

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Day Care Plan Announced For New York

New York — (NC) — Archbishop-designate Terence J. Cooke of New York has announced the creation of a family day care program with headquarters at the New York Foundling Hospital. The purpose of the program is to preserve an atmosphere of family life for children whose mothers are working or completing their education. The children will be sent to private homes during the day and returned to their own homes at night.

Archbishop-designate Cooke said the program will be financed by New York City's Department of Welfare. He said it will provide foster parents, who will be chosen by the hospital, with a monthly stipend of up to \$75. The hospital will provide assistance and instruction to the foster parents, including visits by case workers.

The program at first will care for about 60 children aged, eight months to three years, and concentrate on children who are sometimes difficult to place in foster homes because of color and ethnic backgrounds.

Bishop Says Meaning of Death Lost in Customs

Lancaster, Pa. — (NC) — Today's society shields people from the fact of death, Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh said here during a lecture at the Unitarian Church.

"The whole cosmetology, floral industry and vocabulary now serve to insulate us from death," he said. "Wakes ceased to be a reality especially for us Irish. These were a wonderful preparation for death. We used to like to quote the last words of the dying — now we are so anesthetized that we musn't mention it."

Director Named For Theology Co-op

Boston — (RNS) — The Rev. Walter D. Wagoner, 50, has been named director of the Boston Theological Institute, a cooperative endeavor of four Protestant and three Roman Catholic institutions in Greater Boston.

An ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, Mr. Wagoner has been associate dean of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif., for the past year.

Participating schools in the Institute are Andover Newton Theological School; Boston College Department of Theology; Boston University School of Theology; Episcopal Theological School; Harvard Divinity School; St. John's Seminary and Weston College.

The Institute, formed in December, offers students in one of the schools an opportunity to enroll in courses in any of the institutions. More than 100 students have taken advantage of this cross registration during the Spring semester.

High Catholic School Post Filled By Layman

Rockville Centre, N.Y. — (RNS) — Bishop Walter P. Kellenberg of Rockville Center Diocese has announced appointment of a layman, Joseph F. Fox of Huntington, to the second highest post in the administration of the Catholic schools here. The Diocesan Board of Catholic Education, in a separate action, has recommended to Bishop Kellenberg that he endorse establishment of parish school boards.

School boards will confine their scope to the operation of the parish schools. The boards will be responsible to the larger parish councils.

Crime Rise Noted By FBI

Washington — (NC) — Serious crime in the United States increased 16% in 1967 as compared to 1966. Serious assaults in which a gun was used as the weapon rose 22%, and one out of every five assaults was committed with a gun. Calling attention to this fact, FBI director J. Edgar Hoover said the "vicious street crime of armed robbery" had a sharp upswing of 30% and that a firearm was used in 58% of all robbery offenses.

Crimes of violence were up 15%, led by robbery up 27%, murder 12%, forcible rape 9%, and aggravated assault 8%. Crimes against property rose by 16% as a group. Individually, automobile thefts went up 17%, while burglary and larceny involving \$50 or more in value were each up 16%.

Fr. Kueng Stresses New Openness of Church

Baton Rouge, La. — (NC) — Father Hans Kueng, controversial Swiss-born theologian enumerated ways in which the Church is demonstrating its new sincerity in an address to a conference of the Louisiana Council of Churches here.

"In the Church one finds increasingly modern, simple more authentic, functional architecture, sculpture and painting. Unusually open, realistic theater, literature and films are no longer so easily condemned by the Church.

"There is also in the Church an instinctive rejection of everything which prevents the full expression of the truth — against inquisition, denunciation, censorship, against every kind of coercion of opinion or belief." Father Kueng an expert at Vatican II, pointed to the council as the source of such trends.

He urged greater frankness in relations with other churches, including recognizing their baptisms, exchanging preachers and leaving the matter of baptism and education of children of mixed marriages up to the parents.

Lay People Urged To Organize

Verona, N.J. — (NC) — A priest-theologian said here the voice of the laity is not being heard by the bishops because of a lack of effective organization.

Father Anthony T. Padovano, theology professor at Immaculate Conception seminary, Darlington, N.J., added in a lecture here that priests are organizing associations in an effort to arrive at a consensus on the problems of the priesthood that will command the bishops' attention.

