

PEOPLE AND EVENTS



Pilgrimage Into the Future

During a service of Holy Communion at the Broadway United Church of Christ in New York, members put on their hats and coats and marched out of the building to a new home in St. Paul the Apostle Roman Catholic church. Top, Dr. Lawrence L. Durgin of the Broadway church leads the procession out of the old French Gothic structure which has been leased to a development company. Middle, the congregation parades along upper Broadway.

Dr. Howard Mitchell, retiring conductor of the National Symphony in Washington, D.C., has been awarded the Papal Order of St. Gregory the Great. Msgr. Abraham Than has been named auxiliary bishop of Kengtun, Burma. The editor of the Arizona Register, Tucson, Ariz., Father James T. Stapleton, has been named a Monsignor.

Pope Paul granted a special audience March 7 to a group of about 60 Czechoslovak pilgrims whose bus arrived too late for a general audience. Paul Weiss, one of America's most distinguished philosophers, will occupy the Heffer Chair of Philosophy at the Catholic University of America Sept. 1. He will take up his new duties after returning from Yale University where he is currently Sterling Professor of Philosophy.

Bp. Hickey Reviews His Past Year

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He sits on the Diocesan Board of Consultors and the Lay Advisory Board which discusses major issues in diocesan financial policy.

Bishop Sheen and his Auxiliary confer many times a day, exercising what they call "a corporate judgment" on most items of diocesan policy. "He is a man who asks for lots of advice," Bishop Hickey admits quietly, "and he seeks it from many people outside his own diocesan staff, too."

Bishop Hickey was no stranger to chancery affairs when Pope Paul named him Auxiliary Bishop last year. He had served on the staff of Bishop James E. Keane for 15 years, from 1948 to 1961. Secretary of the Marriage Tribunal. While pastor of St. Theodore's parish in Rochester, in 1967, he was chosen as Vicar General for Bishop Sheen after a democratic vote of the priests of the diocese voted him as most fit for helping the new Bishop.

Asked about his "private" life in a small, modestly furnished home at 31 Woodbine Ave., Rochester, near St. Augustine's Church, the Bishop said: "There is a distinct advantage in living away from a parish rectory. I find I am more objective about parochial affairs not being tethered to a parish and more free to give my entire time to the diocese."

He celebrates morning Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church and Sundays makes parochial visitations, offering Mass, preaching and greeting parishioners in a different place each weekend in the northern part of the diocese.

"It's been wonderful visiting some rural parishes where the people have never had a Bishop celebrate their Sunday Mass, or have the time to chat with them informally." When visiting mission churches, where there is no rectory, the Bishop enjoys having a family breakfast in a parishioner's home.

Staffing parishes and schools with a diminishing personnel is a major worry for the Auxiliary. "We are in a serious problem of vocation decline in the seminaries and the Sisterhoods here, but there seems to be improvement ahead," he believes.

The entering class at St. Bernard's this year was "large and talented" he said, and prospects for a good freshman class at King's Prep are promising.

"Our two major religious orders expect to lose 52 teaching Sisters before next Fall. This will bring hardship to many parochial school faculties," he said.

Speaking of parish school finances the Bishop said that the budgets are "overweighted with more than the lay teachers' salaries."

"The Sisters' salaries have also increased in recent years and the costs of new materials, like science and visual aid equipment, hurt all parishes."

The Rochester Diocese has come into the post-Vatican Council II without serious confusion, he observed. "Many other dioceses have had public turmoil from issues pitting laymen and priests against their Bishops, pickets and protests and disagreements about how reforms should take place. Our own pace of renewal has been comparatively peaceful."

He cited the numerical growth of parish councils and their value in democratizing parochial life.

Liturgical reforms permitted by the Holy See are in general use around the diocese, he observed. The Priests' Council has become an effective vehicle for "priests of all ages to talk to each other and to the Bishop in a spirit of friendly helpfulness."

Education Hassle Continues

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The Superintendent to "justify some of the raw sex that the syllabus carries with just a sprinkling of religious generalities."

An editorial in the Auburn Citizen-Advertiser, on Friday, Mar. 7, regretting the local dispute said that "a tempest in a teacup could become a hurricane in a sea of ignorance."

"Hopefully the current controversy will prod parents to look more fully at what the program is attempting to accomplish. The need for understanding which the program tries to develop in a wholesome and moral manner cannot be argued, and while parents are evaluating the program, they should evaluate their own responsibilities as well."

Pleading for moderation in the argument, the editorial concluded: "Parents and educators should not be stampeded into killing the program, which has admirable goals and meets practical needs."

