



Council Journalist Dies

New York — (RNS) — Dr. Claud D. Nelson, a pioneer in the fields of ecumenical, interracial, and world and industrial relations, died Oct. 25 at the age of 78. He is shown in front of St. Peter's Basilica while in Rome covering the Second Vatican Council for Religious News Service. He reported on all four sessions of Vatican II from the viewpoint of Protestants interested in Christian unity. At the time of his death he was consultant to the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was a former executive director of the National Council of Churches' Religious Liberty Department, and served the YMCA for more than 30 years in this country and abroad. Among his many writings were "The Vatican Council and All Christians," published in 1962, and "Religion and Society: The Ecumenical Impact," in 1966.

Brazil Clergy Ask Reforms

Rio De Janeiro — (NC) — Bishop Jose Goncalves, secretary of the Brazilian bishops' conference, confirmed the existence of a letter addressed by 300 Brazilian priests to the national bishops and demanding radical reforms of the Church's pastoral activity.

The bishop's confirmation followed publication of the letter in Rio de Janeiro's Ultima Hora and the internationally-distributed French Catholic weekly, Informations Catholiques Internationales.

Deeply shocking Brazilian public opinion, the letter urged total and radical transformation of current pastoral methods and

presented suggestions by which the proposed transformations could be introduced. The statement, claiming that "Brazil is no longer the Catholic country we were accustomed to believe in," specified:

— That Brazilian citizens are oppressed by unjust social structures.

— That the Brazilian government spends more money on the nation's armed forces than on health, education and other primary necessities.

— That the Church is paternalistic.

— That priests are prisoners of a "pastoral machine" that has

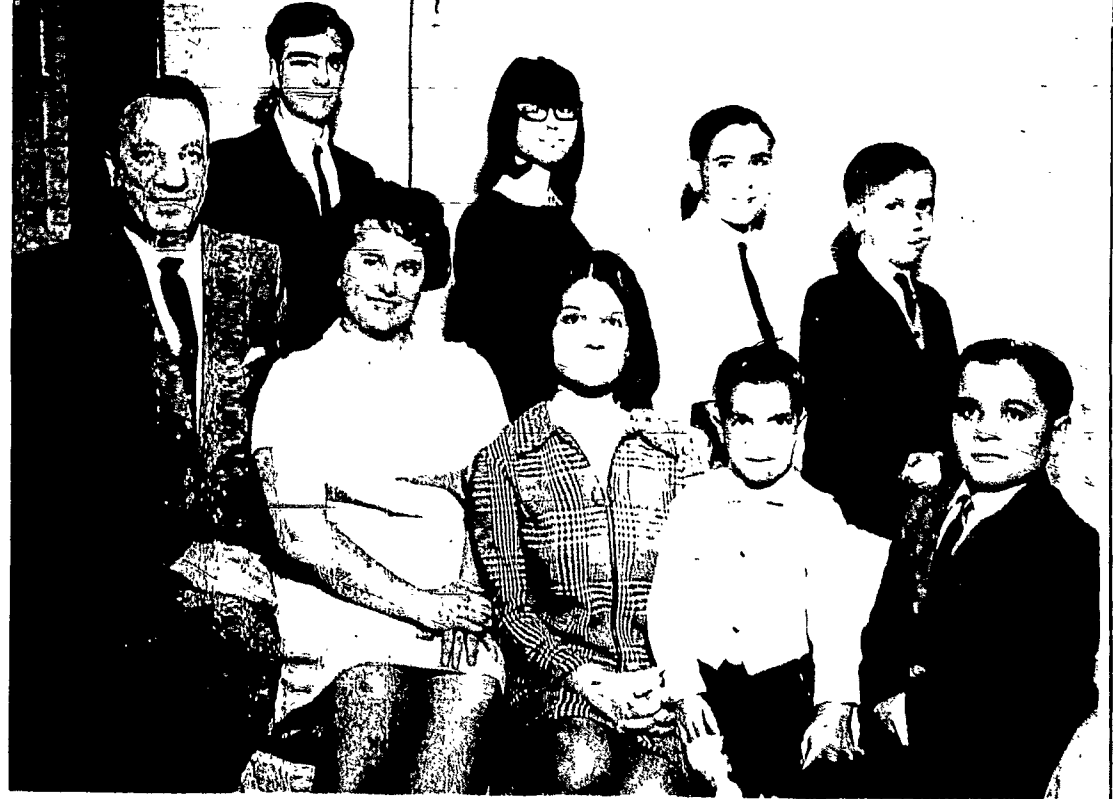
no dialogue with the population.

