

Pastor Favors State Aid to Church Schools

'Lutherans May Need to Change Traditional Stands'

Chicago — (NC) — Two ranking educational leaders in the Northern Illinois district of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have indicated that state aid may be needed if Lutheran schools are to continue operating.

They are the Rev. John Sternberg, pastor of St. Peter Lutheran Church at Schaumburg, Ill., chairman of the board of Christian Education for the district, and Edwin Eckert, superintendent of Lutheran schools for the district.

The December issue of

"Chicagoand Lutheran," a 50,000 circulation news magazine published by the Lutheran Council of Greater Chicago, quoted Pastor Sternberg as saying, "Lutherans may need to change their stands on the traditional concept of separation of church and state."

"I believe the time has come when we should recognize that both church and state have individual areas of responsibility. There may be opportunity for joint endeavor by which children can receive educational advantages that would otherwise be

denied them," he said.

"Pastor Sternberg," the magazine said, "pointed to the possibility of strengthening the support for Christian day schools through granting tax relief to parents of non-public school children. He suggested that if an Illinois state income tax comes into being such parents might be granted certain exemptions."

Superintendent Eckert told Chicago diocesan newspaper The New World that he "surely concurs" with the recent proposal made by the Roman Catholic bishops of Illinois

for aid to non-public schools.

The bishops asked for help in buying students, loan of secular textbooks, certain auxiliary services and financial help for purchase of materials to be used for secular subjects.

Eckert said he favored all the bishops' stated objectives except for the financial aid requested. "I have reservations about this," he said. "We need to define what is secular and what is not."

Eckert said there has been an apparent switch in think-

ing among representatives of the Lutheran church on the question of state aid. "However," he added, "we are still very much concerned about government controls that might accompany any state or federal aid."

Eckert pointed out that while leaders in the Lutheran church are beginning to favor state aid, "not all Lutherans are in agreement on the question." However, statements by church leaders, he added, "have generally had a favorable influence on many church members."

Toronto Senate Asks More Adult Education

Toronto — (NC) — "Many of our people are bewildered and shaken at the changes that are taking place and at the enunciation of 'new theologies' within the Church," the Toronto Senate of Priests observed in a special report to Coadjutor Archbishop Philip Pocock last week.

"And even more tragically for the future, more and more of our young people are quietly drifting away, finding not only the organized Church but religion itself to be meaningless for them — and the point at which most are leaving the Church is during their early adult years."

The answer is adult religious education on a broad scale, the senate said, in approving a report that was 15 months in the making.

Area centers serving several parishes and a system of satellite learning centers could provide a means for adults to tune in to changes and reasons for changes in the Church and in society.

The report recommends:

- That a full-time director, preferably a layman, be appointed to develop and coordinate adult religious education programs throughout the archdiocese.
- That an adequate budget and staff be established at the outset.

• That marriage preparation courses be established on an area basis, "perhaps in an ecumenical framework."

Archbishop Pocock will decide when and how to implement the report. Practical problems lie in hiring competent staff, training discussion leaders and finding an initial budget of \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Programs would be family oriented because, as the report states, "It is unfortunate but true that today many (parents) are ill-informed, afraid, concerned, confused and alienated."

"In a time of change so swift as to bewilder the most sophisticated, we are asking our Catholic people to change in the most deeply rooted aspects of their lives and beliefs, but without offering them adequate, continuing opportunity to learn and live the Christian reasons for change."

Jewish Affairs

Youths Ask Draft Counseling

Chicago — (RNS) — Participants in the 18th annual convention of the United Synagogue Youth here pleaded with Jewish agencies and rabbis to offer more direct counseling on military service, conscientious objection and pacifism.

Of 100 young men — ages 14 to 17 — questioned, most were familiar with pacifist principles but were uncertain on options available to them under draft laws. They were divided on whether they might seek a conscientious objector status at the registration age of 18.

A majority had discussed the draft issue with parents but only 10 had been counseled by a rabbi. The youths questioned represented Conservative Judaism.

Two-thirds said they opposed the draft because of the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam war. Rabbi Saul Topfitz, chairman of the United Synagogue Youth Commission, said that greater effort should be made to assist Jewish youth "so they can make an intelligent evaluation of their own position on matters of conscientious objection and their attitude toward pacifism."

He noted that Jewish theology has "no tradition of pacifism but a tradition of struggling for peace since

the Jewish people have always been oppressed and persecuted. Judaism has always been a religion committed to peace, from ancient days to modern times."

The rabbi added that Judaism has found "cases when the struggle for justice demands war." He cited World War II against Nazism and the Israeli-Arab conflicts.

One young man told the group he had embraced pacifism because he understood the purpose of religion to be that of sanctifying human life. "It seems to me," he said, "that to participate in war is to participate in exactly the opposite process, the violation of human rights."

