

Church Agencies Bolster Alliance

Chicago—(NC)—Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota said here that the Catholic Church has a major role to play in securing the success of the Alliance for Progress.

Humphrey, addressing (Jan. 20) the first annual conference of the Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program (CICOP), said the Church can do this in two ways:

—Forming public opinion and thereby indirectly influencing those who make decision in the government sector.

—By direct action through a vast network of schools, hospitals and specialized institutions in the labor, charity and social fields.

HUMPHREY SAID that in the past year there has been a "definite change" in the attitude of Alliance for Progress officials toward private organizations and a "new appreciation of the role which they can and

must play if the Alliance is to succeed.

He cited a letter from President Johnson to Thomas Mann, newly named Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs and coordinator of the Alliance for Progress, instructing him to "work closely with private United States groups and institutions . . . (including) the AFL-CIO, religious and charitable groups, cooperatives and the private business sector."

Several hundred U.S. and Latin American Church leaders—bishops, priests, religious and laymen—heard Humphrey's address to a CICOP general session in the Edgewater Beach Hotel. CICOP was founded last year by the U.S. Bishops to spread information about Latin America's needs and stimulate action by U.S. groups.

Humphrey praised the "far-sighted social and economic philosophy" of Pope John

XIII's encyclical *Mater et Magistra* and Papan in Paris and said it is being pushed actively by the Holy See and by many Church officials in Latin America.

"Men who once would have been 'promoted' to mountain parishes for their advanced views are now being appointed bishops and cardinals," he said. Discussing social programs to which the Church has given its efforts and resources, Humphrey particularly stressed the Food for Peace program in which he said the Church in both the U.S. and Latin America has been "intimately involved."

The Minnesota Senator, principal author of the program, said that under it 85 million people throughout the world are being fed, including 21.5 million in Latin America.

He said "much of the credit for the success" of the program in Latin America must go to

Catholic Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference, as well as to Church World Service, its Protestant counterpart.

He noted that the program, now 10 years old, is up for review in Congress this year and said "many" congressmen would like to see it cut back, urging instead that it be expanded, he asked for Catholic support in securing its continuation and expansion.

Humphrey also replied to what he called "ill-informed accounts in some of our news media" to the effect that the U.S. government plans to adopt "less enlightened policies of a bygone past" toward Latin America.

"The fact is that the Johnson administration is just as determined as was the Kennedy administration to advance the principles underlying the Alliance for Progress," he said.

Gold Ghettos, Irritants

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quasi-experts on Latin America. Their judgments are respected, they often help to further our own attitudes on Latin America, for example the quite definite notion that Latin America should be more grateful in thanking the United States for its aid.

"Even when the purpose is evident, it remains difficult to receive help from another and doubly so when he is no less than that he keeps reminding you that he is giving you this help."

"There is a rightful propaganda and political value in international giving but it must be discreet."

"There are other factors that bring about change. The North American tends to think of the industrial revolution as something that occurred already. Actually, it is just beginning."

IN RESPONSE to the question of what conclusions can be drawn from these observations, Bishop McGrath replied:

"Actually, there is no easy solution as we all know, but a beginning of a solution lies in the recognition of our mutual interdependence and an effort, particularly on the part of those living in Latin America, to make a real contact with its people; to jostle one's self occasionally out of his busy or comfortable way of life; to travel around the country, learn the language above all, and talk to the people. Listening perhaps more than one talks."

"We talk a great deal about the need for greater social justice in Latin America, which might be characterized by dividing up the national wealth. But we must realize that simply dividing up the wealth would perhaps leave us all poor."

"The entire capital promised by the Alliance for Progress over the next 10 years is said to be considerably less than the capital deposited by Latin American capitalists abroad in their own country."

"Communism is not our real threat in Latin America. Communism would not have a chance in Latin America if we,

we will have a situation in which citizens in Latin America appear as enemies of change, they will continue to lose the confidence of the masses and of many social leaders. "If, on the contrary, as they have begun to do, they encourage and guide socio-economic changes such as the reform, land reform and broader technical education into healthy, productive channels, communism in the Americas will have been kept out, and we may hope for a new flowering of the spirit of man freed from its present miseries and freed from the yawning abyss of Marxist dogmas."

Fold Up The Old System!

Church Goal 'Revolution'

Chicago — (RNS) — "Champion of the oppressed . . . Promoter of economic and social reform . . . upholder of the spirit and dignity of all sons of God . . ."

This is the "new role" of the Catholic Church in Latin America, a priest representing the U.S. hierarchy said here.