A lay group in Auburn, called "Motoerde," for "Movement to Restore Decency," announced its formation "to expose and oppose" the sex course in the diocesan school system.

Among their published goals was this: "Too many parents have abandoned their responsibilities for the training and the guidance of their children. This must be reversed. Motoerde is ready to assist concerned parents in their fight to keep the modern 'Pied Pipers' from leading their children astray."

Members of the executive committee were listed as Glenn Wright, Harold A. Gibbs, Roger Basha and Mrs. Eleanor Wright, with headquarters at 20 Arch St.

Father Edward Shamon, pastor of St. Aloysius Church, preaching (Mar. 9) about the growing local dispute attacked the "ostich-head-in-the-sand" attitude of those who deplore exposure of children to sex instruction.

"Why can't human beings have that association with sex which God commands?" he asked. "Why should there be a throwing up of hands and unholy fear and an absolute silence?"

It is because of silence about sex on the part of parents and teachers, he charged, that "the degenerate forces of our society take over and saturate our loved-ones with their deadly filth and perverted notions of love and sex."

Identifying the local pressure to halt the sex education program in all schools, Father Shamon said: "For anyone to insinuate that these dedicated people (the clergy and the religious teachers in this city) have surrendered principle to spread scandal and immorality is almost unpardonable and indicative of the ignorance which must permeate that group."

A committee of local doctors, headed by Dr. Patrick Butarazzi, a nephew of Father Nacca, asked that the entire program be reviewed. The doctors listed several objections to the use of the sex course in the grammar schools:

- 1 - Sex education has not been mandated by the State.
- 2 - The program represents a usurpation of parental rights.
- 3 - The program presents sexuality without moral guidelines.
- 4 - The syllabus has not been made available to parents for prior study.

State Legislators Look To Voters

(Continued from Page 1)

ing abortion proposed in legislation introduced is expected to be introduced in the state legislature are:

- When there is "substantial risk" that continuance of the pregnancy

would gravely impair the mother's physical or mental health.

- When there is "substantial risk" that the baby will be born physically or mentally defective.
- When the woman is unmarried or 15 years old or younger.
- When the pregnancy resulted from incest or first-degree rape.

Dr. Sweeney and Cusker pointed out that there are "wide-open loopholes" in these provisions.

Loosening of laws against abortion which would allow for any number of reasons a person or a group of persons to decide to end the life of a conceived but unborn infant, they declared, can become a step toward control over lives by government or society.

Reactions of legislators to queries on abortion legislation ranged from "absolutely against any change" to Mrs. Cook's remark that "the state cannot effectively control the situation, so I believe we should get it out of state control."

Assemblyman Frank Carroll, Gates, has been quoted as declaring:

"It's not our choice to take a life. I sympathize with rape and incest victims, but the courts have been too lenient with their attackers. When we start putting more of these people away in jail and demand stiffer penalties, the need for abortion will be lessened."

Assemblyman Raymond Lill has expressed his opposition to change as follows:

"I'm convinced now as I have been in the past that I'll vote against any abortion reform bill. I'm not convinced that liberalization of the law has worked in other states. Our law has worked for this long; let's leave it the way it is."

Senator James Powers, who is for limited change in the law, partially explains his reasoning:

"I have found that attitudes on abortion reform are largely determined by the individual's belief concerning when 'life' exists.

"In addition to the fact that theologians disagree among themselves on the issue of when 'life' exists, scientists, doctors and lawmakers also disagree on this problem. Some believe that 'life' exists from the moment of conception. Others contend that 'life' does not exist until a later stage in the development of the fetus. Still others do not believe that 'life' exists until the moment of birth."

Typical of legislators who have taken no stand on the issue is Assemblyman Charles Henderson. "I don't know yet how I'm going to vote. I never make up my mind until I see a final bill on my desk."

Dr. Sweeney and Cusker continued to urge voters to express their feelings in letters to their legislators.

The flaming tower of into the body of the structure. All the sacred old man from nearby was.

Buffalo Make

The answer to the problem does not lie in making or semi-legal but in trying it unnecessary, according to mand DiFrancesco, Buffalo trist.

Dr. DiFrancesco was one speakers for the Right to Life mittee of the Rochester ar testified before State legis a public hearing in Rochester question of liberalizing the abortion law.

"Rather than making an action in the law," said Dr. DiFrancesco, "the problem of abortion be attacked as far as possible it begins at conception. We aim at greater sexual respect and the cultivation of information through improved education. tion is made readily available and illegal abortion will. The indications will become a eral as more women demand access to this solution of the lems.