The Synagogue Council of America, an agency embracing Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism, recently said that "Judaism cannot give blanket approval to those who dissent and feel it necessary to violate the law of the land which does not meet with their approval."

On the other hand, the Council added that "it is possible for an individual to find himself compelled by conscience to reject the demands of human law which to the person appears in conflict with demands made on him by a higher law."

Orthodox Decline Blamed on Clergy

Athens — (RNS) — The percentage of religious people within the Greek population is steadily decreasing and the clergy is responsible, the Primate of Athens and All Greece said here.

Sacraments and other rituals are not conducted in a way to uplift believers spiritually, he said, and most sermons are stereotyped and threadbare and do not correspond to the needs of people.

The Archbishop explained that such conditions exist because the Church has not yet drafted clear directions in the face of the host of problems within society.

Bishops Look at 'Rights' of Many Cultures

Ottawa — (NC) — "The United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights is an awakening of man's conscience to transform the forces of our society, particularly those forces which unduly exploit individuals and nations and which lead to deprivation and discrimination," the Canadian Catholic Conference declared here.

The statement said that "the Church shares with the United Nations the conviction that the effective protection of human rights is an essential condition of national and international peace and progress."

The statement emphasizes the particular needs of native cultures within Canada to "conserve their identities

and their capacities for self-development."

It stresses "the right of parents to have their children educated in a system consonant with their religion and culture," and states that "the language rights of the founding cultures must be respected in law, in commerce and in the provision of equal opportunity."

Social services policy

"ought to build upon the preservation of freedom and initiative and not upon a degrading form of dependence," the statement continued. It also said that "in international aid in the development of emerging countries Canada has those duties to fulfill which fall naturally upon one of the wealthier and more technically advanced countries of the world."

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Radio Station Keeps License Despite Protests

Media, Pa. — (RNS) — A radio station here owned by Faith Theological Seminary is entitled to renewal of its license despite the protests of 19 religious, labor and civic groups in the Philadelphia area to stop it, a Federal Communications Commission examiner has ruled.

The 19 groups charged that the station's programming was unfair, unbalanced and bigoted.

WXUR was called by its opponents a "forum for anti-Negro, anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic" points of view. It was also charged with failing to comply with the FCC "fair practice" code of providing time for reply to those criticized.

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FATHER McDONALD DIES

Baltimore — (NC) — Lawrence Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore celebrated a requiem Mass (Jan. 2) for Father Lloyd P. McDonald, S.S., former national provincial of the Sulpician Fathers, at St. Mary's Seminary, Roland Park, here.

Father McDonald, 72, died at Bon Secours Hospital (Dec. 28) after a long illness.

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Archbishop Pocock will decide when and how to implement the report. Practical problems lie in hiring competent staff, training discussion leaders and finding an initial budget of \$20,000 to \$25,000.

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Statement of Condition December 31, 1968

Assets

First Mortgage Loans	\$27,532,998.49
Loans on Pass Books	198,431.64
Student Loans	112,757.85
Property Improvement Loans	108,453.43
Real Estate Sold on Contract	22,411.49
U. S. Government Bonds	1,674,179.35
U. S. Government Agency Bonds	1,349,036.65
Federal Home Loan Bank Stock	327,400.00
Prepaid Share Insurance Premium	251,657.22
Other Investments	819,088.24
Cash	851,255.34
Office Building and Equipment	167,592.88
Accrued Interest Receivable	63,141.54
Other Resources	3,481.76
Total Assets	\$33,481,885.70

Liabilities

Savings Accounts	\$30,608,544.91
Loans in Process	129,410.00
Other Liabilities	50,042.24
Surplus, Undivided Profits And Federal Insurance Reserve	2,693,888.50
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The results are strug the wake of three soufeats in their last four while Kearney barely against county kingpin W and city power Monroe i lost two contests.

After being overpowertowering Monroe quick, three weeks ago, the K

Holy Rosary has the high school a 65-58 win over McNut, Mike S Schwenzer, Neil DiNolfo. Not pres bus Civic Centre, whi

BOWLING

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St. Helen's Ladies
Rene Ventrella 649-226; Lo 461; Karen Lechner 451; F 461; Betty Kelly 461; Louie Kiehl 461; Marie 461; Anne Shyker 461; Helen 461; Ange Eberhard 461.

Our Lady of Mercy M Norma Faulkner 649-227; Cover 461-186; Mimi 461-186; Lottie Blum 461-186; Mileyne 461-186; Anne Harris 461-186; Gary Topick 624-248; Ken B 207; Jim Parham 631-206; Styler 631-206.

INTERFAITH POVERTY
Ottawa, Ont. — (RNS) Canadian Council of C and the Canadian Catho ference have agreed to together against pove to set up an eight-m level advisory committee pare joint action.

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