— That the Church spends too much on luxurious buildings.

— That priests who abandoned the ministry and married need a general amnesty because they are no longer interested in seeking a dispensation from the Vatican through official channels.

Officials of the Porto Alegre archdiocese, responding to the letter, commented that a letter signed by so many men of unquestioned sincerity had to be taken seriously, but added a regret that the bishops had not received the statement before it appeared in the press.

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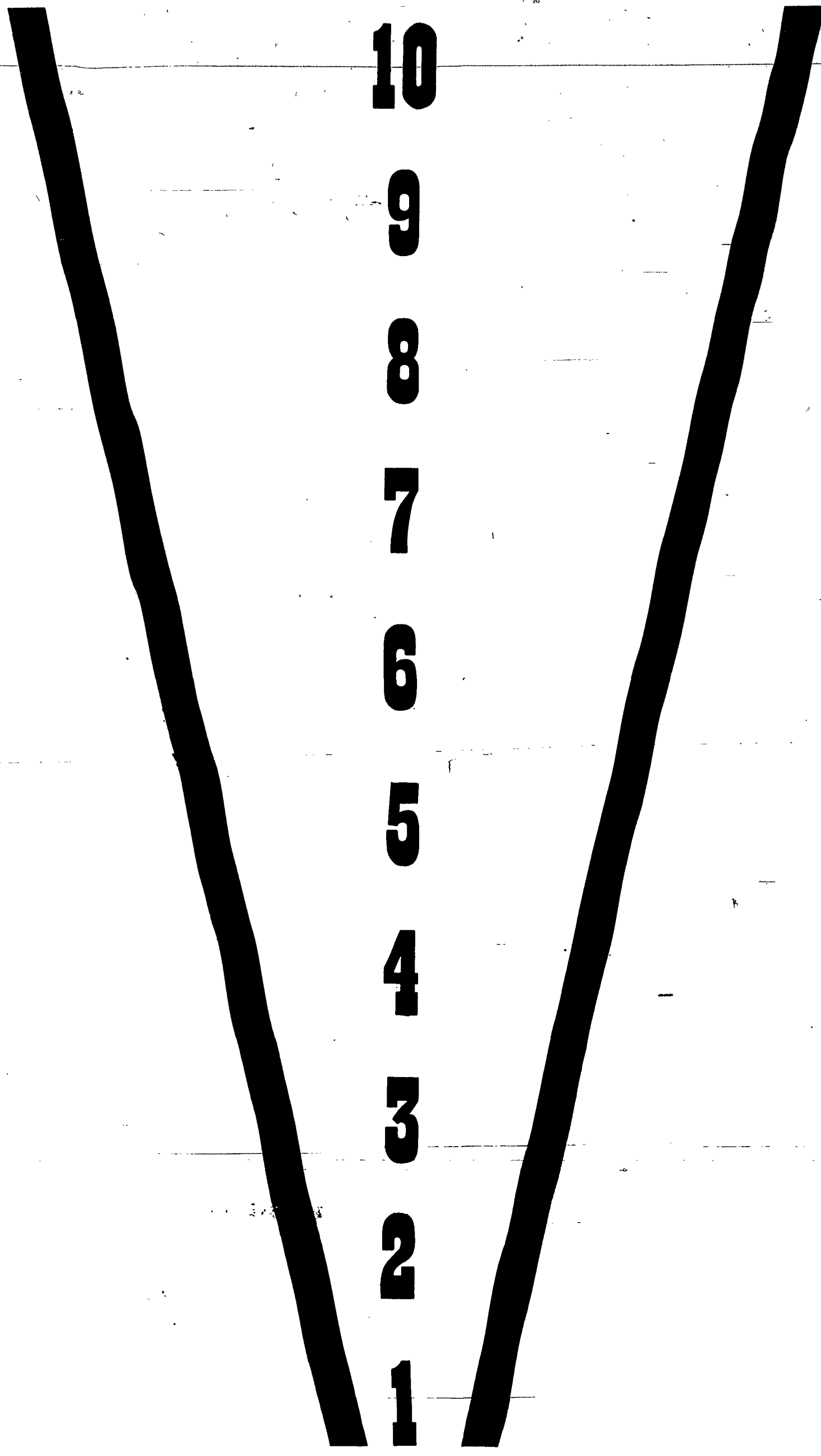
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COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Past President, Holy Name Society; Nocturnal Adoration Society; Notre Dame Retreat Leader; Trustee St. Andrews Church; Committeeman, 22nd Ward Democratic Committee.

