

Council Closing Nears

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study of the Bible as well as the liturgical revival. It will make possible, or make easier, praying and working together with Non-Catholics. Seminary training will acquaint future priests with the ways in which "God speaks" to Roman Catholics through the separated brethren.

When Churches and not just individuals are concerned, the schema calls for separate treatment for the Eastern (non-Roman) Churches and for those Western Churches or communities that left Rome during the last four centuries, nearly all faults of the Reformation. It notes that there is much in common that is shared with Roman Catholics.

"Diverse developments in the East 'did not of themselves wound Christian unity,' the schema states. Rome took much from the ancient Eastern devotional heritage and from Oriental monasticism. The East allowed great freedom to local and provincial communities and put great emphasis on them.

Debts to Protestantism are acknowledged — Gospel preaching, emphasis on the Holy Scripture, to cite examples. Partly, it is noted, exists in public and private prayer for each other, cooperation in welfare and other matters.

The schema does not try to forecast the way toward complete manifestation of unity, but finds ample basis for fruitful dialogue and eyes the future with confidence.

It is still, one is warned, a long way to complete "communications in sacris" (joining in sacred actions) and to a listing of "communities" that can be treated as "churches." But Vatican II, it is confidently and thankfully affirmed, is registering progress and we must prepare for further progress by Vatican III.

ACCORDING what one Council spokesman later declared was "the longest, warmest and most general applause" of the Council's second session was Bishop Emilio José de Smedt of Brussels, who was chosen to present the history and doctrinal background of the proposed chapter on religious liberty. He is a member of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity.

(The secretariat is headed by Augustin Cardinal Bea, who

also read a report on chapter four of the schema dealing with Catholic-Jewish relations.

Bishop de Smedt said the chapter on religious liberty had eccumenical considerations in view of the fact that "many Non-Catholics hold the Church in veneration and suspect her of Machiavellianism for allegedly demanding religious freedom where she is in a minority and ignoring it when she gets control."

The bishop went on to list other reasons why the Council was taking up the question of religious freedom.

One, he said, was for the sake of truth, "because the Church has always taught those principles (involving man's right to religious freedom) as part of the truth entrusted to her."

Another, he explained, was the "need of defense, since the Church cannot be silent when atheism and materialism is depriving almost half the world of religious liberty."

A third reason, Bishop de Smedt added, was that "all men of all religious beliefs, as well as those without any, must live together peacefully in one human society and the Church must show this way in the light of truth."

Emphasizing that religious liberty is such a serious problem today that the "most must be taken up by the Council," the Belgian prelate said that Christians should follow the teachings of Christ and the Apostles with regard to the Jews.

He said the declaration on the Jews was being submitted to the Council because "several decades ago, anti-Semitism developed in most violent and criminal forms, particularly in Germany under a movement which wiped out millions of Jews."

"The Nazis upheld this with a powerful anti-Jewish propaganda, and it appears that this has had an influence on Christian minds which has not been entirely removed."

IN PRESENTING the report on the chapter dealing with Catholic-Jewish relations, Cardinal Bea told the Council that Pope Paul VI had given him explicit instructions to take up the question of the Jews.

He said there was no danger of the Council's becoming involved in the difficult question of relations between Israel and the Arab states or of the Zionist movement.

The draft document, he stressed, does not touch on national or political matters and, in particular, it is not a question of recognition of the state of Israel on the part of the Holy See.

The cardinal said his secretariat had submitted its proposals on the Jews in writing to Pope John XXIII last December, and the latter expressed his full approval.

Cardinal Bea said Jews are not to be made scapegoats for Christ's Crucifixion, and that Christians should follow the teachings of Christ and the Apostles with regard to the Jews.

Bishop de Smedt cited the clear distinction indicated by Pope John in his encyclical, *Pacem in Terris*, between false principles and the praiseworthy projects which may be undertaken by those professing false principles.

Distinction, he added, is also made between error and those who err in good faith.

The bishop went on to say "it is not too much to hope that this topic of religious liberty

may be discussed and voted on before the end of this session."