"All considerations in medicine ultimately moral and it is not for a society to live from a code ally, upon which are based t of the land. The medical pr has always been dedicated to t servation of life, which is sac

Laws are created because of cern for the common welfare

FRANCE

'Clergy Que

(NC News Service)
Paris (NC) - A recent permanent council of the bishops has made "the clergy tion" the No. 1 problem fac Church in France.

Because of its terseness, th ops' statement is difficult to pre, but its most important e is the initiation of research clergy question in preparati the two sessions of the plen sibly of the bishops in M October.

In the course of the research undertaken, the problem of r ship of the priesthood to the b jurisdiction is certainly going raised, just as the bishops rais question of their relationship Pope's jurisdiction during th ond Vatican Council.

Is not the priest to a great gress "nothing without the I than the bishop is "nothing v

St. Joseph Still 2

St. Louis - (NC) - The Sisters of the Poor may be b money from the federal g ment, but it doesn't mean t abandoned St Joseph.

The Little Sisters, fabled fo dependence on their heavenly I or, broke ground in north St. this week for a new, nine-story ment residence for the elderl placing the present century-old ture.

Financing the project is a \$ lion-50-year loan from the f Housing and Urban Developme partment, under provisions o Senior Citizens Housing Act of

Sister Augustine, superior, s is the first time the Little S have borrowed money for con tion - but does not represent of trust.

"We have always had outsta trust in Divine Providence and fidence in St. Joseph," Sister A stine said. "The Little Sisters that the HUD loan is just one of assistance, and that St. Jo who is still our provider, and friend, will help us pay off the l

Bishop McCafferty: 'No Average Days'

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Bishop McCafferty said that the reaction of parishioners in the South-ern Tier to having an Auxiliary Bishop in their midst has been "very good."

"The people are grateful to Bishop Sheen for recognizing them by providing them with a witness (to the Apostolic Succession) in their area. They have been very cordial."

The Elmira area is not new to Bishop McCafferty. "I have known personally all of the priests," he said, "and I've known some of the laymen because my sister, now in Syracuse, lived here for three years during the 1960s."

One major change in his former daily routine is the fact that "I'm putting much more mileage on the car." He is making visitations to the more than 20 parishes and eight missions in the 3000-square-mile area of the vicariate.

His "average" day? At the office in the morning, his rectory in the afternoon, and very often meetings with priests and or laymen during evenings.

He celebrates Mass on Sundays and feast days in various parishes of the vicariate and on weekdays in Our Lady of Lourdes Convent near his home.

The Bishop regards the future of the Catholic school system as a major concern and problem.

"The majority of Catholic parents," he said, "want to maintain Catholic school education. I believe it will be done, but it is going to involve a great deal of soul-searching and adjustment."

Individualism, the Bishop stressed, "cannot be sustained much longer. We must seek combinations of our abilities, to reach the greatest number of our students."

"We are going to have to evolve a 'synthesis'—an amalgamation, as it were—of our efforts, our faculties, our facilities. We must find a way to focus our professional talent, our specialists, so that we can fully utilize their talents and expertise."

Bishop McCafferty finds the "spirit of ecumenism" "quite progressive, with most people eager to adapt to the modern apostolate." He said he was "happy to observe that in this area there is little tendency to go beyond guidelines."

It also is obvious, he added, "that many people are hoping for further adjustments."

