# Why One Bible for All Christians?

WAVERLY N.Y. (By Religious News Service)

#### CLARK'S SUPERETTE

COURIER JOURNAL

Friday, Nov. 25, 1966

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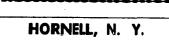
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LIQUOR STORE Inc. Phone AL 3-6051	By this action, Vatican II not only supported what Biblical scholars had been seeking for years—a Bible for common use by Protestants and Catholics — but gave the Christian unity
	movement what was generally regarded as a tremendous boost.

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One of the less publicized but nighly significant decisions of the Second Vatican Council was set forth in an article of its decree on Divine Revelation which stressed the need for making the Bible both more universally available and more Declaring that "easy access to Sacred Scripture should be provided for all the Christian faithful," the article then went on to say that "if, given the opportunity and approval of Church authority, translations are produced in cooperation with the separate brethren, all Christians will be able to use them." By this action, Vatican II not nly supported what Biblical cholars had been seeking for

> New York-(RNS)-Pope Paul's unprecedented authorization for Catholic study of the feasibility of a common Catholic-Protestant Bible has given added importance to he work of this interreligious group of Bible scholars and educators. The four experts shown here have been working on a Bible Reader, readily adaptable for use in public school courses that promote study "about" the Bible. They are, left o right, Dr. Rolfe Lanier Hunt, associate editor of the International Journal of Religious Education: Rabbi Arthur Gilbert, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Department of Religious Curriculum; Father Walter M. Abbott, S.J., assistant to Augustin Cardinal Bea in conducting the study directed by the Pope; and Rev. J. Carter Swaim, minister, Church of the Covenant here and former director of the NCC's Department of the English Bible.

same time, the various national scholars of all the Churches. Since then, an impressive arepiscopal conferences, have would cooperate in such a proj. ray of Protestant and Catholic The choice of Father Abbott been informed about the study would cooperate in such a proj-was considered highly appro-concerning a common Bible and Smed of the Ecumenical Patri have discussed and encouraged priate. An authority on the sent a questionnaire on the Synod of the Ecumenical Patri- the proposal, although pointing Scriptures, the 43 year-old Bos- needs, possibilities and difficul- archate would authorize its use." out difficulties arising from dif-

ton-born priest had for many ties in each area with regard years championed a common to Bible translation and distri-The announcement from Rome came some six months

exegetical understanding Among those listed on the after Richard Cardinal Cushing,

Although Father Dyson died

Father Abbott's appointment societies, and it is expected that official approval, to the Oxford of Holland. Franz Cardinal Brotestants came just after he had-along this experience will provide Annotated Bible with the Apoc-Koenig of Austria; Leo Joseph with three other experts, two useful models for wider direc- rypha, first published by the Cardinal Suenens of Belgium,

tives emanating later from the Oxford Press in England in Joseph Cardinal Frings of Ger-1962. The text of the Oxford many; John Cardinal Heenan Bible was that of the Revised of England Archbishop Paul J. Father Abbott meanwhile rep-Standard Version, which was Hallinan of Atlanta, Ga., Arch-

that promote study "about" the resented the secretariat at the translated and published in bishop John P. Cody of Chicago, annual meeting of the Advisory 1946 and 1952 under the spon- and Bishop John J. Wright of Council of the American Bible His colleagues were Dr. Rolfe Society in mid-November. This of Churches. The cardinal's ap-

anier Hunt, associate editor of organization - the largest of Favorable Protestant reaction the International Journal of the Bible societies — discussed time Catholics and Protestants has come meanwhile from such Religious Education; the Rev. the possibility of cooperating had a common Bible but one Religious Education; the new the possibility of cooperating had a common blote out one bishop Edwin Morris of wates, J. Carter Swaim, minister of with the Catholic Church in that could be used only for such Method ist Bishop Fred Pierce the Covenant United Presby-Society projects in various non-liturgical purposes as Bible Corson of Philadelphia; William teian Church in New York and countries.

readings and study groups. F. Albright, prominent Metho-Bible societies around the Last October, however, a new dist Biblical scholar; F. P. world, almost entirely Protes- Catholic Bible translation ap- Brice, Rylands professor of Bibthe National Council of Church-es; and Rabbi Arthur Gilbert. tant organizations, have been peared which its sponsors indi-director of the Department of the Bible mankind's most widely director of the Department of back and stimulating its 

to Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants of the Englishspeaking world — whose total population for outnumbers that of any other language group has become a definite possibil-An official theologian at atican II, Father Maly is on he faculty of Mount St. Mary Seminary of the West in Norood, Ohio.