Father Padovano said. "Most of our laymen are conservative and docile — in the worst sense — and this is due in part to the priesthood. In this regard, Father Padovano said: "There must be a parish council in every parish; there must be a pastoral council in every diocese, and there must be a national organization."

Father Padovano said it is not basically a question of the outlook of the bishop, but of the willingness of the laity to act on their own initiative. Conservative or liberal tendencies, he said, can be overcome if this is the organized consensus of lay people.

300 on Trenton Pastoral Council

Somerville, N.J. — (RNS) — The 300-member Pastoral Council of the Diocese of Trenton is composed of 10 priests chosen by the Council of Priests (senate) of the diocese; 28 nuns, two religious Brothers, 28 delegates from 14 diocesan lay organizations, and 242 lay representatives from the 188 parishes of the diocese. All were appointed to the Pastoral Council by Bishop Ahr upon the recommendation of the Council of Priests, major superiors, organization moderators, and pastors, in that order.

Priests Suggest 'Priority' List To New Shepherd

New York — (RNS) — A "Memorandum of Priorities," a "state of the archdiocese" report compiled by the elected members of the former Senate of Priests in the Archdiocese of New York, has been presented to Archbishop-designate Terence J. Cooke.

Issued following a three-month survey of archdiocesan clergy, the memorandum was prepared "to encourage this growing sense of initiative and responsibility, develop programs of renewal, ensure responsible collaboration in the mission of the Church, and create a positive and fruitful climate of mutual understanding and respect."

The memorandum was submitted to the archbishop-designate by the priests for their suggestions and expressed hope that he and all the priests can "share our experiences, our ideas and plans, and above all our prayers."

The priests' memorandum called for consultation with priests and laity on all archdiocesan policy; consistent planning and research for archdiocesan development; full public statements on archdiocesan finances; reform of personnel policies; participation by priests in the nomination of diocesan officials; greater concentration on social and racial programs and study of the archdiocesan educational system.

Other priorities, listed in the following order in the priests' memorandum, were:

— Establishment of a research and planning office which would be a "central element in policy-formation and decision-making in the archdiocese."

— Wide discussion of the entire matter of the seminary structure with the recommendation that the committee on admissions include lay members and that appointments to the faculty be made after consultation with the pastoral council and/or the Senate of Priests.

— "Full and understandable financial statements" on the archdiocesan as well as the parish level.

— A special office to advise the archbishop on clerical personnel matters.

— A voice for priests in the nomination of auxiliary bishops, vicars general, vicars of religious, episcopal vicars, chancellors and other officials whose offices affect the pastoral mission.

— Formation of a "centralized department of urban affairs dealing with social justice, housing, and related social problems."

Intercommunion Problem Tied to Study of Ministry

New York — (NC) — Lutheran and Catholic theologians meeting here on the subject of intercommunion declared at the close of their conversations that a consensus on the controversial issue must await a deeper study of the "entire problem of the ministry."

The talks, held at the headquarters of the Lutheran Church in America, marked the beginning of the fourth year of theological discussion between members of the two churches. Co-sponsors of the conversations are the National Committee of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and the Catholic Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs (BCEIA). Twenty-three participants took part in the conversations.

In their six meetings over the past four years, Lutheran and Catholic theologians have devoted a total of 16 days to doctrinal discussions on the Nicene Creed, Baptism, the Eucharist, and intercommunion.

Each tradition is represented at the meetings by seven theologians, as well as by church officials responsible for the consultations and by consultant specialist on particular subjects.

The first formal conversations undertaken by the two communions were opened in Baltimore in March, 1965. Theologians present at the meeting examined Lutheran and Catholic interpretations of the "status of the Nicene Creed as dogma of the Church."

The second meeting, held in Chicago in February, 1966, continued exploration of the Nicene Creed with particular emphasis on the article "one Baptism for the remission of sins."

Sessions held during 1966 and 1967 in Washington, New York and St. Louis dealt with the "Eucharist as sacrifice."

The statement pointed out, "It seems important to enunciate our growing agreement in eucharist doctrine and practice even though there are other aspects of the sacrament of the altar we have not yet discussed."

