



Site of Colombia Congress

This is the site of the main events of the 37th International Eucharistic Congress in Bobota, Colombia, in August. The capacity of the complex is reported to be 750,000 persons. The congress will be highlighted by the first visit of a reigning pontiff to South America when Pope Paul VI presides at its closing during his Aug. 22-24 stay in Bogota. (RNS Photo)

Change in Archbishops Ends Brazil Dispute Between Priests, Church

Botucatu, Brazil — (NC) — The naming of a new archbishop for the archdiocese of Botucatu has resolved a conflict between a majority of the archdiocesan priests and church authorities.

Archbishop Romeu Alberti, former bishop of Apucarana, has been named to head the Botucatu See. He is the second Ordinary named to the See since the resignation of Archbishop Henrique Golland Trindade, O.F.M., in April.

When Bishop Vicente Zioni of Bauru was named earlier to succeed Archbishop Trindade, a majority of the archdiocesan priests refused to accept him as their archbishop and threatened to leave the archdiocese unless an archbishop was named that they considered more up-to-date.

The priests contended that both Archbishop Trindade and Bishop Zioni had not implemented the decrees of the Second Vatican Council and had acted unjustly against the rights, liberty and responsibility of the local clergy.

The priests addressed two documents to Agnelo Cardinal Rossi of Sao Paulo, president of the Brazilian Bishops' Conference, and Archbishop Sebastiano Baggio, apostolic nuncio to Brazil. The first statement analyzed the archdiocese's pastoral situation and the second announced that the priests would withdraw from work in the archdiocese if Bishop Zioni's nomination were not withdrawn and a new, and more acceptable, prelate named.

A few days later, after the cardinal and nuncio had declared themselves opposed to any change, the document concerning the priests' determination to quit the archdiocese and work else-

where was published in Sao Paulo daily papers.

Bishop Zioni was director of Sao Paulo's central seminary when most of the protesting priests were students there. After the priests' announcement was published, Bishop Zioni declared the priest who had signed the documents were "of a low intellectual level."

He affirmed his decision to take up his duties in Botucatu even if a majority of the archdiocesan clergy should leave. He said he would forgive those priests who would return to serve in the archdiocese.

A letter signed by 40,000 of Botucatu's laity declared their solidarity with the priests. Similar support came from 300 priests of the Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro archdioceses.

Archbishop Baggio asked the priests not to carry out their intention of quitting the archdiocese and promised reconsideration of the case by the Holy See.

Pope Paul VI then nominated Bishop Alberti to head the Botucatu See on June 21 and the new archbishop has assumed his office here.

Bishop Zioni heads the Brazil Bishops' Secretariat for Priests and Seminaries. Some observers believe he was behind the dismissal last year of Dutch Father Godofredo Deelen, M.S.C., as-head of the socio-religious department of the Center for Religious Statistics and Social Investigation (CERIS). A CERIS survey on the priestly ministry had been suspended by the bishops' conference, which claimed it was technically imperfect. Clergy sources claimed at the time that the research was suspended because some questions concerned obligatory celibacy.

Latin Bishops Map Agenda

Bogota — (RNS) — Subjects to be discussed at the second General Conference of the Episcopate of Latin America here will include the present social and pastoral problems of the continent. Archbishop Avelar Brandao Vilela of Teresina, Brazil, announced in a letter sent to all Latin American bishops.

Archbishop Brandao Vilela, president of CELAM, the Latin American Episcopal Conference, announced that the bishops' meeting will be opened with an address by Pope Paul VI in the Bogota cathedral on Aug. 24, after which all the participants will be flown to Medellin, Colombia, to continue their discussions.

He said that the following subjects will be discussed: The Problems of the Times in Latin America Today; Christian Interpretation of These Problems; The Promotion of Man; Evangelization and Development; The Visible Unity of the Church and Pastoral Coordination.

Helping Fellow Man Pope's Reason For Bogota Trip

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has explained that his forthcoming trip to Bogota, Colombia, for the International Eucharistic Congress, is inspired by the hope of helping his fellow man.

