

Faith without Political Action is Called 'Hollow'

Omaha (NC) — Christianity must be expressed politically or its philosophy and theology will be only "hollow terms," a Creighton University theology instructor told the Seventh Annual Great Plains Conference on the Apostolate here.

Modern man "seems to understand some of the complex terms and mysteries of religion," Jerald E. Maier said, "but when the message of love in the Gospel is expressed politically — such as a minority group proclaiming their rights — the understanding is reduced to ugly and violent actions by these professed Christians."

"This happened in Chicago recently when a group of Negroes marched into a Christian neighborhood and asked for equal rights," he said. "Their request was greeted by a stormy protest."

The "rock-throwing riots" in Chicago, he added, show "that the Gospel of Christ must be expressed politically. Otherwise the fanciful words of philosophy and theology are only hollow terms."

The Vatican Council, he said, "emphasized the vital role of political change in coping with the multiple problems of our times. The council underscored the development of culture and the ways men or-

ganize themselves. It stressed the social and economic life of Christians and the life in a political community."

"The Council pointed to the key role that political change has in our society and its power for good. And finally, it urged the formation of a community of nations to cooperate in the struggle for freedom and justice."

Maier, program chairman for the conference, urged the audience to make its influence felt in the world.

"You must divorce yourselves eventually from 'ghetto-like groups' and permeate the world by exerting leadership and influence on every level."

A Fullerton, Neb., Methodist pastor echoed the call for Christian involvement in the world, and declared:

"There would have been no freedom march in Selma, Ala., without the men of the church."

"In fact," added the Rev. Thomas Rehorn, "the subversive or hoodlum elements that were present were snowed under by the church on that occasion."

He said, "The fact that ministers, priests, nuns-

and rabbis marched helped to unload communism's guns. Communist publications were forced to recognize that the church of America was waging war on discrimination and injustice."

"We should never allow the disenfranchised, at any stage of achievement of equality, to say, 'Where was the church when we made this advance?' If we don't open our arms to the disinherited, we will eventually become the disinherited," he warned.

He said he does not believe recent racial clashes are tearing the country apart.

"Actually, the unrest is a portent of a new day that is coming. We are undergoing the birth pains of that new day."

He added, "If we are content with the status quo, then we must remove the words 'liberty and justice for all' from the pledge of allegiance and jail our priests, ministers and rabbis who preach the sacredness of human dignity."

He urged a more vigorous role for churches in fighting man's inhumanity to man. "If indeed we are created to the image and likeness of God, then there really is no multiplicity of races but rather only one race, the oneness of mankind."

"In a world that has grown smaller because of communications and transportation developments, it becomes all the more imperative that we become one family of human beings," he added.

"Although many individual priests, ministers and rabbis have taken up the challenge of racial equality, much remains to be done by the total structures of churches and religions. We have the manpower and the words for weapons in the battle; now we must use them to the fullest extent," he declared.

"Of all the institutions in our society, the church can't afford to ignore the social revolt of the disadvantaged."

"As Christ was working among the blind, the deaf and the sick, so too must the people of the church work among these people," he said.

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Nurses Told

No Substitute for Compassion

Pittsburgh (NC) — The concept of "love in service" as a balancing force in the "winds of change" currently sweeping both the Catholic Church and modern hospital service was emphasized by a succession of speakers at the 13th biennial convention of the National Council of Catholic Nurses.

More than 650 Catholic nurses from all over the nation attended the convention. Theme was "The Catholic Nurse in the Winds of Change." Introducing the notion of "love in service" was keynote speaker Mrs. Grace Gould, western Director of the National League for Nursing.



"Only love renders us truly effective," Mrs. Gould said of the nurses' role in the new, automated hospital. "Some of us are worried about how to operate the new machines. Well, there will be specialists to monitor the machines, and later there will be machines to monitor the machines."

"But there is no substitute for the compassion of the human heart. With all their machines," said Mrs. Gould, "they will need our human service as they have never needed it before."

In the perfecting of her "human service" today's nurse needs an education not merely in the technical skills of her craft, but also in the psychology of the human person and the effects of today's problem environment, said Sister Thomas Aquinas, R.S.M., president of Mt. Mercy College, Pittsburgh.

Speaking on a panel exploring "The Nurses' Right to Be," Sister Thomas Aquinas told the nurses: "You are much more aware than I am of the temptation to depersonalize nursing inherent in the elaborate machinery and powerful drugs. There has been widespread decrying of the passing of the bedside nurse."

"If the nurse for her own good and for the good of her love for others could expand her capacity for understanding of the complex cares, fears, ambitions, frustrations of the patients with whom she is dealing," she continued, "the total hospital environment would become once again, as it was in the earlier days of almost complete personal encounter of patient with nurse, a really human situation."

Local Sisters At Texas Meet

Sister Evangelist, Director of Novices, and Sister Dorothy Agnes, Formation Co-ordinator of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, are attending this week the Ninth Workshop in Spirituality for Directors, sponsored by the Sister Formation Conference. The workshop is being held at Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, Texas, from Aug. 23-30.

