

More Bishops Join Criticism Of Media Press Coverage

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"The pastoral, as its own text explicitly states, accepted without qualification and completely endorsed the teaching of the Pope's encyclical, declaring it to be the authentic teaching in the Church. The pastoral points out that the teaching of the Church on this, as on any other question involving morality, always presupposes the established moral principles concerning conscience and degree of guilt in the face of whatever evil men may do or to which they may succumb," Bishops Wright and Connare agreed.

Bishop Wright noted that Father Bernard Haering, C.S.S.R., German theologian, who led public opposition to the encyclical when it first appeared, has now urged that public controversy cease, and the encyclical be given sober, quiet, conscientious study due to both because of the supreme importance of the subject and



BISHOP WRIGHT because of the sacred authority of its source.

Bishop Blanchette and Vonesh drew attention to the following passage from the pastoral: "The encyclical is a positive statement concerning the nature of conjugal love and responsible parenthood, a statement which derives from a global vision of man, an integral view of marriage, and the first principles, at least, of a sound sexuality. It is an obligatory statement, consistent with moral convictions rooted in the traditions of Eastern and Western Christian faith; it is an authoritative statement solemnly interpreting imperatives which are divine rather than ecclesiastical in origin."

"It presents without ambiguity, doubt or hesitation the authentic teaching of the Church concerning the objective evil of that contraception which closes the marital act to the transmission of life, deliberately making it unfruitful. United in collegial solidarity with the Successor of Peter, we proclaim this doctrine."

Local Press Coverage Skimpy on Document

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denunciation of all forms of birth control.

Had the Bishops contradicted the Holy Father and told U.S. Catholics that birth control was permissible what streamer headlines we might have seen then!

2. Catholics should once again appreciate the value of having their diocesan newspaper to bring them the whole and true details of their Bishops' words and actions.

Throughout the country the secular press summarization of the Bishops' Conference was as inadequate as in this area. Many bishops who had shared in the arguments over the composition of their letter and knew that more than 100 bishops had taken a direct part in preparing it, publicly expressed shock that the secular media in their area had misinterpreted their strong stand or had not reported it.

Several bishops stated that the news media had committed a "gross distortion of the facts".

None of our area newspapers told diocesan readers that the clearest evidence of the Bishops' complete acceptance of the Holy Father's encyclical condemning all contraception was in these words:

"The Encyclical is an obligatory statement . . . It is an authoritative statement solemnly interpreting imperative which are divine rather than ecclesiastical in origin. It presents without ambiguity, doubt or hesitation the authentic teaching of the Church concerning the objective evil of that contraception which closes the marital act to the transmission of

life . . . United in collegial solidarity with the successor of Peter, we proclaim this doctrine."

Despite these words, the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle editorially (11/16/68) called the Bishops' statement "a qualified diversion from the Pope's view" and dared to say (after reporting only ONE sentence on the long anti-contraception section of the letter) that the Church was now free "to become an active partner in the social welfare programs from which it has been barred."

The Courier-Journal, because of production problems and an early deadline last week, could carry only the most significant paragraphs of the Bishops' Pastoral. Today we print one-half of this important document and will conclude it next week. It deserves to be read carefully. Pull out page 11 for easy reading and keeping.

Burlington Okays Mass on Saturday

Burlington, Vt. — (NC) — Bishop Robert F. Joyce of Burlington announced the Sunday Mass obligation in the diocese may now be fulfilled by attendance at Saturday Mass, provided it takes place at any hour after 4 p.m.

Bishop Joyce said permission for the privilege had been granted by an indult from the Holy See. He said he hoped its use would "be of great benefit to all our clergy and laity."

Catholic Unit Supports Income Plan

"We call upon all men of religious conviction, especially our fellow Catholics, to work actively for just and adequate programs to sustain, reinforce and improve the quality of family life."

So said the National Conference of Catholic Charities in a resolution taken last week in Pittsburgh.

The conference had just heard from Rochester's Msgr. Donald J. Mulcahy on the matter of "income maintenance," or, in more familiar words, guaranteed annual income.

"A basic weakness of our society today is that we have not established standards for decent and dignified human living," his committee report states.

"We submit that every human being has an inalienable right to a decent minimum of subsistence, and that this right emanates from his nature and worth as a living person," the report declares.