Msgr. Joseph Gremillion of New York, director of socio-economic development for Catholic Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference, told a conference of North and South American Catholics:

" . . . We must rid ourselves of past notions about the Church in Latin America. She is no longer to be identified with the landed aristocracy, the political oligarchy and the oppressive status quo."

"In many places bishops, priests and lay leaders provide the new ferment for institutional reform."

Msgr. Gremillion spoke at the first annual conference of the Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program before 2,000 clergymen and lay volunteers.

He said the theme of the Church's social teaching in Latin America is "nothing less than society-wide revolution." "It is a new system of human relations . . ."

Reform goals are being carried out by two types of apostolate, Msgr. Gremillion said: direct social action programs under Church auspices, and indirect influence of Church laymen in the secular world of politics, economics, education and social organizations.

"In the latter case," he added, "laymen act on their own responsibility in the temporal order, without formal connection with the official Church and most certainly not subject to the directives or wishes of their spiritual leaders."

"And they work in concert with other citizens who share the same goals, but who do not necessarily share the same Christian ideology and motivation."

The U.S. priest declared: "The authentic social teaching of the Church is now reaching the people through pastoral and public statements of the bishops acting collectively; through many inter-diocesan and grassroots teaching and training centers, often directed and manned by lay leaders, comparable to the labor schools which sprang forth in the United States and Canada during the great depression of the Thirties."

"The constant theme of these teaching and formation programs," he continued, "is the necessity of fundamental reform of the economic, political, and social institutions—a restructuring which must be as profound, as global, as rapid and as far-reaching as to be nothing less than society-wide revolution, a revolution without phys-

Released-Time Classes At New High in State

New York — (NC) — New York City's released-time religious education program for public school students has reached a five-year high of 1,08,572 participants, an increase of almost 6,000 over a year ago, according to figures made public by the Board of Education.

At their parents' request, participating students are released from school an hour early one day each week for religious instruction in sites provided by their churches.



Two Twins — Nuns and Pupils

Maryknoll, N.Y. — (RNS) — Being double — twice. Twin Maryknoll Sisters meet twin Ann and Agnes Shigo as the returned Missionaries conduct an assembly program at a parochial school. Sister Regina Rosaire and Sister Rosaire Marie — born Mary and Marie Gray of Meadville, Pa. — have returned from nine years of mission service in the steaming jungles of Bolivia. The twins, following the Maryknoll pattern, are now studying at college, pending reassignment to missionary work. While in Bolivia, they taught at neighboring missions. In 1957, Sister Regina Rosaire was stricken by polio, recovering completely after experiencing almost total paralysis.

'Marshall Plan' for U.S.

Washington — (NC) — Economist Gunnar Myrdal called here for a "Marshall Plan" to end poverty and unemployment in the United States.

Myrdal, addressing a conference at Georgetown University (Jan. 23), said such an all-out attack on poverty is both a moral imperative and an essential requirement for the nation's economic health.

"WHAT AMERICA needs is a Marshall Plan to eradicate poverty in the nation," he said. "This is a moral imperative. At the same time, the unemployed, the underemployed and the now unemployable are America's biggest wastage of economic resources."

Theme of the Georgetown conference, sponsored by the university's Institute of Social Ethics, was "Poverty in Plenty: The Poor in Our Affluent Society." It brought together a number of leading economists and social critics in and out of government for day-long discussions.

Myrdal, a Swedish economist, is a longtime student of the American scene. He is author of "An American Dilemma," regarded as a classic study of the U.S. race problem, and the recently published "Challenge to Affluence," which discusses the danger to this country and the western world in prolonged U.S. economic stagnation.

"Pointing to rising unemployment is one of the country's biggest problems, Myrdal maintained that its 'general cause' is the 'serious lag in adding the education and training of our labor force to the needs of the new technological, service-oriented American economy.'

Backing up this view, he said, is the fact that while the number of unemployed and underemployed is large and growing, nevertheless in certain sectors of the economy there is a serious shortage of workers.

To remedy this situation, he said, "huge effort" will have to go into education and vocational training, not only on the high school and high school level, but called particularly for efforts to

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Heart Ailment

Jamaica, N.Y. — (NC) — Father John Courtney Murray, S.J., widely known commentator on law and religious freedom, has been admitted to Jamaica Hospital after a heart attack.

The hospital described the result of the attack as satisfactory (Jan. 18). Father Murray, who played a major role in presentation to the Second Vatican Council of the draft statement on religious freedom, began ill (Jan. 12) while at the bedside here of his gravely ill sister, Miss Elizabeth Murray. She died (Jan. 14) two days after he entered the hospital.

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