

## Translating Ideas Into Day-to-Day Life

My dear People:

On this first Sunday of Lent, dedicated in our community to the betterment of Human Relations, it is well to pause for a moment to consider our individual responsibility to do all in our power to better race relations in whatever opportunity our position in life offers. May I quote the challenge to all of us, from the recent session of Vatican Council II:

"We cannot truly call on God, Father of all, if we refuse to treat in a brotherly way any man, created as he is in the image of God... No foundation therefore remains for any theory or practice that leads to discrimination between man and man or people and people, so far as their human dignity and the rights flowing from it are concerned."

"The Church reproves as foreign to the mind of Christ, any discrimination against men or harassment of them, because of their race, color, condition in life or religion..."

This statement sums up the ideals of the Catholic Interracial Council which seeks to implement here the statement of the Bishops of the United States in 1958. But you and I, as the lay apostolate must translate in day-to-day experiences, and lead others to do likewise, this statement of Catholic belief. Our spiritual and social welfare require it; the rejected and the socially disenfranchised need it.

In accepting the 1965 Award for Contribution to Social Justice, Dr. James Dumpson, formerly Welfare Commissioner of New York and now Dean at Hunter College School of Social Service, raised the question as to what our Negro citizen asks of us. He answered:

"He wants equality of opportunity in education, in housing, in employment. He wants free access to those social assets required for satisfying living in modern society. He wants a clear demonstration of acceptance of difference, whether that difference be color, or religion, or place of origin. He wants through all of this the opportunity and right to choose his own exits from poverty and dependency. Above all else he wants to be accepted and respected as a human being."

"The gospel that asks 'who is thy neighbor?' or that tells the story of the Good Samaritan present unique opportunities to answer the question for every Catholic not only as to what the Negro wants but what, as a member of the Corporate Body, he deserves. The local parish is in the midst of the problems and stresses of the problems of Negro-white relationships. It is at the parish level that the question—'who is my neighbor?' can best be answered."

"Have too many of us excused ourselves from participating in full measure in the fight for social justice and equality because we believe there are so few Negroes within our faith and that this is not a Catholic problem? The struggle for full human rights for Negroes and other ethnic minorities is not a Catholic problem—it is a Protestant or a Jewish problem. But it is a moral problem and for that reason alone it calls upon every American Catholic to work unceasingly to wipe out forever prejudice and rejection and every expression of the denial to any man, woman, or child of his God-given human rights."

I think the words of this distinguished leader of the Catholic Interracial Council offer us a fine homily for Human Relations Sunday in our community.

With my blessing, I am

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,

*James E. Kearney*  
Bishop of Rochester

## On World's Daily Problems

### Churches Impact Gains

Middlesex, England — (RNS) New emphasis was given here to the movement among all Christians to speak together on questions involving the church and society.

Meeting in the immediate wake of the World Council of Churches Central Committee sessions at Geneva, Switzerland — where continuing dialogue among Catholics and representatives of other Churches was underscored — was a group of theologians and scholars brought together by the WCC's Church and Society department and the

Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity.

Out of the discussions came a statement that the group was convinced that "there is no sufficient reason why further study on the theme of 'Church and Society' should be carried on in isolation..."

Instead, the participants concluded, "there ought to be consultation or, far as their ways of working will allow, collaboration between the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church."

### Theologians 'Too Abstract'

Assisi — (NC) — The well-known Redemptorist theologian, Father Bernard Haering, told a study group on atheism here that theologians themselves have contributed to its increase by being too abstract and too distant from modern man.

At a study conference sponsored by the For a Christian Civilization Movement, Father Haering said that in the past theologians have "justified many errors." He added that

theologians today often ignore the most burning problems of the day and treat the truths of salvation in a mathematical manner without personal involvement.

"The heart of the theologian must be rather the fire which speaks of God. Instead, God is spoken of as if He were an object of science with thousands and thousands of distinctions, with pre-fabricated formulas



### Blood for the Red Cross

Sister Mary Cephas and Sister Mary Sean, are shown at the refreshment table after donating blood when the Syracuse Regional Bloodmobile set up a blood collecting station in St. Peter's Episcopal Church Parish House recently. Mrs. J. J. Fadel, Red Cross Canteen Worker and Mrs. Charles Patchin, Red Cross Nurses Aid, serve them refreshments.

## Britain Boosts Aid to Schools

London — (RNS) — Britain's thousands of church schools are to get increased aid from the government under measures announced in Parliament and welcomed by all major churches.

