

'Pluriformity' in Church

New York — (RNS) — Dutch Catholics, "before the war... the most conservative Roman Catholics all over the world," now enthusiastically greet "the new spirit of freedom" in the Church, according to a Netherlands Catholic journalist.

Mr. Scharper, editor-in-chief of Sheed & Ward, Catholic publishing firm in New York, asked Mr. Van de Plas to describe the attitude of young Catholics to the Church in the Netherlands.

The editor replied that the majority of Dutch young people "think the Council is not drastic enough; they think, for instance, as regards institutions that decentralization does not go far enough; they want more democracy in the Church, and they resent strongly all forms of Byzantinism or assumptions of worldly power."

"And in regard to practical conclusions, I think they wish more intercommunion with non-Catholic Christians and they also — I should stress that — have a very strong tendency to follow their own conscience in questions of morality."

"They might say," Mr. van de Plas continued, "that whatever the Council's attitude would be towards 'finis matrimonialis' (the purpose) of marriage according to the Church, and its implications, nonetheless, for procreation, they will still follow the voice of their own conscience. I think they represent on the other hand... a small minority who are forming, let's say, a 'silent emigration' within the Church."

Mr. Scharper then interviewed Father H. A. C. Beex, priest-auditor at Vatican II. He asked his impression of Mr. Van de Plas' reference to a

carry more elaborate reports on Catholic matters, select the news in their own way and express if necessary a special Roman Catholic opinion in their articles."

"That's true, that is so," said Father Beex. "That is every priest's experience — he will hear it every day. The young men will have their own opinion about everything. There are no conformists anymore. There is no conformism."

"That is, they don't think that because something is done, they will do it. They have their own consents, their own opinions about all things."

Mr. Scharper asked: "As a pastor... do you think that this tendency on the part of the younger generation to form their own conscience is good or bad from a spiritual point of view?"

"I think it is a good thing," the priest replied. "Christianity has to be in the life of every man. It should be in everybody's own soul, in his life, in his actions. All the sacraments and the Mass, and liturgy are media to help one live as Christians."

Father Beex agreed, in Mr. Scharper's phrasing, that "the future of the Church will make possible... a more realistic 'holiness' for the lay person in the Church."

"That will be the result of this Council in Rome," he said. "Christianity will be lived realistically in the life of the world, in the reality of the world."

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They stand for strict fairness within church proceedings. They feel, furthermore, that the Church should show more "pluriformity."

Philip Scharper, who interviewed Mr. van de Plas in Amsterdam, determined that the editor's definition of "pluriformity" was "variety of structure."

The Dutch editor said that 80 per cent of the Dutch Catholics hailed the constitutions and decrees of Vatican II.

He pointed out two "groups of extremes" which he described as "anti-Conciliarists."

"In the rear guard," he said, "you find people who think that the Council has gone too far in the vanguard, you find perhaps 10 per cent who feel the Council has not gone far enough, and they already look to the Third Vatican Council."

Herman van Run, editor of The Times, leading Catholic daily, noted the freedom of the Catholic press in the Netherlands — 22 dailies, two national and 20 regional, all controlled by laymen. "Church censorship is not practiced," he said. "Our Archbishop, (Bernardus) Cardinal Alfrink said recently that he did not even know exactly the rules of canon law on censorship, and he appeared to have hardly any interest in them."

According to the editor, Cardinal Alfrink "would very much prefer every Catholic paper to have a priest as an adviser, not as a censor. At first sight, Catholic papers don't differ from others. They don't print a photograph of the Pope every day on the front page. The main difference is that they

carry more elaborate reports on Catholic matters, select the news in their own way and express if necessary a special Roman Catholic opinion in their articles."

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Arts, Crafts at Summer School

Chicago — (RNS) — One of the 15 Franciscan nuns who maintain a summer school for minority groups under the federal anti-poverty program guides children in arts and crafts. Children and adults participating in the summer courses at the St. Philip Benizi parish come from the Cabrini-Green Homes in Chicago, one of the city's predominantly Negro housing projects. Remedial and advancement courses include music, reading, science, math, Negro heritage and American history, typing, sewing and English language for the Spanish-speaking. A popular feature of the school is an evening hostess party with the children singing freedom songs accompanied by a guitar-playing nun. The school is run as a day-camp under sponsorship of the Chicago Interracial Council and the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.



Ecumenical Nuns

Arlington, Mass. — (RNS) — Catholic and Episcopal nuns attending a week-long Ecumenical Conference for Religious kneel together in prayer in the Arlington, Mass., Chapel of St. Anne's (Episcopal) Convent. Some 80 priests, Brothers and nuns attended the conference which included a Catholic Mass in the convent chapel, the singing of the Divine Office, spiritual reading at meals and other monastic practices. Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, gave the conference his personal blessing.

