



#### Father - and Sons

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A rarity in U.S. Catholicfism well come next month when a father and his two sons are organied up-on completing their studies at Belmont Abbey in Belmont, N.C. They are John Paul Habiger, a widower, and his sons, John, Jr., Beft, and Henry Louis, right.

#### Don't Knock U.S., Negro Mayor Advises

Cleveland -NC- The first Negro elected mayor of a major U.S. city advised young Negroes to study about this nation and realize they can rise as high as their abilities will carry them.

Cleveland's Mayor Carl B. Stokes said the United States, despite grave racial problems, remains the greatest land of opportunity for blacks and whites the- world ever has seen.

"Don't knock it and don't burn it," he counseled a meeting of the Interracial Scholarsh-ip Fo-undation.

The mayor named a number of Negroes who have risen to top positions in America. He said the presence of Justice Thurgood Marshall in the U.S. Supreme Court now is so taken for granted that "you'd think there End allways been a negro there."

Mayor Stokes said the spirit and influence of Dr. Martin Luther King are more allive today than ever, because many things which he could not accomplish in his lifetime are being done in his memory.

#### Ecumeraical Plan: Low-Cost Housing

Houston-(RINS)-A \$2,7-00,000 low-ost housing project will be undertaken here by the Episcopal Discess of Texas and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Galveston-Houston.

Education

# Rockefeller Urges Direct State Aid To Private Colleges

Albany - (RNS) - Gov. Rockefeller has proposed to the Legislature that the state provide direct financial aid to private and church-related colleges and universities.

Under his proposal, financial aid would be given annually to the institutions based on the number of degrees granted; for each bachelor's and master's degree, the school would receive \$400 and for each doctorate, \$2.400.

The governor proposed the following measures to implement the aidto-private-schools plan:

• Grants to the private, non-sectarian colleges and institutions would be scheduled to begin on July 1, 1968, under an amendment to the State Education Law.

 Aid to church-related institutions would require passage of a resolution amending the State Constitution by this session of the Legislature and the session in 1969, and approval by the voters in a referendum.

If such a proposal were approved by the Legislature and the voters, it would partially repeal the controversial ban on direct state aid to churchsupported schools, the so-called Blaine Amendment.

## **Bishop O'Gara Dies; Former Red Prisoner**

Union City, N.J. — (RNS)—Roman Catholic Bishop Cuthbert M. O'Gara, C.P., exiled head of the Yuanling diocese in China, who was a militant foe of co-existence with communism, died here May 13 at the age of 82.

Bishop O'Gara first went to China in 1924 as the head of a band of 13 American priests of his order, the Passionist Fathers. Ten years later, he was consecrated a bishop in Hankow Cathedral and named vicar apostolic of Yuanling in the Hunan Province.

The prelate was imprisoned twice, by the Japanese for six months during the early part of World War II in 1941, and by the Chinese nists for 22 months during 1951 to 1953.

Gov. Rockefeller's proposal followed closely the recommendations made last January by a special committee he named to study higher education in the state. Headed by McGeorge Bundy, president of the Ford Foundation, the committee urged state assistance for the 143 non-public colleges and universities in New York, estimating the annual cost to be about \$33 million by 1970.

In a memorandum issued with the legislative proposal, the governor said that "direct aid was necessary to preserve the strength and vitality of these (non-public) institutions." . Colleges and universities, to qualify for aid, would have to maintain one or more bachelor or master earned-degree programs. Divinity schools and seminaries would be excluded.

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#### Priest Heads Ministerial Group

tion has elected its first Roman Catholic priest as president.

He is Father J. Jercome Boxlesitner, director of Catholic Charities for the Archeliocese of St\_. Paul-Miraneapolis.

The association, until the second Vatican Council, had no Catholic members. Now the 467 meranders include 57 Catholic priests. Most of the Proptestaent and Eastern Orthodox denominations in the city hold membeership in the 50-year-old association.

#### Hartford Scho-ols Increase Tuition

Hartford, Conn. ---(RNS)- Tultion increases will go into effect at Catholic regionnal high schools in four Connecticut cities, according to Msgr. James A. Connelly, superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Hartfoord.

