



Assigned to Africa

Korea, still generally considered a mission territory, may be becoming a source of mission vocations if the case of Sister Lucia Yu is an example. The Sister, who is a medical doctor and a member of the Maryknoll Sisters, has been transferred from the Maryknoll Hospital in Pusan (above) to a new 75-bed hospital in Kenya. (RNS)

### N.J. to Investigate School's Program On Sex Education

Nowark, N.J. — (NC) — An official of the Christian Communications Apostolate has won from the New Jersey State Department of Education in Trenton a promise to investigate the sex education program of the Rahway public school system.

Dr. Matthew McCue, a dentist who heads the CCA, a lay group associated with the Newark Archdiocesan Communications Office, had asked that the program in the Rahway grammar schools be discontinued.

In a letter to State Education Commissioner Carl L. Marburger, Dr. McCue said that a text being used for children in grades one through six refers to abortion, contraception and masturbation.

Such "complex sex acts and facts are beyond the mental comprehension" of pupils that young, he stated. Dr. McCue said he contacted Marburger after a Presbyterian whose child attends the Rahway schools brought the matter to the attention of the CCA.

Robert Goodstein, consultant on health, education and guidance to Rahway schools, said the program had been initiated after consultation with religious organizations which he did not name.

Dr. McCue charged that the program usurps both parental and religious rights, violates rights of privacy by rearing children "with liberal values, and ideals lacking in moral values," relegating parents to a secondary role and treats sex as a "purely biological matter."

### Canada Lutherans Hope for Projects With Catholics

Winnipeg, Man. — (RNS) — The Lutheran Council in Canada's division of theological studies has been asked to study suggestions for relationships between the Lutheran and Catholic Churches.

Recommendations made during a Toronto, Ont., conference of Catholics and Lutherans in January are to be considered.

The January gathering expressed hope for "promotion of mutual enlightenment in regard to form of worship and piety." Suggestions included joint pastoral meetings, exchange of speakers in each other's parishes, exchange of secondary professors and continuation of regional dialogue groups.

### ANGLICANS CONSIDER PART-TIME MINISTRY

London — (RNS) — The Church of England has moved towards establishment of an order of part-time priests. The Church Assembly recently endorsed a proposal for an "auxiliary parochial ministry" composed of laymen in secular employment, who would be trained and ordained to the priesthood while continuing their secular work.

# CAPITOL HILL ROUND-UP

Albany — The main event as far as the Legislature is concerned this week, was the budget hearings.

In Chancellors Hall, just across the street from the State Capitol, the Ways and Means Committee of the Assembly and the Finance Committee of the Senate sat for two days this week to hear the public speak about the budget.

What was surprising, according to a Committee executive was this: few came to talk about the cuts in welfare and health and social services.

But the poor did have a representative. Father Charles J. Fahey, Director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Syracuse spoke for the eight Charities directors of the state.

Here's part of what he said:

"Today, I come to you with dismay, shock and bewilderment."

"At the very outset on behalf of my colleagues I register a strong protest in regard to the way in which the budget is being cut at the cost to people... Expedience, injustice, and human suffering seem to be the inevitable concomitants of these hastily proposed budget cuts.

"The fiscal problems of this state are great but we cannot help but wonder at poverty in the midst of affluence."

"We wonder about the condition of our state which blithely proposes in a period

of unparalleled prosperity, fiscal measures which cannot help but mean human misery."

Although the budget was presented in mid-January some of the bills implementing the reductions called for were just introduced in February.

Among the tragic suggestions: reducing welfare aid payments by 5 per cent; freezing hospital rates in Medicaid; cutting \$19 million from Medicaid costs by making fewer people eligible; reductions in nursing home care, in school-aid, aid to localities, etc.

The school systems had many spokesmen at the budget hearings. Representatives of teachers associations, school boards associations, school business officials, school district and parents groups came in to urge no cutback in needed school aid.

But voices speaking for the poor people were few and far between. The school folks are well aware of the power of persuasion and the necessity of good public relations and impact on the Legislature in these times.

The welfare people don't seem to have that same know-how. Or if they do they didn't come to ask for "no reduction" as the school people did.

