

Latin American Plan Drafted

Protestants and leading laymen of the United States and Latin America held two days of intensive discussions here to draft specific proposals for a program of cooperation between U.S. and Latin American Catholics.

The private meetings were devoted to surveying the needs of the conference and examining specific programs for action to be taken in spreading understanding of Latin America and its needs and establishing new cooperation between U.S. and Latin American Catholics.

The U.S. group was headed by Rev. James J. Conroy, pastor of St. Ignace church, New York City. The Latin American group was headed by Rev. Daniel J. Conroy, pastor of St. Ignace church, New York City.

The group also discussed the U.S. press, radio and television for what he termed their "down-the-drain" attitude—a tendency to think of Latin America only in terms of collapse, chaos and fear of Communist take-over.

He said a survey he had recently conducted had revealed that only one in every nine U.S. adults could identify the native language of Brazil. He called on the mass communications media to strengthen their efforts of correspondent in Latin America, provide greater depth in its interpretation and to remove public misunderstanding and ignorance of Latin America.

His statement came in a discussion period that followed addresses by Father Albert J. Lewis, M.M., former president of the Catholic Press Association, and Father Vincent Lovett, editor of the Catholic Reporter, Kansas City, Mo.

Father Lewis criticized U.S. schools for their failure to include study of Latin American history and geography in their curricula and the U.S. press, radio and television for what he termed their "down-the-drain" attitude—a tendency to think of Latin America only in terms of collapse, chaos and fear of Communist take-over.

He noted: "There exists an unwritten law: Don't invest in construction, unless it is indispensable, because it is the worst investment existing; the most efficient way to invest, is to invest in formation and education of leaders."

Bishop Sales gave the example. He said that when immediately after his consecration he stopped construction of the new cathedral in Natal, the cathedral along with the medieval church of the Natal Movement at Sao Paulo de Potengi remain unfinished to this day.

"The Movement of Natal," Bishop Sales said, "is demonstrating to the people of the northeast living in sub-human conditions, that they may expect from the Church not only a better life hereafter, but also here on earth."

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War Against 'Social Cancers'

Chicago — (AP) — Delegates to the first meeting of the Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program here were told the "war" against "social cancers" is a long one.

The program was described by Monsignor J. Conroy, C.S.C., of the National Council of Catholic Bishops and secretary general of the Conference of Bishops of the Americas.

In 1948, priests formed a cell of Christian apostles similar in function to the Healing consciousness of the Holy life blood.

In 1954, Father Eugenio, then Bishop of Natal, capital of Brazil's most northeastern state, Rio Grande do Norte, he took over from a "bible" archbishop and tried to extend his leadership over the entire archdiocese, which counts about 700,000 Catholics and only 48 priests, bringing the clergy to parishes every month in a country where the beach for recreation, relaxation and pastoral study.

379 Priests For 1,800,000

Asuncion — (NC) — Paraguay, with an area of 157,000 square miles and a population of 1,800,000, has 379 priests—only one for every 4,900 inhabitants, according to the Ecumenical Yearbook published here. The yearbook shows, however, that only 186 priests are engaged exclusively in parochial work.

Other bishops and archbishops of the northeast gradually found their way to Natal to study with Bishop Sales. Magr. Cloin explained, and in 1962 there was officially established the Regional National Office of the Bishops of the Northeast.

The Natal Movement covers both spiritual and economic activities. Bishop Sales, secretary of the new office, has said:

"In an underdeveloped area it is indispensable for evangelization to give people general human formation. This will give them the faith."

Among the apostolic activities of the movement are religious instruction at all levels, biblical and liturgical renewal, and renewal of the priestly ministry, of parish life and of the educational system.

Socio-economic activities include unions, cooperatives, agricultural clubs, the press, radio—particularly in basic primary education—and soon, television.

Mainstay of the movement is a team of about 250 workers—part of them paid, the others volunteers—which Bishop Sales built up gradually. The staff for about 20 parishes, Sisters of the Good Shepherd, all are laymen and women, including several university graduates and a number of social workers.

Of this team, 100 serve in more than a dozen social centers scattered throughout the working class districts of Natal, 34 are in the radio schools, 31 in the printing and press group, and 73 are in the service of rural assistance.

Assisting are an international group of experts, sociologists, economists, agronomists, natural theologians, and other specialists.

Magr. Cloin said the Natal Movement stresses common pastoral planning by representatives from all over the archdiocese. "Pastoral vision on the human being with equilibrium of economic, political, social and religious values; community education and formation of leaders."

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Latin America, Layman's Target

Chicago — (NC) — Plans for recruiting 200 U.S. Catholic laymen for urgent projects in Latin America will be mapped at the first national council of the PAVLA (P.A.V.L.A.), Jan. 28 and 29.

The PAVLA meeting will immediately follow the first annual conference of the Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program (CICOP), which will be held in New York City.

The CICOP conference will be held from 1964 and like the PAVLA conference, will take place in the Baginier Beach Hotel.

PAVLA VOLUNTEERS for Latin America are being sought for urgent projects in Latin America. The program is being coordinated by Father Vincent J. Lovett, director of the PAVLA program in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Mo., and executive editor of the Catholic Reporter, diocesan newspaper.

More than 150 PAVLA diocesan directors, college representatives and leaders of lay mission organizations are expected to attend.

Workers Seek Bishops' Help

Boston (AP) — (NC) — The Young Catholic Workers of Latin America have asked their bishops to issue a joint declaration against the exploitation of workers in the hemisphere.

The eight-hour day set by law in most Latin American countries is meaningless because most workers must take second jobs in order to keep their families alive. Social security provisions exist on paper, but not in fact.

Workers have a strong feeling of solidarity, but their economic unity is disrupted in political rivalries, salary jealousies and sabotage by union plants in key trade union positions by many employers. Trade union leaders are under continuous pressure from government and business.

Nation's, Not Local Standards To Be Test

Trenton — (RN) — The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled today that standards of the constitution at large must be followed in determining whether printed matter is obscene, and not the standard of "a particular individual, group or individuals, or locality."

In a 6-0 decision, with Chief Justice Joseph Weintraub not voting, the court reversed the conviction of Hudson County News Company and Hudson County News Dealer Supply Company, affiliated corporations, on charges of selling and possessing with intent to sell obscene magazines.

The convictions had been upheld by the Appellate Division of the State Superior Court and defendants entered an appeal in the Supreme Court claiming the magazines involved could not be found to be obscene Constitutionally.

Writing the court's opinion, Justice Hayden Proctor found that "obscenity" was a violation of the Constitutional rights of the distributor, since only one of the magazines was found to be obscene when the case was finally brought before a jury three years later.

Detectives conducting the search, Justice Proctor wrote, were provided with no guide to the exercise of informed discretion but were left to their individual judgments as to which magazines were obscene in the short time they were in the premises they searched, and the opportunity to select or reject. The magazines were seized on the basis of on-the-spot ad hoc decisions. As a result of the seizures 400 magazines not found to be obscene were suppressed and withheld from the market for approximately three years.

"We believe that the procedure here employed imposed an unconstitutional prior restraint on defendants' rights under the First and 14th Amendments, and since this vi-

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