

Hearings Spotlight Needs of Migrants



Three Roman Catholic bishops meet with representatives of the Black Catholic Clergy Caucus in Detroit to discuss plans for a separate national office for black American Catholicism. Participating in the meeting were, seated, left to right, Brother Joseph Davis, C.M., Dayton, Ohio; Father Rollins

Lambert, Chicago, chairman of the Caucus; Bishop Peter L. Gerety, Portland, Me.; and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph F. Donnelly, Hartford, Conn., standing, left to right, Father Donald Clark, Detroit; Father Rawlin Enette, S.S.J., Baton Rouge, La.; Father Lawrence Lucas, New York City; and Auxiliary Bishop Harold R. Perry, of New Orleans.

Fruitful Discussions

Bishops, Black Priests Meet

(NC News Service) Detroit — Representatives of the nation's bishops and the Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (BCCC) met here this week and later issued separate statements indicating progress had been made in the attempt to set up an office for Black Catholicism in the U.S. Catholic Church.

The BCCC, a year-old organization of some 85 Negro priests and Brothers, has been petitioning the bishops to establish an autonomous office which would have authority to formulate programs for action in the black Catholic community.

The BCCC was represented by Father Rollins Lambert of Chicago, chairman; Father Donald Clark of Detroit, Midwest regional chairman; Father Lawrence Lucas of New York, Eastern region chairman.

Archdiocese Offers Land for Housing

Edmonton, Canada — (RNS) — In an effort to ease a local housing shortage here the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton is making 130 acres available at cost for low-income housing.

Miami—(NC)—“Few people would enjoy their salads and vegetables if they really knew the sweat and tears that the harvesting cost.” That comment was made by a priest experienced in the problems of migratory farm workers, following a two-day investigation by a Senate committee into conditions at migrant camps in Collier and Lee counties on south Florida's west coast.

Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh, archdiocese of Miami director of the Spanish-Speaking Apostolate, was a member of a delegation of observers who attended the two-day hearing conducted by the Senate's Select Committee on Hunger and Human Needs.

for those who are involved. If there is only one child hungry in any part of the United States, then it is an emergency and a crisis. We cannot excuse our responsibilities by blaming it on parents,” he said.

An editorial in the Voice, weekly newspaper of the archdiocese of Miami, called the senatorial investigations a “disturbing experience.” The Voice said “the only thing more distressing than the spot-lighted human need was the reaction of many within the local establishment. Their refusal to acknowledge real human deprivation is incomprehensible.”

As a result of testimony revealing the hunger and malnutrition in the area, and tours of the camp, senators moved to inaugurate a commodity food program in Collier County through the Community Action Migrant Program, a local agency engaged in preparing low-wage workers for better jobs.

Urging a combined program of aid to migratory farm workers, Msgr. Walsh said, “Perhaps all this would mean that our vegetables would cost more, but maybe they would taste better if they were not the product of an inhuman system.”

Msgr. Walsh said the food programs are only a partial answer to the problems of the migrant families. “Proper education in nutrition and health habits are essential,” he said. “Serious consideration should be given to the possibility of using mobile health and education units to reach those in outlying areas.”

He also took issue with statements made during the Senate hearings to the effect that “things are not really too bad when only a small percentage of people are hungry or suffer from malnutrition.” “There are no percentages

Chaplain Assails Student Disruption

Durham, N.C. — (RNS) — The Rev. Howard C. Wilkinson, chaplain of Duke University, a Methodist-affiliated school, said “the student who is asked to support disruption should ponder whether he wants to improve his school or to join the national conspiracy to ‘destroy it.’”

Speaking at chapel exercises on recent student unrest at Duke, Mr. Wilkinson said two major losses result from this “hardcore disruption.” “First, there is the direct and immediate financial and personal loss,” he said. “A second and more serious loss which comes from hard-core disruption is the ‘manufacture’ of revolutionaries.”

“The nation,” the chaplain said, “desperately needs a healthy and vigorous student activism, which continues to probe and question its institutions of higher education, the church and the nation. But this healthy activism is often abandoned by liberal students when disruption comes.”

“Frankly, it breaks my heart to see the present group of black students moving toward separatism and re-segregation. I would much prefer to see them forget color and concentrate instead on preparing themselves to excel in every worthwhile area of knowledge and achievement.”

LOW INCOME HOUSING

Santiago del Estero, Argentina — (NC) — A group of 40 houses for low income families is being planned by diocesan officials here with work to begin soon. Occupants will be drawn by lot among the applicants.

Advisory Council Named To U.S. Catholic Conference

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — A 50-member advisory council to the United States Catholic Conference has been named here. Its members include 20 lay men and women.

A farm housewife, several attorneys and community service personnel, educators and business executives are among the 10 men and 10 women representing various regional areas of the nation.

The advisory council is composed of four groups of 10 — laymen, laywomen, diocesan priests and bishops — plus five representatives of religious orders of men and five Sisters representing religious communities of women.

Creation of the board was part of an overall reorganization of the USCC, the Catholic agency involved in planning and implementing national programs for the Church in social, economic, educational and public affairs.

