

Theology Schools To Share Profs

Washington (NC)—An exchange of faculty for graduate courses in theology will begin next February between the Catholic University of America, Methodist Wesley Theological Seminary of Washington, and Virginia Episcopal Seminary of Alexandria.

The agreement calls for an exchange of four faculty members in the spring semester of 1968, each teaching a two-hour course to graduate students.

One of Catholic University's staff, theologian Father Charles E. Curran, will teach a course on natural law at Wesley, in the area of theological thought termed personal and social ethics by Protestants.

(Father Curran is a priest of the Rochester diocese.)

In exchange, Wesley will send Dr. Douglas Chandler to Catholic University to teach a course on John Wesley and Methodism in the United States.

From Virginia Episcopal Seminary, Dr. C. Fitzsimmons Allison will come to Catholic University to teach the Reformation as seen by early Anglican clergymen. C.U. will send Father Patrick Granfield, who is an editor of the American Ecclesiastical Review, to give a course on contemporary theology in dialogue.

Details of the agreement, reached after a series of exploratory talks initiated by Catholic University, were contained in a statement released jointly by Father Walter J. Schmitz, S.S., dean of the C.U. school of theology, Dr. J. J. Knight of Wesley and Dean T. Hundall Harvey of Virginia Episcopal Seminary.

Father Schmitz also announced that Rabbi Eugene J. Lipman of Temple Sinai, Washington, will join the C.U. theology faculty as a lecturer to teach a graduate course on the thought of Judaism. He will be the first Jewish theologian to teach a regularly scheduled course on the school of theology faculty.

Father Schmitz said of the faculty exchange agreement that "it is easier to move one man across town than a class of 50 or 60 students. We gain by receiving directly from Protestant scholars discussions or aspects of the reform period such as the Wesleyan tradition, John Knox, or John Calvin. We are able to reciprocate with a good variety of offerings on contemporary Catholic theology. The gain is living contact with a man articulating something personal an' dot speaking as an observer."

Father Schmitz said the exchange will help each institution in areas in which its current faculty needs strengthening. The three theology faculties will meet again in March to explore the possibility of further cooperation.



Washington (RNS) — Catholic University of America, Wesley (Methodist) Theological Seminary, and Virginia Episcopal Seminary of Alexandria will exchange faculty members for theological graduate courses next February. Shown at the announcement of the ecumenical agreement are, from left, Dean T. Hundall Harvey of the Episcopal seminary;

Father Walter J. Schmitz, dean of Catholic University's School of Theology; Dr. Douglas Chandler of Wesley, who will be an exchange teacher; Dr. John J. Knight, president of Wesley Seminary; and Dr. C. F. Allison of Virginia Episcopal Seminary, and Father Charles Curran of Catholic University, participating teachers.

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Priests' Role Changing Fast

Chicago (RNS)—The role of the American Roman Catholic priest eventually will resemble that of his Protestant counterpart, a priest predicted here.

Father Andrew M. Greeley, senior study director of the National Opinion Research Center, said that "the organizational style of the American Church and the role and status of the priest will become increasingly similar to that of the Protestant minister."

"I am not saying that priests are going to become Protestants theologically," emphasized the University of Chicago sociology teacher.

Father Greeley was a speaker in a three-day symposium sponsored by the Association of Chicago Priests on "Ministry in the Church: Study of the role of the priest in the modern world."

Father Greeley called the Catholic priest in American society "essentially a religious leader" whose role is "changing, expanding, becoming more pluralistic, and more Protestant—that is to say, more American."

Things to Come

He said he sees the following developments within the Catholic priesthood:

—Increasingly collegial (democratic) decision-making. Decision-making will become increasingly collegial. The authoritarian one-man rule (not to say tyranny) of the past is as dead as a doornail and so, too, is the individualism of the clergy which has inhibited our cooperation one with another.

—Decline of the pastor-curate relationship. "I perceive a possibility that the pastor-curate relationship is going to survive very far into the future, and I will not pretend

to hide my joy at the demise of this last remnant of feudalism. A situation where one professional colleague has all the power and authority and the other has none, where one serves completely at the whim of the other and has, in theory at least, not the slightest bit of initiative or responsibility of his own, is not only un-Christian; it is inefficient, unprofessional, and quite un-American."

—Popular participation in the manner of selection of Church leadership. "The Americanization process will almost certainly be a major shift in the manner of selection of Church leadership. Though for a few years there may continue to be strong resistance to popular participation, for example, in the selection of bishops, the pressures in this direction will ultimately prove irresistible."

Qualities Called For

—A display of expertise and competence if a priest wishes to earn the "credibility" of his flock. "It will no longer be expected that the priest will be respected and followed merely because he is a priest."

—Greater emphasis on professional standards for priests. "Sloppy, unpunctual, amateurish behavior, was excused in the priest at one time. It will not be excused in the years to come."

—Greater emphasis on the priestly leaders' ability to obtain consent in giving orders and making decisions. "The present model of clerical leadership seems to assume that it is enough for the priest to give orders or to make decisions, and that obedience will be automatic. However, as the structures of the Catholic Church in this country are more Protestantized, far greater emphasis will be placed on the

priestly leaders' ability to obtain consent . . .

—More concern with intellectual matters. "At one time anti-intellectualism was not only permitted among Catholic priests; it was deemed a positive virtue. . . but it is no longer tolerable."

—More chance for a priest to choose the kind of work he wants to do. "Men will have far greater opportunity to choose the kind of work they want to do, the place where they will do it, and the conditions under which they will work."

The emergence of a "plurality of models" for the priestly ministry. "In years to come no one will dream of . . . saying that one kind of behavior and one kind only can lay claim to being priestly."

—Less caste distinction between clergy and laity. "The clerical culture in which the priest spent most of his time, emerging from it only for a periodic, transitory contact with lay people, is already in its death throes," Father Greeley concluded.

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Says Sermon Aimed at LBJ Unfair Tactic

Camden, N.J. (RNS) — The editor of a Roman Catholic newspaper here described the Williamsburg, Va., minister's sermon challenge to President Johnson as "thoroughly unfair and unnecessary."

Msgr. Salvatore J. Adamo, executive editor of the Catholic Star Herald, Camden diocesan newsweekly, said:

"The pulpit is no place for personal attacks. A preacher should confine himself to issues, not personalities."

He was referring to the comments made by Dr. Cotesworth Pickney Lewis of historic Bruton Parish in Williamsburg. The Episcopal clergyman made his remarks in a sermon while the President, a Disciples of Christ layman, was attending services in his church.

Msgr. Adamo, writing in his regular column, said that, like Dr. Lewis, he opposed the way President Johnson is carrying on the war.

"But," Msgr. Adamo said, "I don't think I would ever be justified in attacking him from the pulpit of the cathedral in Camden if he happened to stop in for a visit. There's a time and place for everything."

Maintaining that the basic tenets of good sportsmanship did not exist when Dr. Lewis made his statements, Msgr. Adamo explained that the President "was trapped in the pews. He had come to worship, not to be lectured. As it developed, he couldn't do the former without enduring the latter."

"To put any worshipper in such a position is unfair and unjustified," he said. "A preacher can make his points without pointing a finger at someone in the pews."

Canal Sesquicentennial
 The Erie Canal, celebrating its sesquicentennial this year, was a boon to the cities of New York, says the State Commerce Department. Rochester, for example, had 331 inhabitants before construction of the canal started. By 1828, three years after the canal opened, Rochester had a population of 11,000.

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