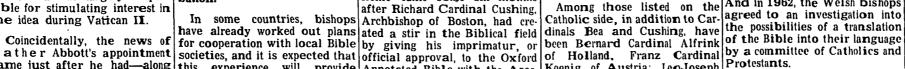
of the Bible acceptable alike

Archbishop Hallinan was uoted around the same time as saying that "we would all ejoice if out of the world meet ings of Protestants and Catho ics there would emerge the commitment to work on the production of a common Bible for too long our Bibles have been arsenals from which both sides took texts to throw at each other." The same idea was voiced by Bishop Wright who contended that "a commor Bible ... is very possible," and by Archbishop Cody who said 'such a Bible would be one of the great results of the Vatican C**oun**cil.'

It is interesting to recall that shortly before the open ing of Vatican II in 1962, Car dinal Frings and other bishops of Germany set a notable ex ample by giving Catholic schol ars permission to prepare a new translation of the Bible in collaboration with Protestant schol-

In February, 1961, Cardinal Alfrink and the other Dutch bishops accepted a new translation of the New Testament which had been made by the Catholic Bible Society of St.

Willibrord with the help of Protestant scholars. In France, French translation of the Gospel According to St. Luke -also a joint Catholic-Protestant project --- had been proferences in terminology and duced for distribution by Catholic and Protestant colporteurs. And in 1962, the Welsh bishops



## Nuns in Public School May Break Segregation

New Orleans — (RNS) — Archbishop Philip M. Hannan has offered to help a public high school which has been beset with problems brought on by a federal court's order to desegregate.

The Roman Catholic prelate's offer of teaching nuns was refused because public school officials, in order to avoid the question of church-state separation, said they preferred to have lay teachers.

The problems for the school in Plaquemines civil parish (county) first started with the establishment of five private schools. These were set up to evade a New Orleans Federal District Court order to desegregate six grades in Plaquemines public schools this Fall.

The public grade and high schools in Belle Chasse were closed in mid-October when enrollment dropped from 1,800 to fewer than 100 pupils in the 12 grades. The drop in the number of teachers was proportional.



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lects.

he National Council of Church-

But the big news came early

in November when Pope Paul VI authorized the Vatican Secre-

tariat for Promoting Christian

Unity to study the possibility of

producing common Catholic-

Protestant Bibles. Named as

personal assistant to Augustin

Cardinal Bea, head of the secre-

tariat, to direct the studies was

an American Jesuit, Father

Walter M. Abbott, formerly an

associate editor of the weekly

sible for stimulating interest in

Protestant and one Jewish —

Reader readily adaptable for

use in U.S. public school courses

the idea during Vatican II.

Bible and was largely respon- bution.

completed work on a Bible Holy See.

review. America.

Bible



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GUIDE

century ago when Protestant and Catholic scholars began to A TRULY Store window displays and newspaper adveragree on what Greek and Hetisements remind us that Christmas is not too brew manuscripts were the best far off. . . . Is Christmas shopping a problem ones to use as a basis for transfor you? Whatto give at Christmas to your relatives and friends need not be a puzzle any lati**on**. longer.... Use our newly designed Christmas Gift Cards featuring a full color picture of "Our Lady of the East".... Complete your Christmas gift list now. It's simple. Select a In a statement also welcoming he Vatican announcement, Archbishop Iakovos of New

ork, head of the Greek Orthogift from the list below, send us the person's dox Archdiocese of North and name and address with your donation-and South America, said the producwe do all the rest. We'll send that person or tion of a Bible acceptaible to persons a Gift Card before Christmas, saying Christians would be of a]] what you have done ... At the same time your "prime importance" in the quest for Christian unity. He said: meaningful gift will give millions of people the Hope of the Christ Child.