Speaking to thousands who had come to St. Peter's Square for a regular Sunday noon blessing (July 14), he said:

"Human problems — and today everything is a problem — should spur the growth of love in Christians instead of diminishing our faith and our courage. The needs of our brothers instead of pushing us to selfish flight, should inspire us to compassion, that attraction that was in the heart of the Lord. It should give us heart to try remedies that seem to go beyond the measure of reason and of ordinary possibility.

"That is the thought that will guide our coming journey in Latin America."

Dr. Spock Gets 2 Years in Jail

Boston — (NC) — Dr. Benjamin Spock, Chaplain William C. Coffin of Yale and two other defendants were sentenced to two years in prison and ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine for conspiracy to aid, abet and counsel young men to avoid the draft.

U.S. District Judge Francis Ford granted stays for all the sentences, pending appeals to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and continued the defendants at \$1,000 bonds.

Before passing sentence, Judge Ford told the crowded courtroom, "Where law and order stops, obviously anarchy begins."

"Almost every week in this court, young men are sentenced to three years in prison for evading the draft," he said. "It is reasonable to conclude that the defendants were instrumental in inciting some of these men to flout the law."

"Be they high or low, intellectuals as well as others must be deterred from violating the law," Judge Ford declared. "These defendants should not escape under the guise of free speech."

Rector Advocates Priests Be Married, Self-Supporting

New York — (RNS)—Msgr. George A. Schlichte, rector of the Pope John XXIII National Seminary for Delayed Vocations in Weston, Mass., said here that Roman Catholic seminaries in the future should expect their entering students to be college-trained, capable of supporting themselves in secular employment and possibly married.

Addressing the 18th annual Institute for Religious and Sacerdotal Vocations, sponsored by Fordham University, Msgr. Schlichte said "It is hard to believe there is a real shortage of vocations."

"Authentic vocations are there," he suggested, if the Church will "consider adjusting our structure to accept them" and "put our own house in order, so that intelligent, mature men will want to be part of our effort to promote the Kingdom of God on earth."

(The Pope John XXIII Seminary was established in 1964 for men whose priestly vocation occurs after they have become established in another profession. The 42 men in its

first class were all over 30 and the usual rules of seminary life were adapted to suit their special backgrounds.)

"We must remember," Msgr. Schlichte said, "that the priest is what he is because the Church took charge of his education and gave him no choice." A massive effort on the part of Church administrators to come to terms with this critical condition of the clergy, will be a most effective way to clear up the bad image the public sees of the vocation to the ministerial priesthood.

The celibacy obligation "has caused the Church to lose the services of some very fine men," Msgr. Schlichte said. While a married clergy would not solve the vocation problem, he noted, "it would be foolish to ignore the fact that celibacy does cut into our manpower supply."

The objection that a priest with a secular job would have no time for priestly duties calls for "a hard look" at the average parish priest's daily occupation, he said.

'Friend of Colored' Nearer Beatification

Vatican City — (NC) — In another step toward beatification, the Congregation of Rites has examined the reports of theologians on the writings of Capuchin Father Stephen Eckert, who was known as the "champion of the colored people" of Milwaukee.

Father Eckert, a white man, was the first resident pastor of St. Benedict the Moor Mission for Negroes in Milwaukee, serving there from 1913 until shortly before his death in 1923.

He was born in Dublin, Ont., April 28, 1869. After studying at St. Jerome's College, Kitchener, Ont., he entered the Franciscan Capuchin order in Detroit on May 21, 1891. He completed his philosophical and theological studies at St. Francis' mon-

astery, Milwaukee, and was ordained July 2, 1896, in Milwaukee.

His first assignment after ordination was in New York, where he worked in Harlem, until he was named pastor of St. Benedict's in Milwaukee in 1913.

For the next 10 years he worked among the Negroes in Milwaukee, giving missions and begging alms for the poor of his parish. He founded a boarding school for Negro children, but two years before his death his superiors decided to abandon the school, and Father Eckert submitted to their judgment.