It is the work of 14 Catholic charities directors and consultants and social service professors, who for more than a year collected information and opinions from government, university and other sources.

The committee bluntly declares in favor of a guaranteed national income, but makes no commitment on manner or means.

It recognizes difficulties in administration and points out philosophical obstacles, such as the classic attitude that everyone must earn his keep and is lazy if he does not.

"This attitude viewed man as the sole creator of his destiny," the report comments. "The current attitude toward poverty involves not only economics, but politics, morality and, hopefully, justice."

Monsignor Mulcahy said in an interview here that the National Conference had set such views before a congressional study committee last summer and hoped that the committee report would go into the Congressional Record.

Populate or Perish, Australians Told

Sydney, Australia — (NC) — Populate or perish.

This was the grim warning sounded to Australia by visiting Thomas Cardinal Cooray, O.M.I., of Colombo, Ceylon.

The cardinal said Australia must increase its population or commit national suicide. Lack of manpower, he said was the thing which had struck him most so far during his Australian tour.

Pope Paul VI's encyclical on birth control, Humanae Vitae, had come at the right time for Australia, he said, adding that he considered it a nation at duty of Australian parents to populate their country and that it would be a good investment by the government to assist further large families.

New Liturgy Discussed at Meeting

Chicago — (NC) — The new canons of the Mass which will come into use Jan. 1 were the chief topic of the first joint national meeting of diocesan liturgy and music commission members. Some 450 persons attended the meeting at the Conrad Hilton Hotel (Nov. 20-22).

Conference participants, representing 150 U.S. dioceses, were urged to take the lead in introducing the new Mass prayers — recently approved by both Pope Paul VI and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops — in parishes.

Official representatives from the Rochester Diocese were Father James Moynihan, chancellor, Father Benedict Ehmman, pastor of St. Michael's Church, Msgr. William H. Shannon, Nazareth College, Very Rev. Damasus Winzen, O.S.B., Mt. Saviour Monastery, and Mr. William Ferris, Sacred Heart Cathedral staff.

They reported to the Courier-Journal that considerable time and serious concern was directed toward guideline documents on mu-

sic and liturgy prepared by the U.S. Bishops' Commissions earlier this year. These proposals, after further improvement through discussion and then ratification by the proper Vatican Congregations may be designated for diocesan procedures sometime in 1969.

Father Frederick R. McManus, director of the secretariat of the bishops' committee on the liturgy, said the new canons or eucharistic prayers are "shorter and simpler texts, offering a better and clearer expression of what eucharistic prayer should be. They all have the same basic elements, but vary to provide richness and variety."

Adapted for various uses together

Our Diocesan Centennial Supplement available for 35¢. Courier-Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester.

Archbishop Dearden Describes Tenor Of Bishops' Meeting

Detroit — (NC) — Archbishop John F. Dearden of Detroit has stressed that the American bishops at their Nov. 11-15 meeting in Washington "were very conscious of the importance of what they were doing in the life of the total Church in the United States."

In a pastoral letter to the people of the archdiocese, Archbishop Dearden, who as president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops presided at the Washington sessions, asserted: "Aware of their role, they were no less mindful of the implications of their work for the whole Christian people of this land."

Archbishop Dearden said many things were accomplished at the Washington sessions, some of which will be carried into action without delay, while "others will unfold with the passing of time."

Regarding the bishops' pastoral, Archbishop Dearden said:

"The document in its entirety calls for careful and prayerful study. Its focus is upon the Christian values that attach to human life in all its dimensions. Reaffirming the theme of the encyclical Humanae Vitae, it underscores the positive values that are set forth in that document. It reasserts clearly the teaching of the Holy Father. At the same time, it shows a compassionate understanding of the problems and anxieties of our people. It endeavors to set the moral teaching of the Church in the broad context of all our human responsibilities."

"Beyond this, the document enters into a study of the implications of the pursuit of peace in our time. Since the issues are so vital, it is fitting that the moral principles involved in this quest find expression."

"The collective pastoral is addressed to you. If it is to bear fruit, you must read it and take its lessons to

heart. It was written with you in mind and with some understanding of the concerns that are closest to your heart. It has been prepared in the spirit of our faith with all the hope and strength that it brings to us. For this reason, I hope that you will give it the closest possible study. I encourage you to read the entire text of the pastoral letter."

In a press conference, Auxiliary Bishop Walter J. Schoenherr of Detroit, underscored the tedious preparation involved in composing the pastoral.