FAMED RABBI RETIRES

New York — (RNS) — Dr. Julius Mark, senior rabbi of Temple Emanuel here and widely known religious leader, will retire Sept. 1 when he completes 20 years of service with the Reform synagogue—largest Jewish congregation in the world. Its membership of more than 3,200 families include many prominent New York names.

FIRST POLYNESIAN BISHOP

Auckland, N.Z. — (RNS) — Father Pio Taofinu'u, S.M., will be consecrated Catholic Bishop of Apia in Western Samoa at an outdoor ceremony May 29. He will be the first Polynesian bishop in the history of the Church in Oceania.

Superiors Head Barat May Move Backs Vatican Congregation

Cincinnati — (NC) — The national chairman of the Congregation for Religious in for bidding the Immaculate Heart of Mary nuns of Los Angeles to continue experiments approved by their general chapter last summer.

The chairman — Mother Mary Omer, mother general of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati — said here the congregation "is the official body for guiding and directing all Religious communities in the Church". She stated that she does not "feel that the sacred congregation intends to hamper or discourage in any way the good work that is being accomplished" in the renewal of Religious communities.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary nuns already have announced that they will petition Pope Paul I to overrule the Vatican department's order that they return from lay clothes to a "uniform habit"; reinstitute common religious exercises in their communities, and keep educational work as their principal occupation.

The experiments and changes in the nuns' educational programs, have been the source of dispute between the religious order and James Francis Cardinal McIntyre of Los Angeles.

The communication from the Vatican congregation also ordered them to collaborate with the bishops in the diocese they serve.

Cited by the congregation as a basis for disallowing the Los Angeles Sisters' changes were the Vatican Council's decrees on the Bishops' Office in the Church and on the Appropriate Renewal of the Religious Life and Pope Paul VI's statement for implementing council decrees.

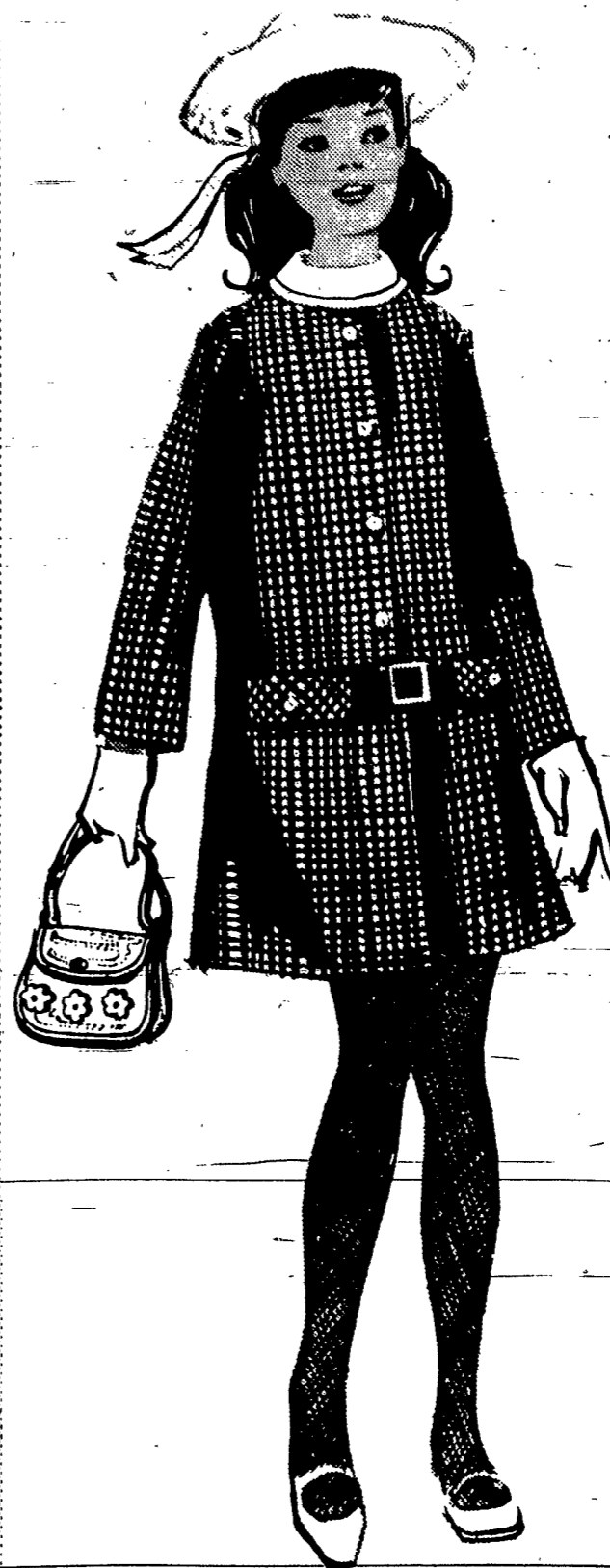
Mother Mary Omer said she believes that the difficulty in Los Angeles centers around a unique interpretation. There are many Sisters who feel that the Pope's document gives the special chapter the right to introduce any experiments they wish. The motu proprio definitely states that these experiments may not interfere with the purpose, nature and character of the institute as approved by the Church. The Sacred Congregation for Religious is the official body for guiding and directing all religious communities in the Church.