Father Elio Gambari, S.M.M., from the Sacred Congregation of Religious in Rome is giving daily talks to the Sister-Directors on the theme "Religious Renewal and the Decrets of Vatican II" and is conducting a daily journal period.

Father Paul A. Hinnebusch, O.P., will give a series of four lectures on the subject of "Religion and the Decrets of Vatican II" and gave a paper during the introductory session on Aug. 23, entitled "Presentation of a Directory of Formation Concepts."

Plan Annual Golf Tourney

Members of the committee of the Auburn Council, Knights of Columbus plan for the annual golf tournament for members and guests at the Auburn Golf and Country Club Wednesday, August 31 with tee-off time at 11 a.m. An Award Dinner will follow. Seated are: Paul W. Lattimore Jr., George J. Shayer, and Chris J. McEvoy, Co-chairmen; (standing) Jeriah W. McCarthy, John E. Herbert, John F. Monaco and Grand Knight Arnans O. Tala. Members of the committee who were absent were Michael Bayus, T. R. Herbert and Dr. Rocco Impaglia.

Theology Need

Change or be 'Untrue'

Providence (RNS) — Today's theologian must come to grips with the times and constant changes or it will be not only irrelevant but also "untrue," the Catholic Theological Society of America was told at its 21st annual meeting here.

Dominican Father Gerard A. Vanderhaar, O.P., assistant professor of theology at Providence College, said the theologian must be concerned with today's reality. This means, he said, the theologian must be attuned to the world in its political, economic and social dimensions and must try to obtain an ever better knowledge of contemporary man.

Theology, said Father Vanderhaar, must make use of contemporary sciences, especially those which probe the life and activities of man: psychology, sociology, economics, political science, as well as the natural sciences and their technological offspring.

The Dominican priest said today's reality is so vast that the knowledge explosion has

put beyond human reach, probably forever, the possibility of one man attaining the universal grasp that St. Thomas Aquinas showed.

Thomism is no longer an adequate philosophical base for theology, Father Vanderhaar continued, observing that the

theology emerging from the Second Vatican Council was not clearly Thomistic.

Instead, he said, the theology of Vatican II was Biblical history and pastoral.

At the same time, the priest said, Thomism cannot be abandoned outright, but must be looked upon with the work of other great thinkers as lifelines of tradition to the good thing of the past while striking ahead in partial darkness toward relevant theology.

Concluding, he warned that "we must be alert not to develop a rigid new system in place of the rigid old system."

City Post



LAWRENCE EDENHOEFER

Hanson Week In November

Walter Hendl, director of the Eastman School of Music, announced this week that a special Howard Hanson week is being scheduled Nov. 28 to Dec. 2 at the School in honor of his predecessor, Dr. Howard Hanson, who will observe his 70th birthday in October. Dr. Hanson retired in 1964 after 40 years as director of the Eastman School.

In observance of Dr. Hanson's 70th birthday anniversary, Mr. Hendl conducted the Hanson First Symphony (the "Nordic") at Champlain on August 2, and Mercury Records will soon release Dr. Hanson's own recording with the Eastman-Rochester Orchestra of his Symphony No. 3. Details of programs for Hanson Week at Eastman will be announced after the beginning of the academic year.

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Nun E Teach

San-Quentin-ter Mary Anita, is nursing in San Quentin first in a penal institution accredited by a state vocational nurse exam "What this means," ter Anita, a Sister "is that after these served their sentences will return to society ing worthwhile work in which there is a — as male, licensed nurses."

She said it has already demonstrated "that gram is worthwhile." Two men who are in the program — who paroled before they completed their course — stay in prison until able to complete their course.

Part of the training place in San Quentin hospital. After parole

Dutch Prel Celib

Utrecht (RN) felt a close affinity for which it is no Scripture," Bernard Alfrink, Archbishop declared here.

However, he told 22 seminarians on who just conferred the su — the first of many preceding ordination should they regret vow of celibacy after priests "you will first bishop an understan ther."

"In every human ment, mistakes are made," he said, ad ever, that "don't be mistakes are an against clerical celib

"It is not the indivi ful nor the candida Orders who has a ri cide whether celibacy obligatory" the car tained. "Only the Ch has the authority to decision. At present, asks her priests to state of celibacy on own free will after preparation. Such a not taken by mino adults in full fre

Cardinal Alfrink t inarians that priest "demands a certain life determined by elements which, for part, you have in hands."

"You know," he decision binds you trust and pray you regret this decision. "Should you ever however, I will on will find in your understanding fathe

"From my experie inary professor an know there may be sonal circumstances you gave your asse

Spanish Ma Text Ready Madrid (RNS) — of new liturgical te ish and Catalan wa here by the Liturgi sion of the Spanish Conference.

The commission ginning Aug. 15, ceremonies in Spain form to the new texts. Catalan is t of Catalonia, the area bordering on the Mediterranean.

CYNTHIA I PUT MY SHOES IN A PLASTIC BAG SO THE WONT GET WET

THE WHEEL