

Nation's 'Most Serious Evil'

Chicago — (NC) — The National Conference on Religion and Race has urged Americans to work, pray and act to eliminate all racial barriers in this country.

Some 250 conference delegates adopted a statement calling for open occupancy in housing, equal protection under the law, and equal opportunity in employment, education and at the polls.

The "appeal to the conscience of the American people" was read at the close (Jan. 17) of the conference by Monsignor Daniel M. Cantwell, chaplain of the Catholic Interracial Council of Chicago. He was chairman of the committee which drafted the statement at the conference, convened by representatives of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths.

The statement said that racism is "our most serious evil" and called for its eradication "with all diligence and speed."

It appealed to the American people to "seek a reign of justice in which voting rights and equal protection of the law will everywhere be enjoyed; public facilities and private services accessible to all; equal education and cultural opportunities; hiring and promotion, medical and hospital care, open occupancy in housing will be available to all."

THE FULL statement follows: An Appeal to the Conscience of the American People.

We have met as members of the great Jewish and Christian faiths held by the majority of the American people, to counsel together concerning the tragic fact of racial prejudice, discrimination and segregation in our society. Coming as we do, out of various religious backgrounds, each of us has more to say than can be said here. But this statement is what we as religious people are moved to say together.

Racism is our most serious domestic evil. We must eradicate it with all diligence and speed. For this purpose we appeal to the conscience of the American people.

This evil has deep roots. It will not be easily eradicated. While the Declaration of Independence did declare that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, slavery was permitted for almost a century. Even after the Emancipation Proclamation, segregation, racial segregation, and the "degrading badge of racial inequality" remained. Judicial sanction until our own time.

We rejoice in such recent evidence of greater wisdom and courage in our national life as the Supreme Court decisions against segregation, and the non-violent protests of thousands of Americans. However, we mourn the fact that patterns of segregation remain entrenched everywhere—North and South, East and West. The

and the better of our laws are mocked and violated.

Our primary concern is for the laws of God. We Americans of all religious faiths have been slow to recognize that racial discrimination and segregation are an insult to God. We give of human dignity and human rights. Even worse, we all have participated in perpetuating racial discrimination and segregation in civil, political, industrial, social, and private life.

And worse still, in our houses of worship, our religious schools, hospitals, welfare institutions and fraternal organizations, we have often failed our own religious commitments. With few exceptions we have evaded the mandates and rejected the promises of the faiths we represent.

We repent our failures and ask the forgiveness of God. We ask also the forgiveness of our brothers, whose rights we have ignored and whose dignity we have offended. We call for a renewed religious conscience on this basically moral evil.

II
Our appeal to the American people is this:

SEEK a reign of justice in which voting rights and equal protection of the law will everywhere be enjoyed; public facilities and private services accessible to all; equal education and cultural opportunities; hiring and promotion, medical and hospital care, open occupancy in housing will be available to all.

SEEK a reign of love in which the wounds of past injustices will not be used as excuses for new racial barriers. Strangers will be sought and welcomed. Any man will be received as brother—his rights, his pain, your pain, his rights, your pain, his pain, your pain.

SEEK a reign of courage in which the people of God will make their faith their binding commitment, in which men willingly suffer for justice and love in which churches and synagogues lead, not follow.

SEEK a reign of prayer in which God is praised and worshipped as the Lord of the universe, before whom all racial idols fall. Who makes us one family and to whom we are all responsible.

In making this appeal we affirm our common religious commitment to the essential dignity and equality of all men under God. We dedicate ourselves to work together to make this commitment a vital factor in our total life.

We call upon all the American people to work, to pray and to act courageously in the cause of human equality and dignity while there is still time, to eliminate racism permanently and decisively, to seize the historic opportunity the Lord has given us for healing an ancient rupture in the human family, to do this for the glory of God.

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Handiest, handomest coat for go-everywhere, action-packed days! On sale now at Sibley's. Pure wool melton cloth or tweeds (including a giant herringbone!)... green, camel, brown, grey, black in group. All are braided-bound, have hoods (crawl collars or concealed), acrylic pile linings, Misses' sizes. Sibley's Career Coats, Second Floor, Irondequoit, Eastview, Southtown, Newark.

1. Giant herringbone with concealed hood
2. Melton coat with cowl collar and in just-above-the-knee length
3. Standard length car coat with concealed hood

Campus Dateline

Debaters Active

McQuaid Jesuit High's debaters concluded their mid-year tests just in time to participate in a busy weekend that saw McQuaid's teams active in three locations.

