

AROUND THE COUNTRY



WE REGRET TO FORMER... AND VAN... WILL HAVE... HOW IS OTHER... FIELD.
WE STRONGLY URG... SACRAMENT, AND HO... ENTERING AND LEAV... RECTORY.

A Lock On 'God's House'

Vandalism and theft has forced St. Peter's Roman Catholic church, only two blocks from the Capital Building in Washington, to lock its doors except when services are scheduled. The placard below says it all. In England an Anglican rector has pleaded with his congregation to make brief daily visits to prevent thefts, and in some American city churches pastors fearing for the safety of parishioners have eliminated nocturnal adoration. (RNS)

Baptist Group Praises Chicago Police

Indianapolis —(RNS)— The Baptist Bible Fellowship adopted a resolution here commending the Chicago police force and Mayor Richard Daley for "their sacrificial dedication to the cause of law, order and public safety" during the Democratic National Convention.

Participants at the annual meeting placed the commendation in a statement on law and order, which is being threatened, they said, by "anarchists, radicals, subversives and left-wing agitators." tators."

The Baptist Bible Fellowship comprises approximately 2,000 independent Baptist churches in the U.S. and abroad. Membership is estimated at one million persons.

Union Seminary 15 Per Cent Catholic

New York —(RNS)— For the second consecutive year, nearly 15 per cent of the total enrollment at Union Theological Seminary here is Roman Catholic.

The number of Catholics studying at the predominantly Protestant seminary has grown steadily since 1963, when there were three Catholics in a student body of 613. Last year, Catholics became the third largest group at Union with 97 students out of 715. There were 30 new Catholic students admitted in September.

Most of the Catholic students are at Union with full support, including financial, from ecclesiastical superiors.

Church-State Cry Raised Over Stamp

Gendale, Calif. —(RNS)—The U.S. Post Office Department has come under fire for its 1968 Christmas stamp—picturing a Jan Van Eyck painting of the angel Gabriel.

The world religious liberty director of the Seventh-day Adventists, Melvin E. Loewen of Washington, D.C. charged that the Post Office Department "has departed from the American policy of separation of church and state." His article appeared in the official weekly for Adventists in western states.

"A stamp may seem to be a small thing," he wrote, "but when its influence is multiplied by billions of impressions, it cannot help but aid one particular religious philosophy. It will help to establish one particular church."

Big Increase in Crime... Why?

By J. J. GILBERT
NC News Service

Washington—A semiannual report showing a 21 per cent increase in violent crimes in the United States for the first six months of 1968, as compared with the same period of 1967, has attracted more than usual interest.

Some observers have tried to detect in these figures a reflection of the civil disturbances that hit a number of American cities in the period covered by the report. They note comparative increases for cities hit by the disturbances and point out that they are "disproportionate." However, since improved techniques for reporting crimes have been put into operation in some areas this year, one is warned against drawing too many conclusions from the comparisons.

This report is regarded as

a preliminary one, and in such cases the Federal Bureau of Investigation does not break the figures down in great detail.

Meanwhile, the report that robbery crimes increased 29 per cent in the first six months of this year, as compared with a 28 per cent rate of increase in the year 1967, for which a report was issued only a few weeks ago, seems to have a greater significance. In the past, some academic criminologists have tended to downgrade the value of crime-increase reports issued by the FBI, partially because they were volunteered by law enforcement agencies, and partially because different systems of computation may have been used in different areas.

But criminologists were inclined to accept reliable figures on robbery crimes as a

valid indication of how many crimes of violence were being committed. So, when the 1967 figures were issued recently, after being collected with constantly improving means of reporting, some of those criminologists who had been skeptical sat up and took notice. They called the reported increases disclosures. Now, figures for the first six months of 1968 show robbery crimes increasing, and at an even greater rate.

Crimes of violence are reported up 21 per cent so far in 1968, so that the 29 per cent increase in robberies strips the general trend of this crime group.

Also in recent days, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover and U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark gave somewhat different views to the National Commission on the Cause and Prevention of Violence. The attorney

general said that "Of all violence, police violence in excess of authority is the most dangerous." Clark made no direct reference to Chicago, but Hoover told the commission that the Chicago police had "no alternative but to use force" when faced with "viscous, attacking mobs" bent on destructive purposes.

Later, a psychologist told the commission about experiments conducted at Stanford University as to the effects of televised violence on viewers. He said that children after exposure to aggressive behavior, "exhibited far more aggressive behavior against a person who had previously angered them than did a similar group of boys who had been exposed only to a non-violent film."

Albert Bandura also said "the experimental evidence clearly shows that televised violence 'teaches' forms of violent behavior to the viewer, but whether such behavior will actually be performed is determined by many other factors, and the most that can be said is that television violence increases the probability that actual violent behavior will occur."

Laity, Clergy Surveyed

Detroit Catholics Want More Flexibility in Liturgy

Detroit — (RNS)—Roman Catholics, laity and clergy, have voted for "greater flexibility" in the liturgy in a unique program conducted by Archbishop John F. Dearden of Detroit in preparation for the Archdiocesan Synod.

The archbishop, who heads the 1,500,000 Catholics in the eight Michigan counties that comprise the archdiocese, released the figures in a report for the synod which has been conducting preparatory studies since April 1968.

Using a computer to tabulate the responses of Catholics at "speak-up" meetings on the parish, deanery and diocesan level and to correlate their suggestions and responses, the archdiocese was able to present 757 proposals for worship out of some 100,

000 ideas advocated for renewal.

