

Encyclical Controversy Continues



Negro in Role of Christ

The Rev. William Holmes Borders, minister of Atlanta's Wheat Street Baptist church, is shown informally at left, and right, as he will appear in the role of Jesus Christ in a mid-September passion play. The drama is sponsored by the Christian Council of Metropolitan Atlanta in cooperation with the city government, the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Atlanta. (RNS Photo)

Dissenters in Error, Theologian Says

Vatican City — (RNS) — Catholics who cannot see the reasons for Pope Paul's encyclical on birth control have no right to challenge it but must accept it with "complete submission," Msgr. Ferdinando Lambruschini, prominent Vatican theologian, said in an article published here.

The article appeared in the weekly newspaper L'Osservatore della Domenica to which Msgr. Lambruschini contributes regularly. At the press conference in which the document was made public, Msgr. Lambruschini had said that it was not considered infallible and that the doctrine it contains is subject to later revision.

"He who refuses the decision of the authentic magisterium and who, worse still, encourages others to refuse it, is obviously in error," the article said. "In traditional theological language, we

would call the statements of such persons rash and scandalous."

"Dissenting theologians are going against Catholic common belief as well as against the Pope's supreme authority. I wonder in which way these theologians think they are rendering service to the Church while they are undermining the very basis of its institutions which Jesus Christ desired and laid down."

Urge Birth Control In Puerto Rico

San Juan, P.R. — (RNS) — The ruling Popular Democratic party has been urged to support a government-sponsored birth control program in its 1968 campaign platform.

Meanwhile, the Catholic bishops of Puerto Rico have unanimously endorsed Pope Paul's prohibition of birth control.

The proposal was made to a party platform committee by attorney Jose G. Izquierdo, a Roman Catholic of Popular Democratic party, gubernatorial candidate Luis Negrón Lopez, who asked for a platform plank supporting the establishment of Family Planning Institutes in all of Puerto Rico's 76 cities and towns.

Puerto Rico has no government-sponsored birth control program. However, in 1960, the Catholic Church in Puerto Rico clashed with the Popular Democratic Party over birth control. At that time, the party and government had permitted the dissemination of birth control information at public health centers. The Catholic Church warned its members that they would be committing a "mortal sin" if they voted for Luis Muñoz Marín in 1960. He was re-elected to a fourth term, receiving more than 60 per cent of the votes.

Sister Mary Agnella, principal of the elementary school in the parish which is on Chicago's south side, said she took the action because of conflict with Father George H. Clements. She described him as a "militant black separatist."

Father Clements denied Sister Agnella's charge that he wanted a Negro principal in the school. The pastor of St. Dorothy's, Father Gerald P. Scanlan, supported Father Clements.

Also announcing their resignations along with Sister Agnella were Father Francis J. McGrath, Sister Mary Michaelita, Sister Mary Virgineace, Sister Mary Shawn, and Sister Mary Bride. All the nuns are members of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

exists obedience is not necessary is the same thinking that is eating away at the moral code of our nation and is destroying the family as the foundation of a God-loving society," it said.

A statement on birth control released here by the chief executive officer of the Knights of Columbus, a 1,200,000-member fraternal society of Catholic men, called a critical statement issued by other delegates a "chaotic reversal."

The statement criticized by McDevitt was issued by 22 Americans who attended the lay apostolate congress as delegates or experts. A total of 53 U.S. delegates and experts were at the congress. The statement reaffirmed the position on birth control taken at the congress which called for a Church or technical means to achieve responsible parenthood to parents acting in accordance with their Christian faith on the basis of trained medical and scientific consultation.

Catholic Physicians Support Ruling

Philadelphia — (NC) — The executive committee of the St. Francis Catholic Physicians Guild meeting here pledged full support and obedience to Pope Paul's birth control encyclical Humanae Vitae, and urged all guild members to do the same.

The committee's statement was released by Dr. Gino Paola, vice president of the national federation of Catholic physicians guilds.

"The vicar of Christ has spoken," the statement said.

"The misguided theory which has been expounded that when a doubtful law

is not necessary is the same thinking that is eating away at the moral code of our nation and is destroying the family as the foundation of a God-loving society," it said.

Pastor Apologizes For 'Impetuosity'

London — (RNS) — Msgr. Anthony Reynolds, a Roman Catholic pastor here, has apologized for the "impetuosity" of his first reaction to Pope Paul's encyclical on birth control.

Earlier, he had sent the Pope a message, widely quoted in the press, on behalf of the "suffering people" in his parish. The letter had promised prayers "for Your Holiness and for the millions in the Church who are in the prison of doubt and insecurity." It also said that the encyclical "has made me think more than ever in the names of the people."

In his apology, Msgr. Reynolds said that the present times require "patience and restraint." Apologizing for his "lack of reverence for the Holy Father," he said that it is possible that the teaching of the Pope "may gradually become accepted by all."

Cardinal Gracias Promises Obedience

Bombay — (RNS) — Valerian Cardinal Gracias, archbishop here, has written to Pope Paul promising

ing "ready obedience" to the papal ban on birth control and "expressing gratitude for the will of God interpreted by his Church."

The cardinal archbishop of Bombay has been an outspoken critic of his country's vigorous birth control efforts. "We are well aware," the cardinal wrote, "of the anguish of heart of your Holiness, but we also know that in the face of the impulse of the Holy Spirit, there can be nothing but ready obedience."