At Buffalo on Sunday, seniors James Brodman and Thomas Sibley won against McQuaid's Mary's of Kenmore in a debate that was recorded and will be shown on television. Brodman and Sibley defeated the negative side of the question resolved: That the United States should abolish all farm subsidies.

Two other seniors and two sophomores took part in the 14th Annual Debate at Buffalo.

Nat. and finished with a 44 mark against a field of 30 schools, most of them from New England. McQuaid's top seniors, Tom Maier and Bryan DeLeo teamed up with sophs Jim Peters and Mark Sullivan respectively on opposite sides of the question resolved: That the United States should engage in reciprocal free trade with non-Communist countries. Each of the teams had 22 marks, and DeLeo received a certificate as one of the best 10 negative speakers.

In 10-2 action, McQuaid retained its first place standing in the semi-experienced division of the Novice Debate League with a 2-1 showing in the week-long meet, held last week at Irondequoit. Sophs. Dick Rudy, Chuck Pinzon, John Sibley, and Dick Hughes represented McQuaid. In the freshman division of the league, McQuaid was 1-3, represented by Paul DeMaest, William Higgins, Gary Valby, and Jeremy Abbott. Overall, McQuaid is in third place of the freshmen standings, behind Bishop Kearney and Webster.

Business Talk

St. Agnes Business Club members will further stress good secretarial qualities after an address by Miss Ann C. May, President of the National Secretaries' Association and Secretary to the Assistant Treasurer of Eastman Kodak Company at the Club's January meeting.

Introduced by Club President Linda Della Bella, Miss May spoke of good manners, loyalty, memory, and skill as essentials of a secretary. According to the Club Moderator, Sister Theresa Danial, students have developed the first two qualities through observing school regulations and the others through study.

Research Project

Nazareth Academy science teacher, Sr. Muriel, and three selected student assistants—Evelyn Dom, Marla Fromen, and Ann Wehner—report encouraging progress on their cancer-research project supported by funds of the National Science Foundation. Cornell University, which is sponsoring research in high schools under their Teacher Research Experiment Program, has provided equipment and secured the assistance of Dr. Dale Goldsmith, Tuesday, Feb. 5.

University of Rochester Professor of Physiology, for the Academy Project

The N.S.F. grant covers the cost of expendable supplies, communication, and travel involved in carrying out the research. The teacher also receives a stipend for teaching time spent in research outside of school hours at the rate of \$20 per day. St. Agnes' receipt of the grant holds a U.S. in Zoology from Syracuse University, and an M.S. in Physiology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Father Graf Reviews At

Book Meet

"The best spiritual writer in America at the top of his form," was the critic's judgment of Father M. Raymond's new book, "Your Hour." The Rev. William Graf, summed up his critique in this way at last Tuesday's Noonday Book Review at the Catholic Evidence Library.

"With a style that is popular, almost journalistic, this Trappist is tremendously effective in bringing the truths of the spiritual life to the general public," said Father Graf.

"YOUR HOUR" is the finale to a trilogy that Father Raymond has been producing, he noted. The first of this literary triptych was "You" (the importance of the individual soul in God's plan), followed by "Now" (dealing with "the sacrament of the present moment.")

"The title is taken from Christ's reference to 'My Hour,' referring to His Passion. His 'Hour' of redemptive suffering. Father Raymond deals with the challenge and the opportunity which face every man when his 'hour' of suffering comes," the reviewer explained.

Nine real-life portraits of ordinary people who responded heroically to the trial of personal suffering provide the substance of the book. A missionary priest struck with cancer; a nurse dying of Hodgkins disease; the parents of a deformed baby—are three of the true portraits which illustrate Raymond's theme.

"Suffering, accepted with faith and in union with Christ, is meaningful and redemptive," Father Graf said in summing up the Trappist's message.

"Every one of us can benefit from this wisdom," he concluded, "but it will have a special value for those who are here and now under the shadow of the cross."

The review by Father Graf, assistant pastor of Holy Family Church, was the first in the Winter series being offered on alternate Tuesdays at the Catholic Evidence Library. Next offering will be Frank Sheehy's "To Know Christ Jesus," which will be reviewed by the Rev. John Merklinger, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church, Auburn, on Tuesday, Feb. 5.

