

## Around The Country

### Humphrey Sees Censorship in Protests

Washington, D.C.—(RNS)—Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey says some militant groups feel they have cornered the market in social justice and virtue and share a basic intolerance for the views of others.

At a convocation marking the 75th anniversary of Methodist-related American University, the Vice President said that when militant minorities think they alone represent the next step is "intolerance for the rights of others."

He particularly commented on campus demonstrations.

"When some Americans cannot visit a university campus in safety—much less make their views heard—censorship is at work," he said. "You say it can't happen in America? I say it has happened and it is happening."

### Catholic Colleges Plan Jewish Studies

South Orange, N.J.—(NC)—Three institutes of Jewish studies will be held on Catholic college campuses this summer, according to the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The program will be conducted at Marymount College, Tarrytown, N.Y., Wheeling College, W.Va., and Barat College, Lake Forest, Ill.

### Anglican Theologian at Catholic U.

Washington, D.C.—(RNS)—Anglican theologian Eric Lionel Mascall of the University of London, has been invited to deliver the Charles A. Hart Memorial Lectures at Catholic University of America.

Author of "The Secularization of Christianity," Dr. Mascall will be the first Anglican to make a major theological presentation at the university. His lectures, he said, "are intended as a program rather than as a prophecy. Recent events in the ecumenical sphere have shown prophecy to be unwise."

### War Resolution Aimed at Both Sides

San Diego—(RNS)—A resolution on Vietnam adopted here by the General Board of the National Council of Churches welcomed recent U.S. assurances that nuclear weapons will not be used in the conflict, warned against further "Americanization" of the war, and appealed to Hanoi for "restraint."

The Board urged Churches to continue to study and debate the Vietnam issue and "to resist hardening of attitudes."

## Italian Bishops

### They're Trying to Be Neutral, But—

A. GRAHAM, S.J.

Vatican City—(RNS)—In Italy, the line between religion and politics is hard to draw. Where you draw it usually depends on which side you stand.

This old truth is getting fresh confirmation as the national elections scheduled for the end of May draw nearer and the political atmosphere grows more tense.

In January, the Italian bishops thought they would speak their piece early so as not to have to make any statement later in the heat of the campaign.

Staying out of political controversy isn't easy, however. The January statement attempted to find a formula respecting the freedom of the individual to vote according to his conscience. "Certain conditions in the past," the bishops said, "which made the political unity of Catholics necessary, no longer exist."

The bishops also reaffirmed the right and intention of the Catholic Church to express its mind, forcefully if necessary, on public matters involving religious and moral issues.

At the same time, while admitting the legitimacy of multiple opinions in the temporal sphere, they appealed to Catholics to maintain their political unity.

This was a notable and new declaration of policy. It sought, in the bishops' mind, to give general orientation without enunciating any express and concrete political directives.

But it was not enough, in the

### Argentine Archbishop Named

Vatican City—(NC)—Father Blas Victorio Conero has been named by Pope Paul VI to be archbishop of Tucuman, Argentina. At the time of his nomination Bishop-elect Conero was pastor of the Church of the Infant of Prague in Cordoba.

opinion of some laymen and clerics with more far-reaching ideas.

Shortly afterwards, a group of Catholic intellectuals, editors, both laymen and priests, issued a statement of protest. They saw in the appeal for unity only "interference in political choices."

To them, the bishops' declaration was another bid for support of the Christian Democrats. What their own political opinions were they did not say but clearly it did not include support for the Christian Democrats.

The groups registering their protests did not include very many important names, but the Osservatore Romano was quick to pick up the challenge. In an unsigned editorial that had all the earmarks of having been written under the supervision of the Vatican Secretariat of State, it defended the right of the Church to speak on public affairs (meaning the divorce issue, among others) and it also insisted on the need for the political unity of Catholics.

Quite naturally, this editorial was interpreted—much more so than the bishops' own de-

claration—as a call for support of the Christian Democrats.

As for the president of the Episcopal Conference, Cardinal Urbani, he simply rejected the protest as unwarranted. And he urged that the pastoral statement be circulated and studied throughout the dioceses as a contribution to an understanding of the civic duties of Christians.

It would be too much to expect that the last word has been said on whether or not the Italian bishops, despite their obvious attempt to distance themselves from the electoral campaign, struck a blow for the Christian Democrats. It means something, however, that what they had to say, they said well in advance of the campaigning. They will say no more now.

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### Cardinal Roy Plans Latin America Tour

Vatican City—(RNS)—The promotion of social justice and national development will be the themes discussed and investigated by Maurice Cardinal Roy in a month-long tour of ten Latin American countries, a Vatican official announced here.

Cardinal Roy's visit, beginning March 1 in Brazil, will include consultations with the episcopal conferences of various nations. The cardinal is president of the Justice and Peace Commission, as well as Archbishop of Quebec.

In each city, he will meet with bishops, priests and laymen specially involved in social action. He will also give press, radio and television conferences on the themes of social justice and development.

### Chilean Priests Call For Vietnam Peace

Santiago, Chile—(RNS)—Auxiliary Bishop Fernando Arista Ruiz of Santiago headed a group of priests issuing an "open letter" to the U.S., the Soviet Union and Communist China, urging them to stop the war in Vietnam.