"We thank God," he said, "for this teaching which he has given us through his vicar."

"I wish to express to your Holiness," he continued, "the sentiments of my own solidarity, which I feel confident will be shared by the bishops of India, in this delicate situation."

Retired Cardinal Succumbs at 73

Sao Salvador, Brazil — (RNS) — Augusto Alvaro Cardinal da Silva, retired archbishop of Sao Salvador, died here at the age of 73.

In 1964 Pope Paul had accepted his resignation from Brazil's oldest diocese and had appointed an apostolic administrator for the Sao Salvador see.

Cardinal da Silva, who was born in Recife, Brazil, in 1876 had been a bishop for 37 years, and a priest for 69 years. He was noted for his devotion to the Eucharist and for his efforts to promote veneration to the priesthood.

SCLC Lists Three Racial Alternatives

Montreal, N.C. — (RNS) — The Rev. Andrew Young, executive vice-president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said here Americans have three alternative courses in response to the racial crisis.

He spoke to a "New Days! New Ways?" conference sponsored by two boards of the Presbyterian Church, U.S. (Southern), and listed the following alternatives:

—"One is the way of the growing sect of anarchists all over America. They have no hope and feel that the only way is to bring about the collapse and destruction of America, even though it may be suicide."

—"The second is that of the black middle class which, in effect, sells out and does not care about the plight of the poor."

—"The third 'is to make these two Americas one America; under God, believing that America can be redeemed, that there is a kernel of goodness and greatness left in this society that can become the dominant stream in America life.'"

6 Quit in Dispute

Chicago — (RNS) — A Roman Catholic priest and five nuns, all white, have resigned from St. Dorothy's Catholic church and school here after a conflict with a Negro assistant pastor in the parish.



Sister Mary Agnella, principal of the elementary school in the parish which is on Chicago's south side, said she took the action because of conflict with Father George H. Clements. She described him as a "militant black separatist."

Father Clements denied Sister Agnella's charge that he wanted a Negro principal in the school. The pastor of St. Dorothy's, Father Gerald P. Scanlan, supported Father Clements.

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K. of C. Leader Hits Criticism

New Haven, Conn. — (NC) — Supreme Knight John W. McDevitt, who served as an American delegate to last year's 3rd World Congress on the Lay Apostolate in Rome, has taken exception to the criticism of Pope Paul VI's

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3. Striped mock turtle neck pullover, sizes 7 to 14, 6.00. Brown A-line skirt, sizes 7-14, 7.00.

Church Suffering 'Passiontide', Prelate Claims

Anaheim, Calif. — (RNS) — The Church "is suffering her passiontide and crucifixion" at the present time, according to Archbishop Joseph T. McGucken of San Francisco.

In a sermon at a Mass opening the 88th annual meeting of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, the archbishop said, "You know that all is not well with the Church at present. But her resurrection will come."

"Meanwhile the Church needs you, valiant knights, to be her loyal friends," he said, "and to make friendship will all who pray and labor for the unity of Christians."

"The Church needs you," he continued, "to defend your co-religionists against the efforts of the evil one to annul her teaching authority and to destroy the charity which must bind the laity and clergy together in the family of God's love."

He praised the 1.2 million-member organization for its past achievements. "In later times," he noted, "when anti-Catholic crusades died out your order had the vitality to meet new challenges, to work for the welfare of youth, to advertise the truth of the faith and to bring many converts into the Church."

"Our country is now seeking the cooperation of benevolent organizations to help solve our social problems."

"You too can cooperate with the federal agencies in many fields: in building suitable housing for the poor, in providing congenial shelter for the elderly, in helping the young to qualify for the opportunities offered in this blessed land."

Patriarch in Visit To Vienna Cardinal

Vienna — (RNS) — Patriarch Justinian of the Romanian Orthodox Church pledged support for Christian-unity efforts during a meeting here with Franz Cardinal Koenig, Archbishop of Vienna.

Cardinal Koenig, who spoke at a Romanian Orthodox Liturgy, described the patriarch's support of unity as "a glowing example for the whole world." The cardinal visited the patriarch in Romania earlier this year.

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AROUND THE

Swiss Guards

Papal Swiss Guards in their stand at the entrance to Castel summer residence. Vatican official that the 70-man guard has three admit there has been "some \$160 monthly salary."

Portugese Student

Lisbon, Portugal — (NC) — of undergraduate students in adherence to some form of religious study conducted by the Y. olic Students organization.

The survey showed that 6 are Catholic and 1.3% Protest to other denominations.

Basque Pries

Madrid — (RNS) — A Basque in Bilbao for refusing to pay a government activities.

Father Xavier Cruz Aguiar, other priests imprisoned at Z. guess border who were arrested against young clerics accused the rebel Basques.

They had refused to pay conviction for barring the St. churches, for insulting public ing to officiate at public cer civil authorities.

Twelve other Basque prie for similar offenses and, a sources, the police are investig 70 more priests in the Basque

AROUND THE

Cardinal Against N

Boston (NC) — Richard he opposes "with great emp nurses need college degrees. lative proposals during the p nursing in general.

The cardinal said that ned in hospitals "have one ar training for the service of nursing. And they do it in : than college graduates," he a

Rusk's Help Sougl

Washington, D.C. (RNS) lic and Jewish religious lea of State Dean Rusk to use the moral strength to open charn ing civilians in Nigeria and

3 p. is NO 4 p.

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