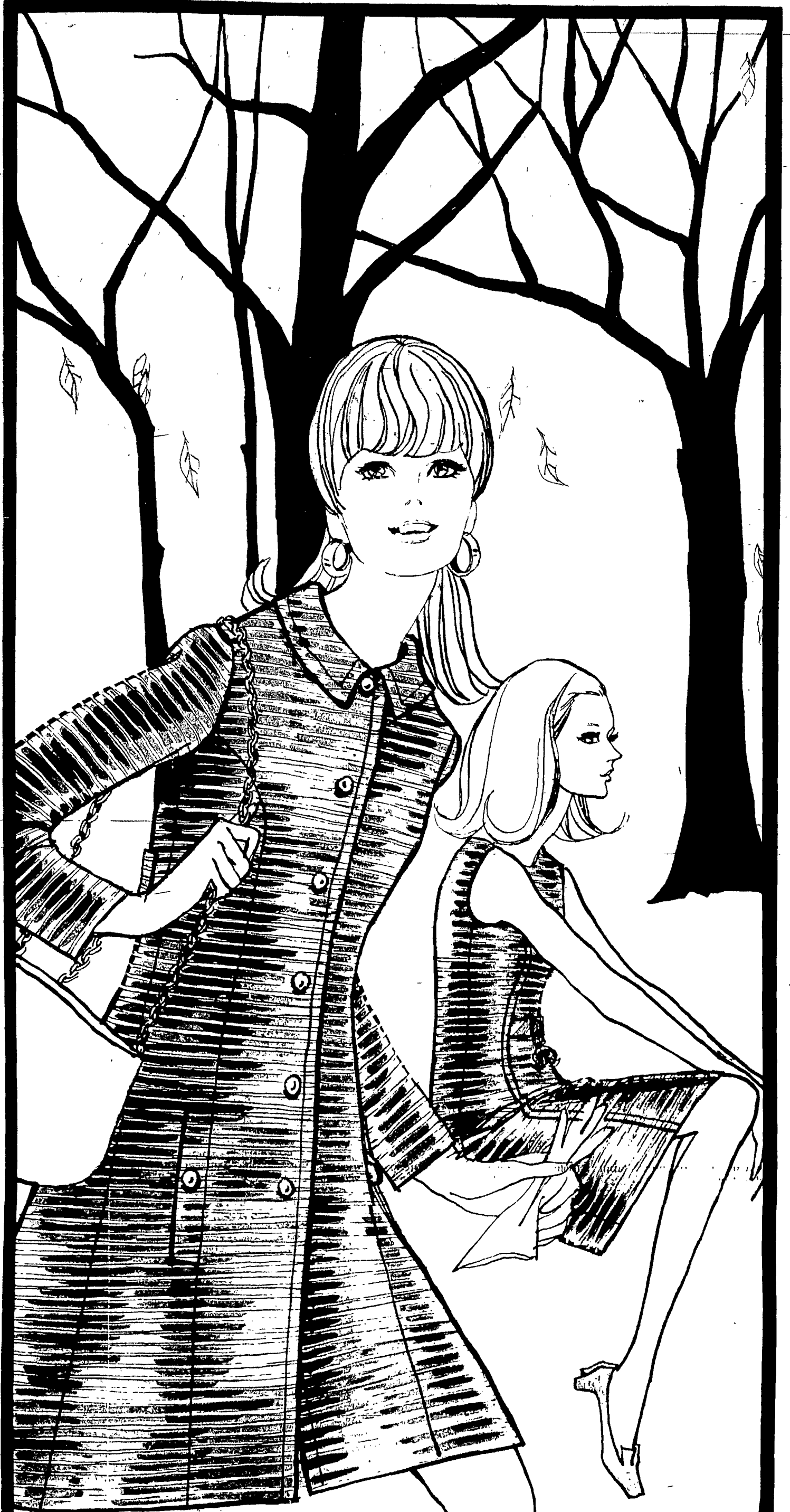
He was relieved of his pastorate and told to devote himself exclusively to missionary activity. While conducting

a service in Iowa in 1923, he caught a cold that developed into pneumonia on his return to Milwaukee, where he died Feb. 16, 1923.

His cause was started in 1952.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Vol. 79 No 42 — July 19, 1968
Published Weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press-Association.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Single Copy 15c; 1 year Subscription in U.S., \$8.00; Canada, \$7.00; Foreign Countries, \$8.00. Main Office: 35 Scio Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Second Class Postage Paid at Rochester, N.Y.



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