"We are no longer able to remain silent," the churchmen declared. "The Vietnam war is a major problem of conscience. People are being sacrificed in the struggle for a false prestige between powerful nations. Not even the good intentions claimed by one side or the other can justify such bloodshed."

"We are no longer able to justify such bloodshed."

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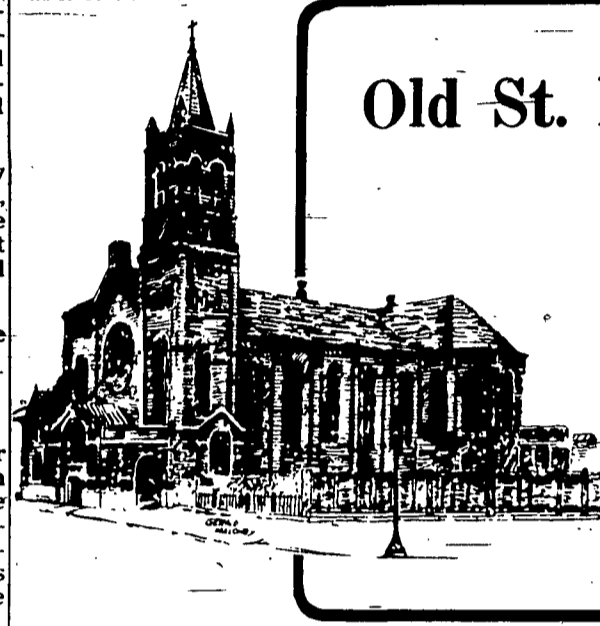
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## Around The

485 Million Catholics, Vatican

Vatican City—(NC)—The Holy See, view of its annual report, put the number of Catholics at 485 million in 1966, about 1% more than in 1964.

Other statistics for 1966 gave the number of parishes at 235,000, up from 225,000 in 1964. There were 1225 dioceses, 13 more than in 1964.

### "Christ the Worker" Draws

Madrid—(RNS)—Each payday at Madrid one pay envelope is marked with the name of the worker. The envelope is handed to Father of Concepcion church in a Madrid ward. The salary is used for two schools, a home for children.

Five years ago the priest visited the director, seeking work for "someone." The director was hesitant to hire an em-

Finally the priest admitted the "sought work" was Christ. "I had studied the Bible and I wanted them to be a Worker. His salary would be used to ..."

Christ the Worker is still drawing

### Bishop Declares Unemployment

Angers, France—(NC)—"Unemployment is a scandal," Bishop Henri Mazerat of Angers said. Speaking in the cathedral, the bishop was a Christian duty to insure that a living. He called on local officials to collaborate in this.

Meanwhile, the Council of the Paris issued a statement calling for greater part of Catholics for the unemployed in the Church a means of renewing

### Peace Service to Close

Mexico City—(RNS)—A special world peace will be held at the conclaves Games next October. Two chapels being grounds will be available for religious nations, the planning commission announced.

Archbishop Miguel Dario Miranda City has arranged also to make Catholic for non-Catholic services.

### First Communion Before

Ayr, Scotland—(NC)—The Gallon announced that in the future children will receive their first communion before their first confession.

This is the first British diocese to confession will be made at about the age of the usual age of seven, Bishop Joseph decided.

### Bishop Chides Spain's "L

Malaga, Spain—(NC)—Spanish laxity that "makes it difficult to consist country, Bishop Emilio Benavent of Malaga said.

"Love of truth, respect for justice, so rare in Spain; how can we consider in such a society?" the bishop asked the cathedral.

He denounced "moral laxity in business not the slightest concern for anything profit obtained in ways that increase dilute our national resources." He cited in society that "separate the poor and the Church."

## Probing the

By FATHER ALBERT J.

### Transfiguration

(Second Sunday of Lent)

Many a time in class, I have heard "Don't let your study interfere with prayer. Sometimes saying prayers can get praying. Prayer is not the same as praying. Prayer is not the same as praying."

After Peter had confessed Jesus as the living God, Jesus went to the mountain to pray, wrote St. Luke, and he was transfigured.

There are all kinds of definitions of conversation with God. "The essence of prayer is to be in the presence of God in our hearts." They are all good definitions.

However, I like to say prayer is the soul to the inflowing of God. The shade to let the sun shine into the soul.

The soul gets a new vision. To be there is so good, because the soul is there.

Peter, James and John came to the mountain. In the mountain Jesus alone and open to his inflowing their eyes and beheld his as He time.

They were changed too in that moment of glory. They were not tain—the meteoric vision of glory enable them to walk the way of does not change us, then there with it.

The invisible God becomes that prays, transfiguring it. We with burdens, crushed under the sentiment, obsession and fear. them, never free ourselves. But

We kneel, and all around us see. We rise, and all, the distant and. Stands forth in sunny outline. We kneel how weak, we rise how

All we need do is take time. gladly devote to movies, football. insists that we take the time, for a time or hide away in our with the Gospels.

Bit by bit in the hush, our and we'll start seeing Him and ly. We'll discover what we're hid He's saying. We'll see what He face will become radiant and w so many others, "It's good to never pass! Let's pitch three ten ever!"