Some specific legislation is expected to be enacted at the synod next winter, but the major result, according to diocesan spokesmen, will be the establishment of broad principles for policy guidance.

In announcing results of the worship commission study, Father Ralph Kowalski said that most people wanted "greater flexibility" in the church's ritual, including Masses with folk music and classical music, Masses for ethnic groups, and Masses for shut-ins.

"The great demand," Father Kowalski said, "seems to be for variety in the liturgy. If many had their way, each Mass would take on an individual character structured

to the interests of the particular people participating in it."

These examples were offered:

Music — Father Kowalski suggested diversity may be the rule in which great Latin compositions by the masters, the hymns "comfortable" to the great majority, and the lively music which appeals to the young would be intermingled. "It is interesting that Sunday folk music Masses arranged with the young in mind have attracted many of their seniors," he noted.

Architecture — "The argument is that the building is made sacred by use, not by an architectural label. Some say that the Church should build simple structures adaptable and serviceable for multiple uses," Father Kowalski stated.

Sermons — "There is intense desire to get the burning issues of the day involved in the homily, but there is also some pressure from others to shun pulpit soliloquies in favor of statements of the basic religious issues involved. At any rate, this is clear: whatever is preached should be preached with somewhat more skill than in the past."

Bishops Criticize Right-wing Movement

Santiago, Chile — (NC) — Several bishops in Latin America have criticized an organization of extreme right-wing Catholics which has been charging that there has been Communist infiltration of the Church in Latin America.

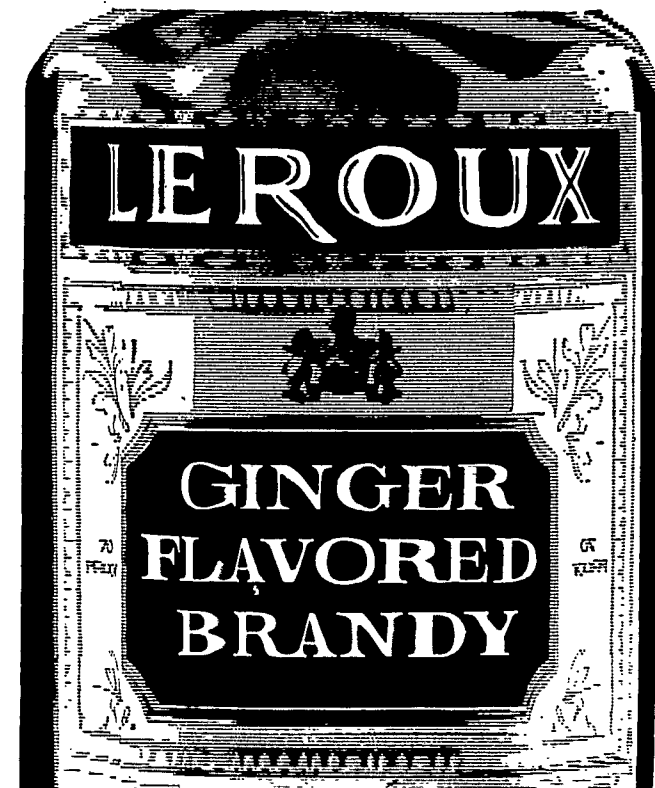
The organization, the Society for the Defense of Tradition, Property and the Family, which has branches in a number of countries, has been getting signatures on a letter to Pope Paul VI. It claims that a group of priests and laity wants to turn the Church into a weapon for extensive Communist agitation. The letter also urges the Pope to take forceful action against

progressive priests and laymen favorable to communism.

The campaign for signatures has been conducted in this country, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Uruguay.

Auxiliary Bishop Fernando Arizaga Ruiz of Santiago said in a press release that the organization "does not present the true voice of the Church."

His campaign, he continued, "in no way reflects the thoughts and feelings of the ecclesiastical authorities in Chile, in labeling all efforts and desires for a profound change in present conditions, as inspired by communism."



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First Time C
For the first time in the frescoes have been removed from their original settings and are being displayed at New York's Metropolitan Museum for the first time which each artist placed in the fresco. These drawings reveal that the artist sometimes placed the fresco (bottom painting), sinopia and fresco entitled "Bernard." It was painted of Pergino (1500) and is Maddalena dei Pazzi in "The Trinity and St. Jerome." The sinopia of Andrea del Castagno (1445) Church of San Florence.

Douai 400
London —(NC)—The foundation of the English northern France, is being Douai was founded by the last Roman Catholic bishop. The college trained came to this country secretly in the worst days of persecution. They knew they were coming here.

Conversions Vir
Bhopal, India —(RNS) legislative assembly here make conversions to Christianity in the state.
Called the Freedom of Religion is ostensibly intended that result from "force, means." According to missionaries from Stuttgart's Marien Hospital.

Cardinal Hope
Berlin —(RNS)—The ed Archbishop of Prague Czechoslovakia, "but now that to the Russians," that the cardinal was r herria operation performed Stuttgart's Marien Hospital.
Cardinal Beran has since his exile — following arrest and house arrest under the communist regime in Prague. He return to Rome in early 1968 on his 80th birthday Dec. 29.

What a going in your this we

Please check one:

- a. Drive home for
- b. Take in the won
- c. Visit the nearest
- d. All of the above.
- e. None of the above.
- f. None of your bu

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