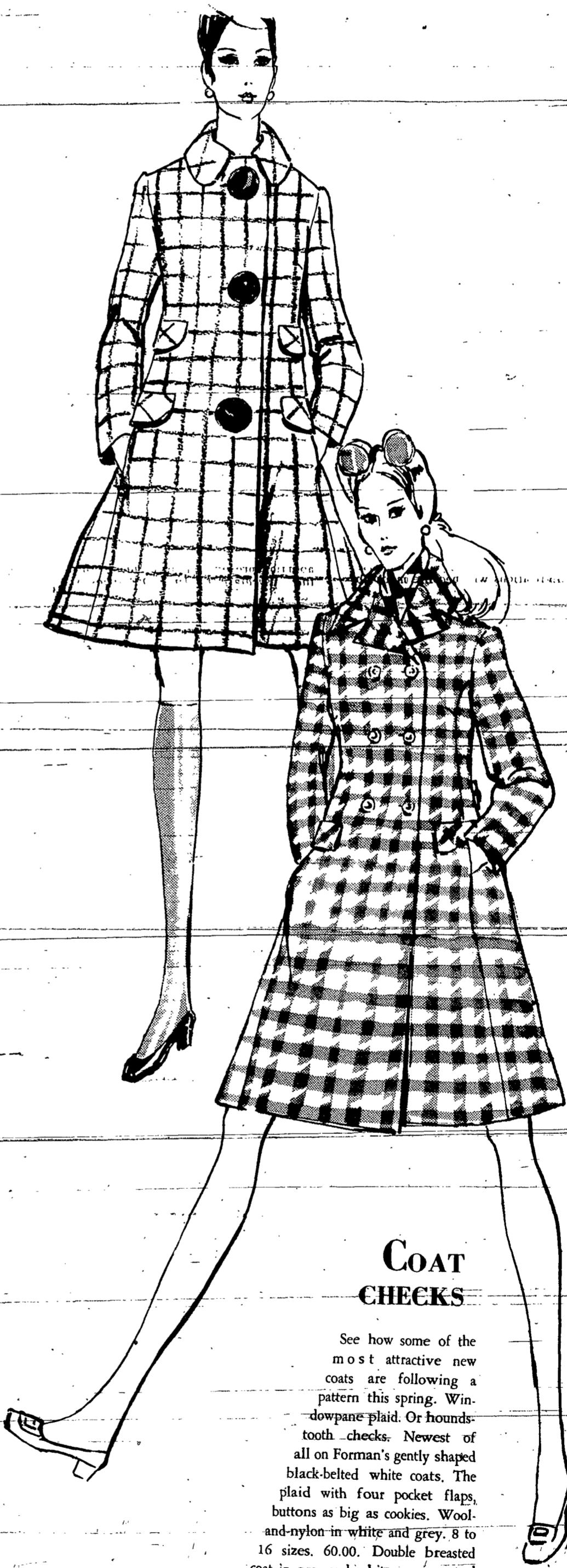
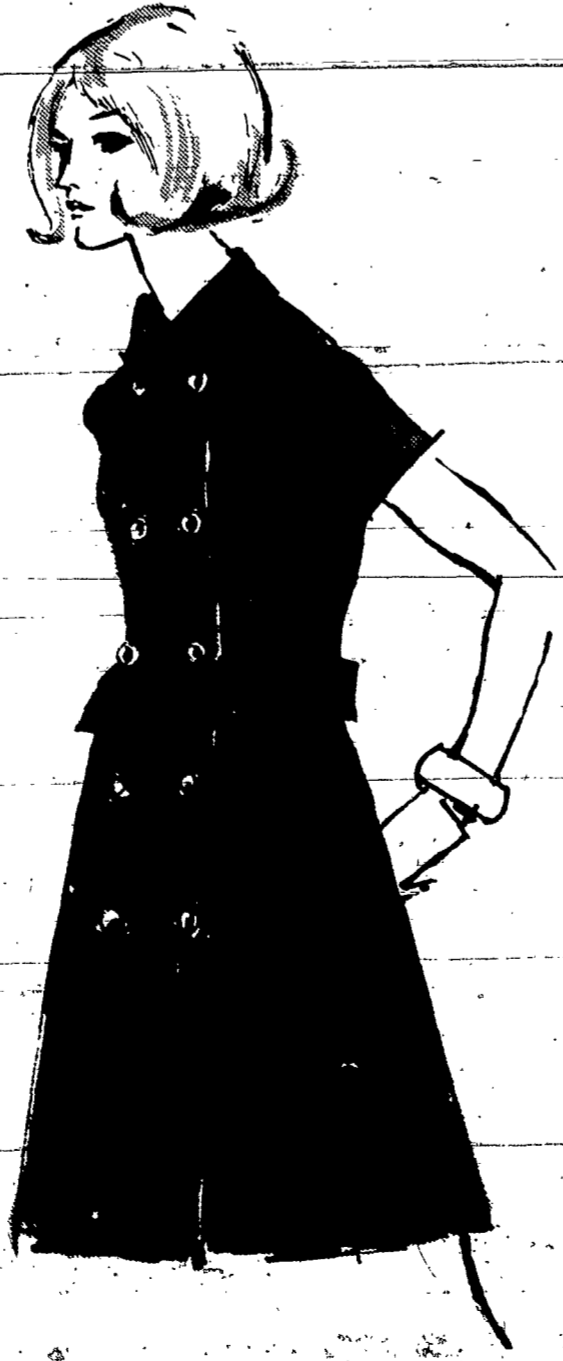
The Bishop also expressed great interest in the many attempts by priests and people to find solutions to the problems of poverty.

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QUESTION
PLEAD
...
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COAT CHECKS

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