He said the document went through three stages of writing before it finally was approved. For example, the bishop cited the section of the pastoral dealing with the bishops' affirmation of Pope Paul's encyclical on birth control.

Bishop Schoenherr recalled the original text said those "who resort to artificial contraception" should not "be complacent." He said this was changed to "not be discouraged," but finally it was decided to state "never to lose heart."

He said the bishops decided to use the word "evil" instead of "sin" in the phrase "the objective evil of that contraception" and "the objective evil of artificial contraception itself" because Pope Paul "doesn't mention sin much" in the encyclical.

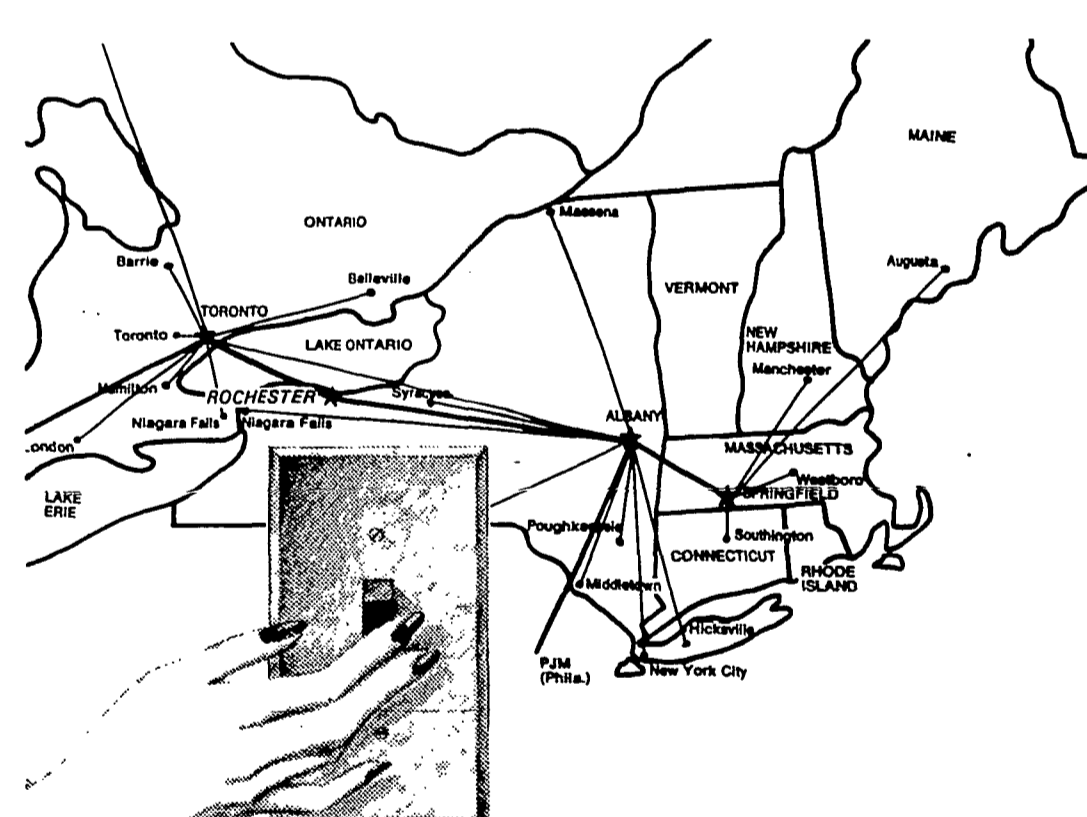
St. Louis Priest Named Prelate

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has named Father Andrew B. Schierhoff of St. Louis as auxiliary to Archbishop Jorge Manrique Hurtado of La Paz, Bolivia, and also named him titular bishop of Cerenza.

Father Schierhoff worked in the St. Louis archdiocese for six years after his ordination in 1948. He went to Bolivia in 1956 and three years later was named pastor in the town of Viacha in the La Paz archdiocese.

BROTHER ANSELM DIES

Baltimore — (RNS) — Brother Edwin Anselm Murphy, F.S.C., onetime president of La Salle College in Philadelphia, died here at 82. A native of Binghamton, N.Y., and a member of the Christian Brothers for 63 years, Brother Anselm, as he was known, served in a score of schools and institutions on the east coast, from Augusta, north.