Schools affected are what are called voluntary-aided and special agreement schools, as distinct from entirely state-aided and controlled schools. There are almost 10,000 of them, the vast majority being denominational in character.

NEWS THAT they would get increased government aid was announced in the House of Commons by Minister of Education Anthony Crosland. He said representations had been made to him by the Church of England (Anglican), the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and the Free Church Federal Council about the need to provide a further measure of financial help to voluntary-aided schools if they were to play their full part in forthcoming developments in primary and secondary education.

These developments include a large increase in school building programs made necessary by the rapidly growing school population.

Mr. Crosland added that, following these presentations, the government had had discussions with representatives of the Churches and Britain's political parties. They had concluded that a further measure of government help for the schools was justified and therefore proposed to increase the rate of grant to projects at existing schools and enlarge the scope of grants and loans for projects such as completely new schools.

"These proposals have been accepted by the Churches, although they fall short of what the Churches have asked," Mr. Crosland added. The changes would require legislation which the government hoped to introduce soon.

## Brother Joins Peace Corps

Washington — (NC) — A Catholic Brother will leave March 1 to become number two man in the world's largest Peace Corps contingent, the 700 Americans serving in Nigeria.

He is Brother Leo V. Ryan, C.S.V., a nationally known educator who will be the first Catholic cleric to join the Peace Corps. Protestant ministers have served before.

Brother Ryan, who has been involved in Peace Corps activities on college campuses since 1961, also will be the first Catholic cleric to join the Peace Corps' invitation that clerics, seminarians and nuns take "civica sabbaticals" in overseas service.

A member of the Clerics of St. Victor, Brother Ryan said in an interview here he will serve 30 months in the corps, 24 months overseas.

The Nigeria contingent of which he will be deputy director, is rated as the Peace Corps' showcase in Africa. Volunteers have been pouring in a steady

stream. The emphasis is on staffing of schools.

The Brother, whose specialty is business administration and management, will take a leave of absence from his post as chairman of the department of management at Loyola University, Chicago. His religious community considers him on "special assignment."

"It all began," he said here, "with an informal call on a Saturday afternoon asking me if I would be interested in serving."

"I agreed quickly. I see it as a natural extension of the Church's tradition of action in

behalf of the needy. It fits in with my belief that we are going to see a re-thinking of the nature of the apostolate and the role of cooperation with government when its interest and ours overlap," he said.

### TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

| BASES OF RETURN |        |
|-----------------|--------|
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| 70              | 17.5   |
| 80              | 27.3   |

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3



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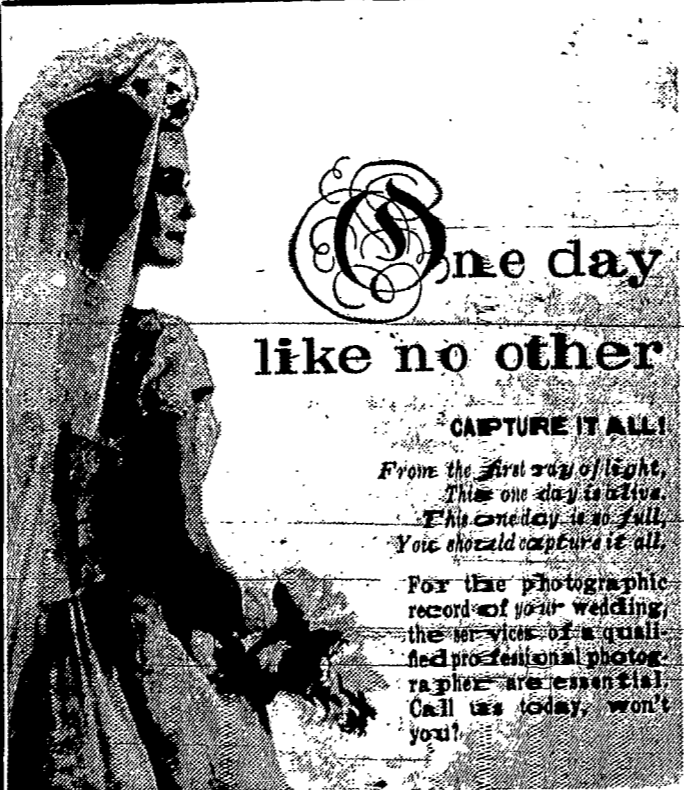
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