — Recently authorities of the Buffalo diocese took action against the showing of the Class C movie "The French Line," warning that "any Catholic who attends the presentation of condemned pictures is guilty of mortal sin."

A notice has now appeared in the Union & Echo, Buffalo diocesan newspaper, stating that since a certain theatre has insisted on exhibiting the morally indecent and condemned motion picture, "French Line," the Legion of Decency has announced that "practical Catholics will engage to stay away from this theatre, and its affiliates (of which there are nine), for a period of six months."

Guatemalan Rebels Occupy Shrine City

Esquipulas, Guatemala — (NC) — One of the first towns occupied by the anti-Communist rebel army in Guatemala was this one, containing the shrine of the centuries-old Crucifix of Esquipulas. It is one of the most venerated religious objects in Central America.