

Faith Liberty, Council Topic

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Dr. King Visits Pope Paul

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI received Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., noted American Negro Baptist integration leader, in a 25-minute private audience in the papal library. With Dr. King was a close associate, Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy of Atlanta, Ga. After the audience, Dr. King said the Pope "made it palpably clear that he is a friend of the Negro people, and asked me to tell the American Negroes that he is committed to the cause of civil rights in the U.S." The Baptist clergyman also observed, "I think new days have come when a Pope meets a fellow who happens to have the name Martin Luther."

Theme for Teachers

Faith, Patriotism

"Pray that your students may be richer spiritually and brought closer to God because you came into their lives."

Bishop Kearney issued this challenge to 1500 elementary and high school teachers at the conclusion of the annual Diocesan Teachers' Conference, held at the War Memorial on Sept. 20-21.

Admitting the need to keep pace with demands for Catholic education and the consequent responsibility upon all to sow the seeds of vocation, the Bishop urged teachers to stress the beauty rather than the need of vocations.

"Make children conscious of what a wonderful thing it is to dedicate their lives to God," the Bishop advised.

The Bishop called upon the teacher to cultivate patriotism and to develop the moral attitudes and natural virtues so "our schools can give the country the leadership it needs, based on the morality and teachings of Jesus Christ."

"Yours is a sacred responsibility," the Bishop noted. "Your vows were taken not just to teach science, history, and other subjects, but primarily to win souls for God through the classroom. Your desk is your pulpit, your privilege is to guide young people, helping them to meet the challenge of divine grace."

The Bishop concluded his remarks by offering devotion to our Lady as the anti-toxin for the poison threatening the innocence and purity of today's youth.

The two day conference brought teachers from all schools in the diocese to hear addresses in the fields of science, reading, esthetics, testing, linguistics and liturgy.

KEYNOTING the conference was Herman R. Goldberg, Superintendent of Rochester City School System.

In his talk, "As Many Beacons as Beakers," Goldberg stressed the need for greater emphasis on the humanities as essential to education. "Any new emphasis and broader concern for the humanities should not be looked upon as something added, but rather as a basic approach to learning that has been too-long standing in the wings waiting to be called upon. The study of the humanities should not be considered a dessert to come at the end of the meal."

Goldberg outlined recommendations which included: grants and fellowships to elementary teachers to improve techniques in teaching humanities; individual school humanities demonstrations; improvement of libraries at all levels; exchange of scholarly and artistic personnel between states and countries; programs by which artists, musicians, and teachers can be made available to school systems, and programs to make administrators aware of the possibilities in teaching humanities.

Monsignor John T. Doherty, assistant superintendent for religious education in New York City, spoke on the role of catechetics in the renewal of the Church. Noting that the content of religious education must rest firmly on scripture, doctrine, and liturgy, Father Doherty urged the formation of teachers themselves in a scriptural and liturgical framework as the first step in affecting the religious class of tomorrow.

Speaking on "The Council, the Liturgy and the School," Father William Shannon of Nazareth College stated that the significance of the Constitution of the Liturgy lies not in the directives it gives, but in the theology that it teaches and the sweeping renewal of Christian worship that it envisions.

"The Constitution not only clarifies for us what the liturgy should be in the life of the Church, it also has prescribed wholesale re-education of priests and people and an extensive reform of liturgical rites and practices," Father Shannon stated.

Also included in the conference program was Sister Mary Conrad, R.S.M., who spoke on "Linguistics: the Foundling at Our Door."

"Science is Wondering" was the title of Sr. Mary Stanislaus S.S.J. and Therese Bluhm, teaching consultant for Ginn and Company, spoke on "Basic Reading: A Continued Need."

Father John Nevins, Albany Superintendent of Schools, discussed the role of testing in the schools, and Ernest Pöll of the University of Chicago took as his topic "Secondary Schools: Look in a New Direction."

Catholic authority on church-state relations, and the talk endorsing the liberty statement by Boston's Cardinal Cushing — his first at the Council which won for him vigorous applause from the world's bishops — was reported as also authored by Father Murray.

A decade ago, controversy swirled in Catholic theological circles about the church-state position taken by Father Murray, a professor at the Jesuit seminary in Woodstock, Maryland. It was deemed dangerously unorthodox by the ultra-conservative theological party then ruling the roost in the United States, and Father Murray was censured by the Holy Office in Rome.

There was irony, then, in seeing the elegant Jesuit playing such a pivotal role in Rome when the subject came up for discussion before the bishops of the entire world. Whatever doubts had once been entertained about his orthodoxy faded away as it became evident that he was the chief advisor, spokesman, and cheerleader for the American hierarchy.

There were echoes of the Murray political approach, for example, in Cardinal Cushing's talk which quoted (in English) Lord Acton's dictum: "Freedom is the highest political end."

Here, incidentally, was more historical irony. Acton, a layman, was a leading — and highly suspect — figure among the leading "liberal" faction in the First Vatican Council a century ago.

Cardinal Cushing's talk was delivered in a slow, insistent Boston-accented Latin. One priest who heard it said the Cardinal spoke to his peers exactly as he might address a motley rally of Massachusetts Catholics in his beloved archdiocese and the noble ecclesiastics in the aula were as intent on listening to him as his own adoring flock would be.

The Cardinal said that he spoke in the name of most of the American bishops, like the ailing Cardinals McIntyre and Spellman, were not present when the bishops caucused and obviously he was not authorized to speak in their name.

It was a cause for joy, Cardinal Cushing declared, that there was finally a chance to air this subject fully and freely in the Council. The whole world, he said, is waiting for a declaration on religious liberty from the Catholic Church. "A decent respect for the opinion of man-

kind" — a phrase, as well as an idea, more familiar to the Americans in the audience than some others — demands that it be made.

The Church claims liberty for herself to perform her supernatural mission, the Boston Cardinal reminded the Fathers. The Church must make the same demand for everyone, however, and do so out of respect for the human rights of every last person on earth.

He was followed by the less colorful, but more scholarly Cardinal Albert Meyer of "We must give to others what we claim for ourselves," he said pointedly.

The amiable Cardinal Joseph Ritter of Saint Louis, probably the most "progressive" of all American cardinals, was the next American to speak. Cardinal Ritter, unopposed, perhaps by Father Murray's suggestion at a press conference earlier in the week that the present declaration is theologically vulnerable but still anxious to have the Council act on the question proposed a change. He thought, he said, that all the reasons given for religious liberty should be eliminated in the text in order to avoid argument and the Council should confine itself to a simple affirmation that all men have an inborn right to freedom of religion.

Cardinal Ritter's tactics soon backfired.

Cardinal Ottaviani, the quick-witted leader of the conservatives, had the floor and expressed his hearty approval of the Ritter suggestion. "The American peril" greeted Cardinal

Adventist Wins Award

Jerusalem — (RNS) — Graham Mitchell, 30-year-old Seventh-day Adventist bookkeeper from Australia, was proclaimed World Bible Champion here at the close of the Third International Bible Contest.

He received the gold medal from Israeli President Zalman Shazar as the Australian flag was raised in salute by Boy Scouts and a band played "God Save the Queen." He was the first Christian to win the top award; the champions in the two previous contests having been Israeli Jews.

Contestants included a Nigerian wearing a majest' blue toga, two Roman Catholic priests from Australia and France and other Catholics from Belgium for the opinion of man-

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