"The bishops of our country are working closely with major superiors to promote and strengthen the efforts of all communities in their work of renewal."

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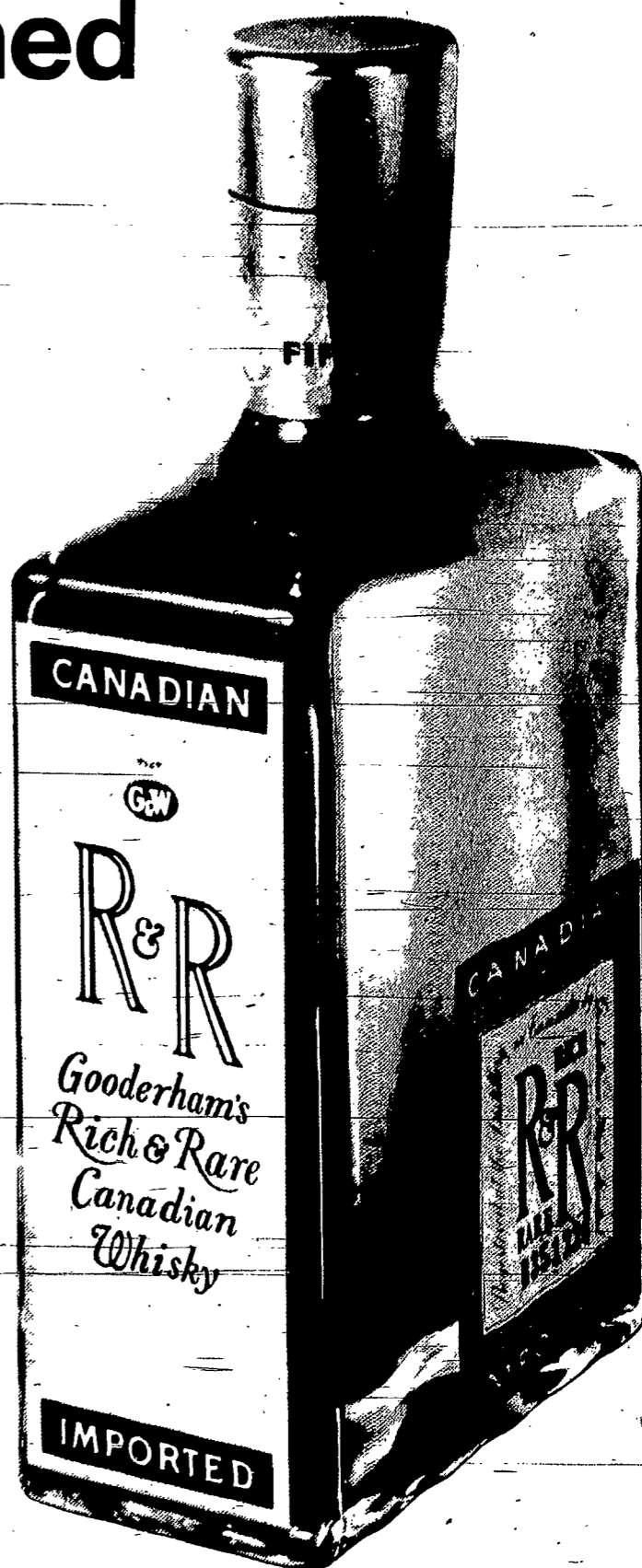
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