"This, he commented, would be eloquent proof of the entire world of the truthfulness of the Council's efforts. Meanwhile, the members of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity will spare no effort, even working day and night, to give due consideration to all observations and criticisms, in order to bring about the achievement of this all-important goal."

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CYO Honors FBI Director

New York — (RNS) — J. Edgar Hoover is given the 1963 "Pro Deo et Juventute" Award of the National Catholic Youth Organization. The director of the FBI, Francis X. J. Stenerson, director of the National CYO, far right, watching the presentation is Msgr. Philip J. Murphy, director of the New York CYO.

Spain 'Not Catholic' Says Barcelona Monk

Bonn — (NC) — A Spanish abbot has said that Spain "cannot call itself Catholic unless it changes its political foundations."

Abbot Aurelio M. Escarre, O.S.B., of the Benedictine monastery of Montserrat near Barcelona, criticized the Spanish government in an interview with the Paris daily Le Monde.

The interview was reported here by the German Catholic news agency KNA.

"We do not have 25 years of peace behind us," the abbot said, referring to the time since the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), "but 25 years of victory."

"The victors, including the Church, have done nothing to bring about an end to the split between victors and vanquished. This is one of the saddest failures of a government which calls itself Christian but whose country does not adhere to the basic principles of Christianity."

Abbot Escarre said he regrets that the press is not free in Spain.

"The government should not misuse its power," he said. "The lack of news is contrary to Church teaching and must cause problems of conscience for those Catholics who govern a state which cannot call itself Catholic unless it changes its political foundations."

Boston Priests in Lima Slum Parish

Lima — Two Boston priests, Cardinal Cushing of Boston, the Presentation parish, Brighton, Mass. Both priests worked in missions in the Andes Mountains before coming to greater Lima.

One, Father William C. Francis, who was a curate in St. Rose's parish, Chelsea, Mass., for three years, is a nephew of Cardinal Cushing. He is now serving where the Cardinal asked to serve but was turned down by both the late Pope John XXIII and Pope Paul VI.

The other is Father James M. Broderick, who came to Peru after two years in Our Lady of the Aposile, founded by Rich-



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Book on Laity Wins Priest's Layman's Praise

New York — (RNS) — Two prominent Catholics — one a priest-historian and the other a lay leader — have praised a newly-published book, "The Mind of the Catholic Layman," by Daniel Callahan, an associate editor of *Commonweal*, a national Catholic weekly edited by laymen.

Favorable comment on the book was expressed by Msgr. John Tracy Ellis, professor of church history at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., and John Cogley, former editor of *Commonweal* who is now connected with the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Santa Barbara, Cal.

According to Cogley, Mr. Callahan represents the voice of a new Catholic generation. "His book is the clearest indication yet that American Catholicism has come of age," he said.

"It would be wonderful if every American Catholic bishop, priest, religious, lay man and woman could read Mr. Callahan's volume and make its contents their own," Monsignor Ellis stated.

The book, published by Charles Scribner's Sons, has been called the first history of the American Catholic layman.

Pope Expected to OK New Liturgy on Friday

Vatican City — (NC) — According to reliable reports here, Pope Paul VI will go to the general meeting of the ecumenical Council Friday, Nov. 29, to promulgate the council decrees on communications media and the liturgy.

It is also reported that the Pope will decree communications media of bishops of dioceses on matters until now reserved to the Roman Curia. It is being stated by some observers here that the concession is in effect a confirmation of the collegiality of bishops.

Armstrong Novel To Be Reviewed By Dr. Madden

April Doursler Armstrong's new novel, *WATER IN THE WINE*, will be reviewed by Dr. William Madden at the Noonday Book Review at 12:30 p.m. in the Catholic Evidence Library at 50 Chestnut St.

THE THEME, concerns the crisis, moral and emotional, which faces a Catholic couple parents of six children, when they are warned by their doctor:

"No more children!"

A serious health problem of the mother is the basis of the warning. How the couple faces their problem is the story-line of Mrs. Armstrong's novel.

The reviewer, Dr. Madden, is a Rochester obstetrician who often faces such problems with his own patients.

His review will be the last in the Fall series of the Catholic Evidence Library. The winter series will start after the Christmas holidays.

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