In all the budget hearings have to be labeled "disappointing."

The people, the ordinary people, the poor people, just didn't come, yet they are the ones who face a 5 per cent

cut in their spending money for food and clothes if the cuts go through.

A series of bills has been introduced in the Senate and Assembly with the aim of correcting some of the difficulties that the pro-abortion people claim can be solved only by destroying infants in the womb.

The bills were introduced in the Assembly by L. Corbett and N. Kelleher (Upstate Republicans) and in the Senate by Sen. William Ferrall (Brooklyn Democrat).

The bills have different purposes:

- To improve the state services available for the handicapped child, and thus lessen the call for aborting him in the womb.

- To increase research in genetics, on rubella and other diseases that can affect unborn babies, and thus help reduce birth defects.

- To improve counseling services for expectant mothers with problems and emotional difficulties.

In all cases the reason behind the bills contain a basic philosophy that says: the aim of the state should be to help people with problems; not to destroy infants in the womb so there will be fewer people, and therefore, fewer problems.

And whatever you do, don't forget to write!

That's good advice for citizens as well as for children going away on a trip.

If you were to walk through the State Capitol and go to various members' offices you'd see the letters right there on the desk. You might hear two or three aides involved in a discussion as a reply is being drafted to a particular citizen's request.

So your comment on taxes, or abortion, or welfare or health or whatever interests you will have an impact.

This column is prepared weekly during the legislative session with the cooperation of the New York State Catholic Committee in Albany. If you have any questions or comments about your state legislature or government, write to Capitol Hill Round-Up, in care of this newspaper.

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### Lateran Pacts 40 Years Old

Vatican City — (NC) — "Fruitful, harmonious collaboration between state and church" has developed in the 40 years of the Lateran treaties, Pope Paul noted last week.

Marking the anniversary of the pacts which regulated church-state relations, he addressed a telegram to the president of the Italian Bishops' Conference, Giovanni Cardinal Urbani.

Italian Premier Mariano Rumor and the Papal Secretary of State, Amleto Cardinal Cicognani, exchanged telegrams. There was no mention of possible amendments to the concordat, for which there has been political agitation in the past three years.

### School Opened for Aboriginal Nuns

Darwin, Australia — (NC) — The first training school for aboriginal nuns was opened here by Bishop John O'Loughlin, M.S.C., of Darwin, who called the event "the crowning of the work our missionaries have done."

Bishop O'Loughlin said that 20 years ago his predecessor, Bishop F. X. Zell was paying the tribal bride price for hundreds of girls so they could go to mission schools. He earned the title of "the Bishop with 100 wives." He didn't hold out much hope for vocations Bishop O'Loughlin said.

But three years ago, the first aboriginal nun was professed and now the congregation has five aboriginal postulants.

### Germans Writing Common Creed

Frankfurt — (RNS) — An interdenominational commission representing all German-speaking Christian Churches, has approved a preliminary draft of a common text of the Apostles' Creed.

A common text of the Lord's Prayer, worked out by the same commission, has already been accepted by German-speaking churches in Germany,

## Grant to Help Unit Ease Racial Tension

New York — (RNS) — The Synagogue Council of America has received a \$54,500 grant from the Ford Foundation for a program designed to lessen tensions between Negro and Jewish groups.

The program, co-sponsored by the Inter-Faith Citywide Coordinating Committee Against Poverty, will bring together Negro clergymen and rabbis to explore existing religious and racial tensions.

Began in early December by 250 Negro clergymen and rabbis, the program will establish a network for ongoing communications and joint community activities on the local neighborhood level.

Rabbi Henry Siegman, executive vice-president of the Synagogue Council, said the funds will allow the council to apply the experience gained in New York to similar urban situations in other parts of the country.

Rabbi Siegman stressed that the clergymen "unlike the 'instant leaders' created by our modern mass media... represent a leadership element that enjoys constant and close personal relations with a large segment of the community."

"They have lived in their communities with the burden of leadership long before current tensions arose, and they will remain in their posts long after the names of radical extremists who exploit the passions of the moment will have been forgotten."

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