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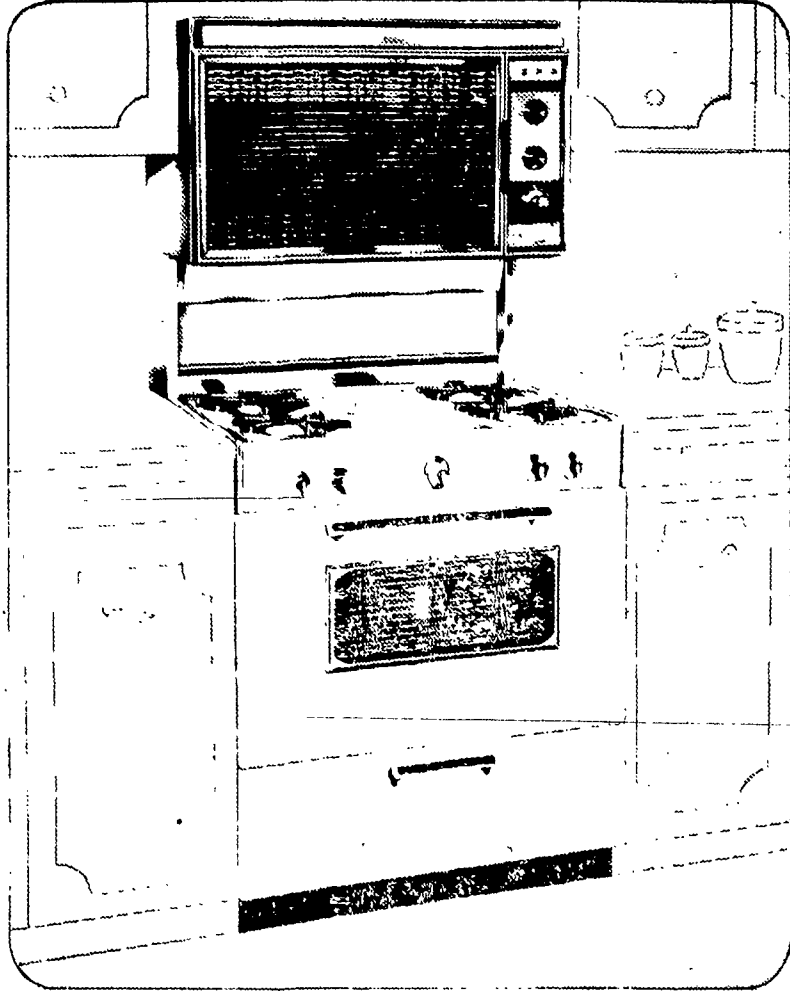
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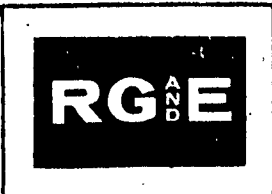
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Grand Rapids — "People of God," that part of it with man Catholic ne magazines, was th tention here at Regional Conven Catholic Press As

A number of ed at workshops and sions, gave profile audiences reached publications, a n stressed the impo ing a voice to the listening to it as municating infor ideas.

Msgr. Vincent editor of the nat weekly. Our Sunda that editors shou "new direction" s the "traditional t phrase: Vox popu (the voice of the voice of God."

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