Most everyone takes us for granted.

(and we're working to keep it that way)

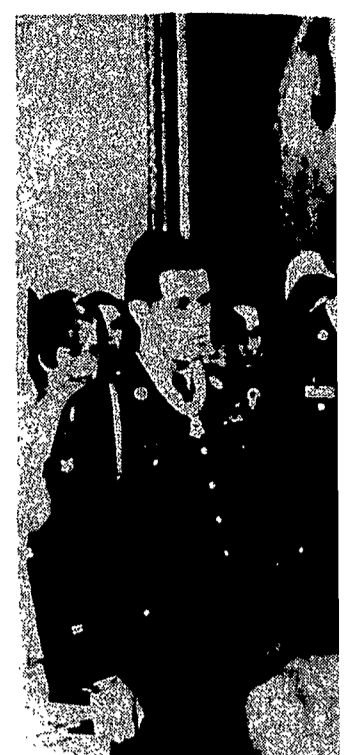
Reliability of electric service is something that most Americans do take for granted . . . and we intend to keep it that way.

To further improve reliability and efficiency RG&E and the 19 other interconnected electric utilities in New York, New England and the Province of Ontario, which make up The Northeast Power Coordinating Council, have established master control centers in Albany, Springfield, Mass., and Toronto.

The Albany center which is being built by RG&E and other New York State utility companies is now under construction. The other centers will follow shortly.

In addition RG&E and the 19 inter-connected utilities have modified operating practices and installed automatic equipment to guard against cascading system collapse and make sure that the effect of equipment failure can be localized.

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Five heroes of the Viet-sent the Congressional Medal of Honor of Oak Creek, Wis.; Sp. Ind.; the President; Capt Jacksonville, Fla. (RNS)

Priest

Washington — (NC) — A sionary priest, dedicated in time to work among Negroes South, is the second military laic in the nation's history awarded the highest decorative honorism — the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Fittingly, the honor came to the (Capt.) Angelo J. Litek, M.S.S.T., here in his native — at a ceremony at the White House.

Father Litek, who previously decorated with the Disting Service Cross, was one of five to receive medals of Honor President Johnson. The others Capt. James A. Taylor, 30, 4 Calif.; Spec. 4 Gary G. Wetzel, Oak Creek, Wis.; Spec. 5 Dwight Johnson, Detroit, and Sgt. Sam Davis, 22, Martinsville, Ind.

Father Litek, who joined Army chaplain corps in 1966, first chaplain to receive the Medal of Honor for heroism in the Vietnam War.

Hanoi Vi Considered

Vatican City — (NC) — Paul VI has intimated in a letter to the archbishop of Hanoi that he would like to have visited Vietnam in connection with its 10th anniversary if the war situation did not exist.

Pope Paul's desire was contained in a personally written letter to bishop Joseph Marie Trinh Nhu of Hanoi on the occasion of the centenary of the consecration of Western Tonkin, now North Vietnam, to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In writing to the archbishop Paul said: "This anniversary is the happy occasion for expressing to you, as well as to all our sons — bishops, priests and faithful — of North Vietnam, the feelings we have for you. It is often very difficult for us to express them to

"Had circumstances been favorable, rest assured that we have very willingly come amor to encourage you in your hard and to make you feel with what we share them. We wish at least this message to be in some way at your side, believing that must above all give the assistance our ministry to those who are in tribulation."

Pope, U T Notes on '1

United Nations — (RNS) — Paul VI has informed Secretary General U Thant that he again intends to observe New Year's Day as "World Day of Peace."

The United Nations leader, replying to the papal message, said the assumption that the path to and the path to human rights are divergent and that there can be no real peace in the world without respect for human freedom and dignity, "is at the core of the philosophy of the United Nations."

The text of letters exchanged between Amleto Cardinal Cigonani, Secretary of State, and U Thant cleared here.

Cardinal Cigonani wrote that Paul VI has chosen "Recognit Human Rights, the Path to Peace" as the theme for the day of peace.

He suggested that Jan. 1, should also serve to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the United Declaration of Human Rights actual anniversary date is Dec. 10. Cardinal Cigonani wrote that Paul was highly appreciative of "unceasing efforts to and maintain peace in the world that he would be grateful for that general's collaboration during worldwide observance of "World Day of Peace" proclaimed the pontiff.

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