The four communisties involved are Bristol, Hartford, West Hartford and Marchester. With the \$3.5 boost annual tuition will range from \$235 to \$260.

The tuition increase, according to Msgr. Connelly, will provide \$105,000 for the there regional schools in the Hartford area -and all of it will be spent con salary increases.

#### West Coast Friars Concentrating On Poor

Oakland, Calif. -(RENS)--- Franciscan priests and brothers on the West Coast, in the spirit of their lounder, St. Francis of Assisi, will now concentrate their attention on "those who are poor or in any way afflicted. "

The Order of Friars= Minoor which has staffed parishes, schools, and retreat houses in seven weester in states hopes to exchange these assignments for work im poverty areas, migrant workers projects, inner-city and campus ministeries, and peace movements.

In June, the religions order will vacate St. Mary's High School in Stockton, Calif. It has given up two parishes in California and Washington. Negotiations are under way at two others to shift the Franciscans to inner city work.

Father Alan McCor, OFM, Santa Barbara provincial, said:

"At the present time we are negotiating with a number of dioceses to take on pro-jects which might be staffed by a small, mobile religious community cof men, with the understanding that as soon as the work is fimished we will be free to move on to other areas of work."

#### YMCA and CYOP Plan Joint Program

Omaha, Neb. --- (RNS) --- The Young Men's Christian Association and the Catholic Youth Organization here have announced a program of cooperation which will include the sharing of facilities.

The program was announced at a press conference held by representatives of both -organnizations.

"In the spirit of ecumeratism," said Thurston Favor, general executive of the Metro-politan YWCA, "The CYO and the 'Y' will now support each either"s efforts toward personal growth of individual members and the community at large. Intra-Christian cooperation based on the common apirations of all will provide a broad base for ecumenical action."

Auxiliary Bishop Daniel IE. Sheehan of Omaha said he was impressed by the new spirit of cooperation and praised the move as a "genuine advan-ce in intercienominational collaboration."

Earlier, during the Sino Japanese War between 1937 and 1941, Bishop O'Gara was popularly known as the "stretcher-bearer Bishop," because he was frequently seen carrying stretchers bearing victims of Japanese bombings. He established 13 refugee camps, two hospitals, and housed and clothed, and fed some 100,000 starving refugees during that conflict.

Because of maltreatment by the Chinese Communists during his 22month imprisonment, Bishop O'Gara was very close to death. When they released him from jail in 1953, priests who were freed with him said they thought the Reds feared the prelate would die on their hands.

## Father Considine Leaves Latin Post

Washington - (NC - Father John J. Considine, M.M., founding director of the Latin America Bureau (LAB) of the U.C. Catholic Conference, has retired, effective on May 25.

Father Louis M. Colonnese, administrative director of the Latin America Bureau, has been named the new director.

Father Considine has served as LAB director since it was founded in January, 1960, at the request of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America. He had been lent to the Latin America Bureau by Maryknoll at the request of Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston, chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee for Latin America.

Father Considine will return to his writing and teaching assignments at Maryknoll, Ossining, N.Y., where he had served as publications director before becoming director of the Latin America Bureau.

### **Reds** Permit Transfer **Of Priest's Remains**

Augsburg, Germany — (RNS) — After negotiations which dragged on for more than a year, East German authorities have permitted the transfer from East Berlin to West Germany of the remains of a famous Roman Catholic priest who was execu-ted by the Nazis.

Father Max Joseph Metzger was buried in St. Hedwig cemetery in East Berlin which borders on the Communist Wall dividing the city. His remains have now been re-interred at Meitingen, near here.

Father Metzger was\_executed in April 1944 at Brandenburg after Hitler's "Peoples' Court" had condemned him on charges of collaborating with the enemy.

**U.S. Church Enrollment** 

Church membership in the United States is up, under 1% over last year according to the National Council of Churches. The Council's 1968 "Yearbook of American Churches" gives the total for this year as 125,778,656.



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