"We would want one Bible for all Christians provided that

### **Prelate Give** OK to Y

Fort Wayne-(RNS)-Bishop Leo A. Pursley of Fort Wayne. South Bend has approved Catholic membership in Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association units "for those who have reason to join."

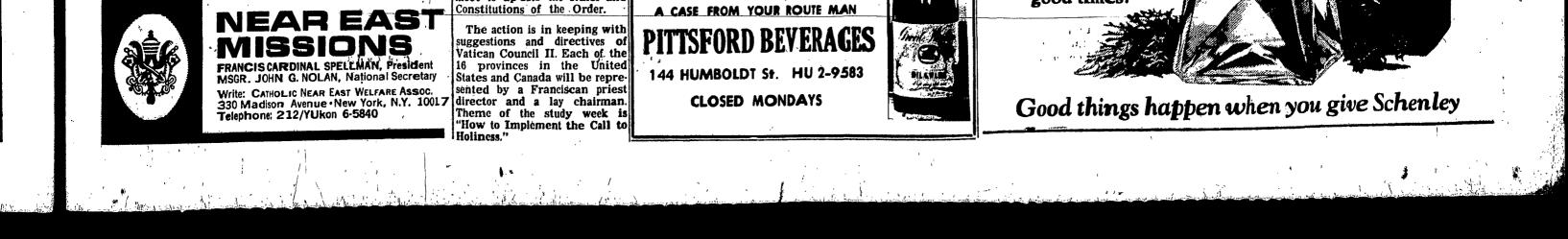
The bishop said he based his decision on assurances from 'Y" units in the 14-county diocese that they do "not promote any specific Christian creed or practice" and that they encourage "each member to be faithful to the teachings and practices of his own Church."

your offering, the names of your friends and loves ones, living and deceased. Bishop Pursley initiated diaogue between Catholic youth The good you can do by remembering the and "Y" leaders by sponsoring missions in your will goes to your credit eter-nally. Our legal title: CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELa meeting of the two groups last spring.



THE CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION

STATE\_\_\_\_ZIP CODE\_



original sources made by Cathauthorization, the Vatican unity secretariat has already begun to gather information about the translation, production and dis-translation of the Bible through-out the Catholic Church. At the will make possible much better translation than we could ever Said Father Abbott: "The olic scholars in Great Britain.

translation than we could ever have produced ourselves in many cases." As a leading proponent of a common Protestant - Catholic Bible, Father Abbott is follow-the same Commandments, and

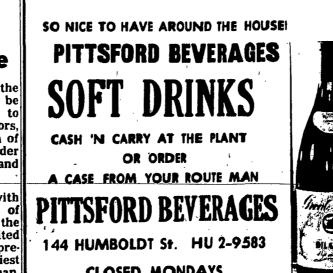
The chief of translations for the American Bible Society is Dr. Eugene A. Nida. Halling the Vatican announcement, he said the possibility of a joint Protestart Cathelia Bible Protestart Cathelia Bible Protestart Cathelia Bible Reference of Bible Society is Dr. Eugene A. Nida. Halling the Vatican announcement, he cal Institute in Rome, who de-Discussions on a common

Protestant-Catholic Bible meant that "the Church politicians" York in 1959: "If we are going when Father Eugene H. Maly, have caught up with the schol-ars." Intercreedal translations of the Bible, he said, had be-come possible as long as half a century ago when Besteriat lished article that "a version



### Medals for GI's in Vietnam

New York-(RNS)-Some 16,500 religious medials for U.S. soldiers in Vietnam are blessed by Cardinal Spellman. Looking on is Anthony B. Caramele, chairman of the Knights of Columbus' New York Chapter which donated the medals.



Naturally! It mixes beautifully... with soda, ice, people, good times!

