

Catholic Educator Succumbs

Escanaba, Mich. — (NC) — Bishop Charles A. Salata of Marquette celebrated requiem Mass at St. Thomas Church here (April 22) for Msgr. O'Neill C. D'Amour, one of the nation's leading spokesmen for Catholic education. Msgr. D'Amour died (April 18) in San Francisco where he was attending the annual National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) convention, an organization which he served for nearly a decade.

Msgr. D'Amour was associate secretary of the NCEA superintendents department from 1957 to 1964, when he was named Marquette diocesan superintendent of schools. Last November, he was given a leave of absence from the Marquette post to rejoin the NCEA staff as special assistant on boards of education.

Msgr. D'Amour was a pioneer in the boards of education movement which in recent years has become a prominent feature of the Catholic educational scene. The boards represent an attempt to unify the various aspects of Catholic education, including the parochial schools, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, and the Newman Apostolate, in a better coordinated and more effective educational endeavor.

They also strive to involve lay persons and all members of the community in the work of education. Msgr. D'Amour often stated that education was the business of all the people, not just of the clergy.

\$100,000 Loaned For Ghetto Housing

New York — (RNS) — The Methodist Board of Missions has made its first loan from a \$3 million fund set aside for investment in ghetto enterprises.

A loan of \$100,000 from the investment portfolio went to the Western Pennsylvania Methodist Conference to help the conference join an Interfaith Housing Corporation in Pittsburgh.

Monsignor Cites Hunger in World

Destruction of Hogs Hit As 'Violation of Charity'

(NC News Service)

Des Moines, Iowa — The executive director of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference has protested hog-killing and burials by members of the National Farmers Organization (NFO) seeking higher prices for their animals.

"I object vigorously to the destruction of meat in a world suffering from protein deficiency," Msgr. Edward W. O'Rourke said. "Particularly while an organization such as CROP (the Christian Rural Overseas Program) is prepared to deliver the meat to those who need it."

CROP announced shortly after the rash of hog killings began in March that it had made arrangements with a large national meat packer to process hogs donated to the Church World Service organization for use overseas.

"No case has come to my attention of an acceptance by an NFO group of the CROP offer," Msgr. O'Rourke stated.

He said an Iowa NFO group indicated it would donate 2,000 hogs to charity rather than destroy the animals if meat packers would sign price contracts by a certain date. The hogs were shot later on a farm near Story City. An estimate of the value of the destroyed hogs was from \$75,000 to \$85,000.

The Story City hog-killing was the seventh such price protest staged by NFO members in Iowa.

"Willful destruction of food is contrary to the ideals of Christian stewardship," Msgr. O'Rourke said. "Destruction of food which could easily be delivered to hungry people is a serious violation of charity."

But the priest expressed sympathy for the goals — though not the methods — of the farmers.

"I am aware of the unjustly low prices currently paid them for their livestock and other produce," he said. "I appreciate the desperation

of thousands of hard working, efficient farm families who will be forced out of agriculture unless prices are improved."

"I agree that bargaining at the market place is essential for the preservation of the family farm system," Msgr. O'Rourke continued. "I join in the protest against farmers who will not cooperate in this effort and against meat packing companies who refuse to consider seriously contracts with farmers."

Msgr. O'Rourke defended the "need to remove permanently some animals from the market in order to make a holding action more effective," as ordered by NFO officials two months ago. But, he added, the destruction of these animals "is not justified so long as a bona fide offer by CROP is made to deliver the meat to hungry people in other lands."

Suspended Priest Defends Revolution in Guatemala

Washington — (NC) — "As Christ died because He loved mankind, Guatemalans are willing to sacrifice themselves so that others may live," Father Arthur Melville, suspended Maryknoll priest who had been involved with guerrillas in Guatemala, said here.

Father Melville arrived in Washington after being deported from Mexico.