School Rings

St. Agnes High School juniors, wearing white blazers, will receive their school rings from Bishop Kearney, in the auditorium, Jan. 28, the birthday of St. Agnes. Before blessing the rings, His Excellency will celebrate the Mass. Recitation, and the girls will sing the St. Agnes hymn, brought to St. Agnes by the Bishop several years ago. After the ring ceremony, Bishop Kearney will breakfast in the Home Economics room with Senior Class officers: Catherine DeBerlin, president; Judy Briggs, vice-president; Judy Jack, secretary; and Joanne Hicks, treasurer, with Sociality prefect, Joanne Lovelace; Mission president, Joan Galbally, and Student Council president, Anne DeMaest.

Youth Club Drive Launched For Members

Young Adults Club of Holy Family Parish is "an organization to promote and foster Catholic living through social and spiritual activities." Membership is open to young men and women who have completed high school. This club is ideal for anyone living on the "west" side of the city.

Bishop Kearney has a very special devotion to St. Agnes, since the parish where he served both as altar boy and curate was St. Agnes in New York City.

During the month of January the Club is conducting a campaign to seek new members. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the club can contact Joseph Bader Jr. at GL 8-4138 for further information or Father Robert Bradley, the Club Moderator.

The officers and committee heads have planned the following events for the next two months:

Feb. 3, a Winter Carnival at Powder Mill Park; Feb. 18, The Premiere Presentation of "The Sound of Music" at the Auditorium Theater; March 16, St. Patrick's Dinner Dance at the Liederkraum Club; March 31, An Evening of Reflection to be conducted by the Reverend William C. Sisson, Assistant pastor at St. Monica's Church.

Prelate Speaks On Council

University Heights — (RNS) — Protestants and Roman Catholics were guests at a dinner here at John Carroll University where a report on the Second Vatican Council was the principal topic.



Seneca Falls Group Lists Pietrosante

Seneca Falls — Nick Pietrosante, star fullback of Detroit Lions and an All-American when at Notre Dame University will be guest speaker at the Fourth Annual S.M.S. Sportsman Banquet, Saturday, Feb. 9 at S.M.S. Lodge, Ovid St., at 6 p.m.

THE OUTSTANDING high school athletes will be presented the annual S.M.S. award won previously by Leslie Robinson and George Valesente.

Pietrosante who played in the National Professional Football League All-Star game, Jan. 12, this year set an all-time rushing record for the Detroit Lions of 872 yards in 12 games. He needs only 284 yards rushing to equal the all-time Lions record of 2444 yards, set by Aze Gutowsky in the 30's.

Rookie of the Year in 1957, Pietrosante was voted most valuable player by his teammates in 1960.

He was voted outstanding player in 1959 in the East-West Shrine game and played in the All-Star game before joining the Lions. He is rated a fine blocker and "bruising and tough runner."

During off season he is a salesman for Ewald Steel Co. of Detroit area and is a native of Antonio, Conn. He attended Notre Dame High School in New Haven. He has a wife and two daughters.

Auge Sufferdini, banquet chairman has invited these sport celebrities: Mike Ornato, head football coach of Waterloo Central School who was voted "Coach of the Year" in the Wayne - Finger Lakes League; Terry Manfredi representing Waterloo football team and captain of "the dream team"; Coach George Davis of Mynderse High, Seneca Falls Country Club, Pro. Douglas Cousins; Joe Tobin, founder of the George (Hawth) Wilkie baseball league for boys between 16 and 19; Joe Pirrone, manager of Begy's baseball team in the Wilkie league who saw his team from Rochester win the Western Division and overall championship in two years in the league.

Tickets are now on sale and may be purchased from Chairman Sufferdini or a committee member. Early reservations are recommended.

London Prays For Unity

London — (RNS) — London's famed Trafalgar Square was converted into an ecumenical meeting place when more than 1,000 Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Free Church members, defying snow and a biting wind, gathered together to join in silent prayer for Christian unity.

The rally—similar to others held at Coventry, Birmingham and other cities—was sponsored by the Conference to Promote Prayer for Christian Unity whose members are made up of representatives of the various religious bodies. The Catholic member is Father Herbert Keldany, local secretary for the Chair of Unity Octave, an annual world-wide observance inaugurated by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement in the United States. The Octave begins every year on Jan. 18 and ends Jan. 25.

Mgr. G. Wheeler, administrator of the Catholic Cathedral in Westminster, read from the New Testament and the Rev. D. Greaves, minister of the Methodist Central Hall at Westminster, led the prayers.

Convent in Chad

Fribourg — (RNS) — A new departure in Swiss Roman Catholic missionary activity was seen here in the announcement that the Federation of Swiss Capuchin Convents will establish a group of contemplative nuns at Moundou in the Republic of Chad, Central Africa.