Bus Rides for Ohio Pupils, 'Liberties' Unit Opposed

Columbus — (RNS) — Gov. James Rhodes of Ohio will sign into law legislation that will provide tax-paid transportation for pupils in all state-accredited schools — public, private and parochial.

The bill was passed by the Ohio House of Representatives by a surprising 86 to 45 margin. The next day, a special committee of the Senate approved the bill, as amended, 20 to 1. In its original form the bill has been passed in the Senate by a 5-to-1 majority.

Under its provisions local school boards must furnish bus transportation to all elementary pupils who live more than two miles from school. High school students living more than two miles from their schools may be given rides, but local boards of education are not obliged to do so.

The provisions must go into effect on Aug. 15, 1966, although local boards which want to start as early as Jan. 1 will be given state financial aid.

Officials of the National Education Association, which originated the bill in the Senate and then prodded it out of a House committee, said some 68,000 additional pupils will be transported next year at an additional tax cost of \$2 million. Most of the additional riders will be from Catholic schools.

Constitutional tests of the new law were promised. The Ohio Civil Liberties Union was the first to announce it would take the law to court. Abe Hershman of Youngstown, Ohio CLU chairman, said the law violated church-state separation principles. A meeting of state officers was called to determine whether the law could be tested immediately or whether a test would have to wait until 1966.

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National Employees Paid Tribute

At The National Clothing Company's Second Annual Fashion Seminar, held at The Manager Hotel on Wednesday evening, Aug. 11, special tribute was paid to twenty-nine National employees with 25 years of service or more. An impressive total of 944 years of employment was achieved by this group.

In recognition of their long, faithful service record, George Horwitz, National's president, cited them on the basis of their loyalty, leadership and conscientious service. "These people are an inspiration to all National employees. For many of them, The National has been their sole employer. It is our hope that as the years go by, many of our employees will join their ranks," he stated.

The employees specially honored are: Lemoyne Walzer, 46 years; Grace Ricci, 44 years; Abe Rock, 41 years; Sam Ware, 40 years; Leonard Weidemiller, 40 years; Edward Baker, 39 years; Louise Chiappone, 39 years; Anthony Infantolino, 37 years; Muriel Rosenberg, 35 years; Chester Sym, 34 years; William Cohn, 34 years; Laura Husted, 34 years; Samter Horwitz, 32 years; Ralph Mecum, 30 years; Elizabeth Warner, 30 years; Anna Affronti, 30 years; Josephine Tota, 30 years; Nancy Panzetta, 30 years; Henry Fino, 29 years; Rose Caschetta, 29 years; John Carroll, 28 years; Herbert Krapp, 28 years; Norene Ward, 28 years; Irene Moschauer, 27 years; Raymond Gugli, 27 years; Loyola Shultz, 26 years; Arnold Clark, 26 years; Estelle DeKoker, 25 years; Waid Nance, 25 years.

God Love You

Most Reverend
Fulton J. Sheen

The zealous priests of North America have many burdens. Some are pastors or curates of parishes with 1,000 families, a pastoral school of about 700 pupils and the added responsibilities of convert instruction and visiting the sick. We, however, are even more struck by the crosses of our missionaries. One who visited this office recently, runs a parish of 10,000 square miles with 70 mission chapels and schools teaching 3,444 children. He visits these chapels twice a month and examines each child individually to see if he is prepared for Holy Communion. Baptisms in each of these chapels have increased in the last 20 years from 300 to 2,000. Once, he baptized 1,000 souls in one week. For most missionaries work like this is done without the convenience of paved roads, decent cars and air conditioning. It is also work done among primitive-thinking people with a non-Christian mentality, people who speak another language and often many different dialects.

Despite these external difficulties, priests working in mission lands find that people have quicker and deeper insight for the truth than many "civilized" people. One missionary recounted the story of Elizabeth. "Elizabeth lived in a tiny mud and thatched hut in the mission compound. She scraped a living by farming a small plot of land and caring for others' sheep. Converted late in life, she never missed Mass and Communion. In our poor mission church a cheap print of Our Lady of Sorrows, framed in wood without glass, hung on a wall near the altar. One spring, when whitewashing the church, the picture was badly splashed so I took it down. The next morning after Mass, I found Elizabeth sitting with her painfully ulcerous legs stretched out on the ground. She looked heartbroken, and with tears in her eyes said, 'Father, thee photo of my mamma is not in church.' I told her it was spoiled by whitewash. She would not be comforted, so there was nothing to do but clean it and put it back where it belonged. It was a real joy to see Elizabeth every morning after that genuflect slowly to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament and then make a grave bow to the photo of her mamma. I thought then, as I often do now, that this alling old African woman is much closer to God than I."