Controversy over the priest, his brother Father Thomas Melville, Father Blase Bonpane and Sister Marian Peter Bradford began when their cooperation with Guatemalan revolutionaries became known. The four were ordered to return to Maryknoll headquarters in New York in December, 1967, but only Father Bonpane obeyed the order.

As a result, Maryknoll suspended the Melvilles from performing all priestly functions.

Catholic U Rector Seeks More Funds

Washington — (NC) — Citing a serious financial deficit at the Catholic University of America here, acting rector Father John P. Whalen said he will ask U.S. bishops to double the annual collection contribution to the university this year.

A decision on the request is expected when the university's board of trustees meet April 21 in St. Louis in conjunction with the semi-annual meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Father Whalen said the university's estimated income of \$184 million — with 45 per cent coming from tuition — will fall about \$15 million short of expenses this year. Small deficits in the past have been covered by a reserve fund. But this year, Father Whalen stated, "the kitty has run out."

He said the deficit will be made up through the reluctant sale of some unrestricted securities and by a small carryover to next year's budget.

Cuernavaca Bishop Not Pro-Guerrilla, Churchman States

(NC News Service)

Mexico City — The president of the Mexican Bishops' Conference has defended Bishop Sergio Mendez Arceo of Cuernavaca against charges that he is condoning pro-guerrilla activities in his diocese.

"I deeply regret that a Mexican bishop is being attacked again, and by an article that lacks both objectivity and accuracy," said Archbishop Ernesto Corripio Ahumada of Oaxaca, president of the bishops' conference, in a statement to Jose Alvarez Icaza, head of the Center for Social Communications (CEN-COS), the Mexican bishops' public information agency.

The editor of the magazine Gente here, Manuel Garcia Galindo, had charged that the Inter-Cultural Center of Documentation (CIDOC) operated in Cuernavaca by Msgr. Ivan Illich is the nerve center for almost all the Latin American leftist guerrilla bands. Gente is run by Opus Dei, an apostolic association of priests and laymen.

"How is it possible," Garcia asked, "that Illich can continue undisturbed such an undermining job against the Church, under the protection of a diocese? Or does the bishop know what's going on?"

In defending the bishop of Cuernavaca, Archbishop Corripio said:

"In voicing my wonder and sorrow, I speak not only for myself but for the views of all the Mexican bishops. At the recent plenary assembly of the episcopate (in February), the bishops already stated their regret for certain biased campaigns in the press, particularly against Bishop Sergio Mendez of Cuernavaca, who was appointed by the same assembly as a member of the Bishop's Committee on Faith."

The magazine editor had also claimed in his article that Archbishop

Mario Casariego, C.R.S., of Guatemala City, had visited Cuernavaca in March to investigate reports that former Maryknoll priests Fathers Arthur and Thomas Melville, were in hiding at CIDOC or at the Emaus Psychoanalysis Center after being expelled from Guatemala for aiding leftist rebels.

CIDOC publishes studies on Latin America and trains volunteers preparing to work in Latin America. Msgr. Illich, its head, has been a controversial figure, especially since his criticism of the U.S. bishops' aid program to Latin America in the January 1967 America magazine.

The Emaus Center was formed last year by a group of Benedictine monks, headed by Father Gregoire Lemerier, O.S.B., after their monastery was closed by then abbot primate of the Benedictine Confederation, Benno Cardinal Gut.

Church authorities had frowned on the Cuernavaca abbot's attempts to use psychoanalysis in the religious guidance of novices and monks, after undergoing treatment himself.

Archbishop Corripio's statement did not mention the two centers.

The writer claimed also that Archbishop Casariego told two Gente reporters that he had seen disgusting happenings at CIDOC and Emaus. He also implied that CIDOC was responsible for the kidnapping of Archbishop Casariego.

After returning to Guatemala from Mexico, Archbishop Casariego was kidnapped and held for four days before being released unharmed by extreme rightists.

El Dia, a leftist daily here, accused Gente of publishing libelous statements against the bishop of Cuernavaca. It also claimed that Opus Dei was behind the magazine article.

LAST 3 DAYS TO SAVE DURING

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