It is good for us to know about converts like this and about the good priests who converted them. It is even better for those of us, priests and laity alike, who have made few converts or none at all, to think about doing so. The surest way is to send the Holy Father a sacrifice so the missionaries can make converts in your name. Every penny sent as alms to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith is sent to the Missions by the Holy Father the same year that it is received. Nothing is invested. Remember there is no surer way to get into heaven than to bring a crowd with you!

GOD LOVE YOU to R. B. for \$7. "This is all my piggy-bank savings and birthday money. Please pray that I will become a missionary someday." ... to P. A. for \$100 "Wish we could give all we have to express our gratitude for what the good Lord has given us through His wonderful priests." ... to F.C. for \$2 "I earned this cutting grass. After reading MISSION I want to send it to you so that another 11-year-old won't go to bed hungry."

Increase your knowledge and love of the Mission by reading MISSION, a pocket-sized, bi-monthly magazine edited by Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen. Keep yourself up-to-date on mission activities the world over. Let us put you on our subscription list for only one-dollar a year.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 368 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10001; or to your Diocesan Director, Rev. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York 14604.

Records Tumble In Elmira

Elmira — Five records were shattered and one tied, as 200 athletes, representing 15 clubs, took part in the Fifth Annual New York State Track and Field Championships at Elmira's Parker Field last Saturday night.

The Long Island Striders traveled the longest distance and were rewarded with their second straight team title, amassing a record 90 points.

Gardentown Track Club, winner in 1961, '62 and '63, registered more points than any other previous second place team, was runner-up with 43 points.

The Rochester Track Club, on the strength of two third place finishes in the relays, tied the host Elmira K. of C. Track Club for third spot with 27 points each.

Ex-Cornell track captain and Olympic trial finalist Fran Smith of Gardentown, recovered sufficiently from an ankle sprain two weeks ago to rip off a record time of 48.2 in the 40.

Fran then anchored the GTC 34-mile relay team to victory and performed the same vital function to nearly upset the L.I. Striders speedy quartet in the 880 relay.

For his efforts, Fran earned the meet's Outstanding Male Athlete Award.

Rochester Track Club's star was Bruce McDaniel who tied the mark set by Al Stuckey of GTC in 1963 with a high jump showing of 6-4.

The host team's two heroes were Brian Westfield and Gary Purdue.

Westfield captured the 220 in a time of 22.2 and the 120 high hurdles at 15.1.

Purdue, second to GTC's Bob Hoffman in the Bill Emerson Memorial Mile Walk last year, edged out Hoffman with a fine showing of 7:42.4.

Elmira's Ron Gilliam was also a standout as he finished second in the record triple jump performance with his best mark yet of 45-2.

Two records were established in girls' events as the Police Athletic Club of New York City took the team title with 29 points. The Finger Lakes T. C. of Geneva edged out the Elmira Girls' T. C. for second place.

Gladys Reynolds won the Ladies of Columbus 100 in 11.1 and starred on the relay team to win the Outstanding Girl Athlete Award.

Tally-Ho Lists

Performances of Tally-Ho Music Camp's production of "The Lowland Sea," with music by Alec Wilder and libretto by Arnold Sundgaard, are scheduled for Friday (tonight) and Saturday, Aug. 13 and 14 at 8 p.m.

"The Lowland Sea" was written "out of a remembering of the sea and sea songs — of dunes, of harbors, of voyaging, of loneliness, of waiting." It is reminiscent of the streets of Nantucket or perhaps the evening mail boat at Ocracoke.

Director is Howard Tappan, director of vocal music at Pittsford Central School and musical director for Tally-Ho.

The music will sound out the six-week camping period for the young musicians at Tally-Ho. Pick-up of donations on Saturday will be announced later. Donations may also be brought to the church Sunday morning. Chairmen are Mrs. Donald Mosher and Mrs. William Reilly.

The camp is located on County Rd. 41, east of Rt. 15-A, six miles south of Lima.

Bake Sale At St. Mark's

A Baked Food Sale sponsored by the St. Mark's Women's Club will be held at the church, 2186 Edgemore Dr., on Sunday, Aug. 15 after all the Masses. Pick-up of donations on Saturday will be announced later. Donations may also be brought to the church Sunday morning. Chairmen are Mrs. Donald Mosher and Mrs. William Reilly.

Methodists Study Council

Oxford — (RNS) — Methodist holding membership in the World Methodist Council to attend next month's Vatican Council session it should be accepted, on the understanding, as one representative put it, "that anything undertaken by the World Methodist Council or any of its constituent bodies cannot be interpreted as an effort to supersede existing or future work of the World Council of Churches in this field."

The Institute agreed, almost unanimously, that should the Vatican extend an invitation to individual Methodist Churches

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