It marks the first time that lay and rank and file members of the clergy and religious orders will be able to have a direct voice in the affairs of the Catholic Conference.

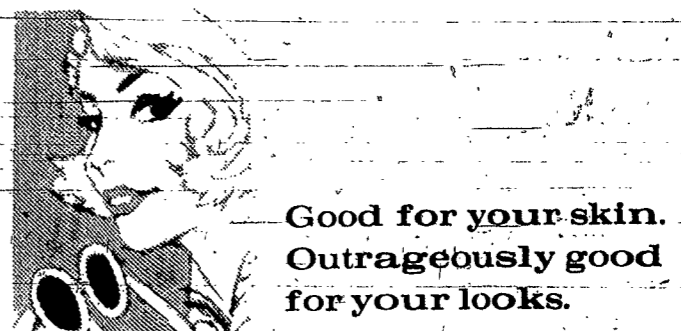
It is scheduled to meet periodically with the 40-member Administrative Board of the USCC headed by Archbishop John F. Dearden of Detroit, president of the USCC and its sister organization, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The first meeting will be in Washington on March 25-26.

One member of the new council is Father Rollins E. Lambert, national chairman of the Black Catholic Clergy Caucus and pastor of a Chicago parish. Msgr. Edward V. Rosack, chancellor of the Byzantine Catho-

lic Diocese of Pittsburgh, is also a member.

Lay delegates include at 21-year-old college senior, from Soranton, Pa.; Patricia Stencloud, Minn., housewife; the chief librarian of Gallup, N.M.; a child welfare worker from Portland, Ore.; a Baltimore hospital administrator; and the executive director of the Puerto Rican Community Development Project in New York City.

William Whalen, a free lance journalist, who writes frequently for Catholic publications, is the lay representative for the Indiana-Illinois region. William A. Toomey of Albany, N.Y., a well known attorney and labor arbitrator, represents the New York region.



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AROUND THE COUNTRY

Spain's Lay

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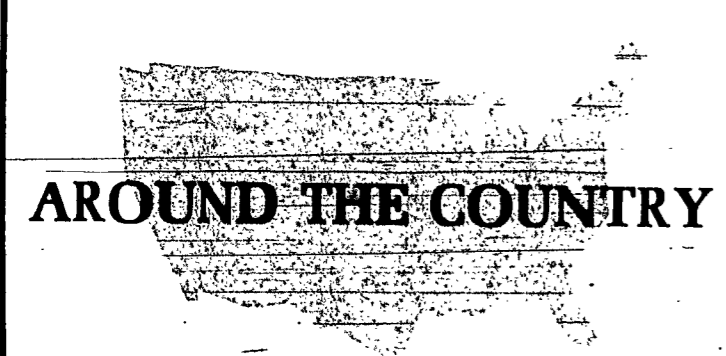
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Open Tues. and... RGT ROCH



Michigan Schools Add Cultures

Lansing — (NC) — Spanish-American history soon will be taught in all grades of the 600 Catholic schools in the state.

It will be the second phase of a program designed to tell the contributions and history of all minority groups. The superintendents introduced a black history program last year.

“This is essential to the overall attitudinal development of children attending our schools,” said Father Olin J. Murdick, chairman of the Catholic superintendents’ committee of the Michigan Catholic Conference

Black history is now being interwoven in all subjects taught in Catholic schools in this state.

New Diocesan Post for Negro

Brooklyn—(NC)—Bishop Francis J. Mugavero has asked a Negro layman to “tell it like it is” to clergy and Religious in the Brooklyn diocese.

The bishop appointed Grayson W. Brown, a black community worker, to a special post which will involve giving talks to priests and Religious from predominantly white areas.

Brown was named to the new post after discussing the need for such a program with Bishop Mugavero. “The project takes on even more importance,” he said, “because many of the people I hope to speak to are teachers.”

Brown will have an office at the St. John the Baptist Community Center in Bedford-Stuvestant area, where he will continue his work as a youth counselor.

Bishops Schedule Open Meetings

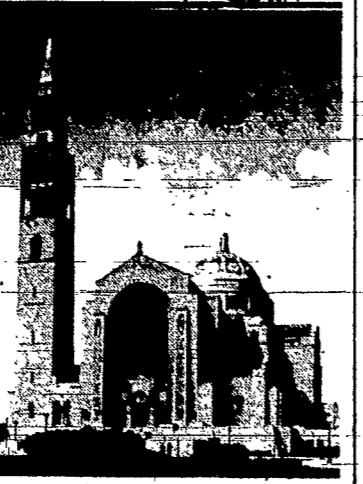
Atlanta — (RNS) — Portions of the next national meeting of the U.S. bishops will be open to newsmen, John R. Sullivan, director of press relations for the U.S. Catholic Conference, announced here.

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops, to be held in Houston, April 15-17, will have three morning sessions open to the press, featuring addresses by Archbishop John F. Dearden of Detroit, president, Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh and Auxiliary Bishop William E. McManus of Chicago.

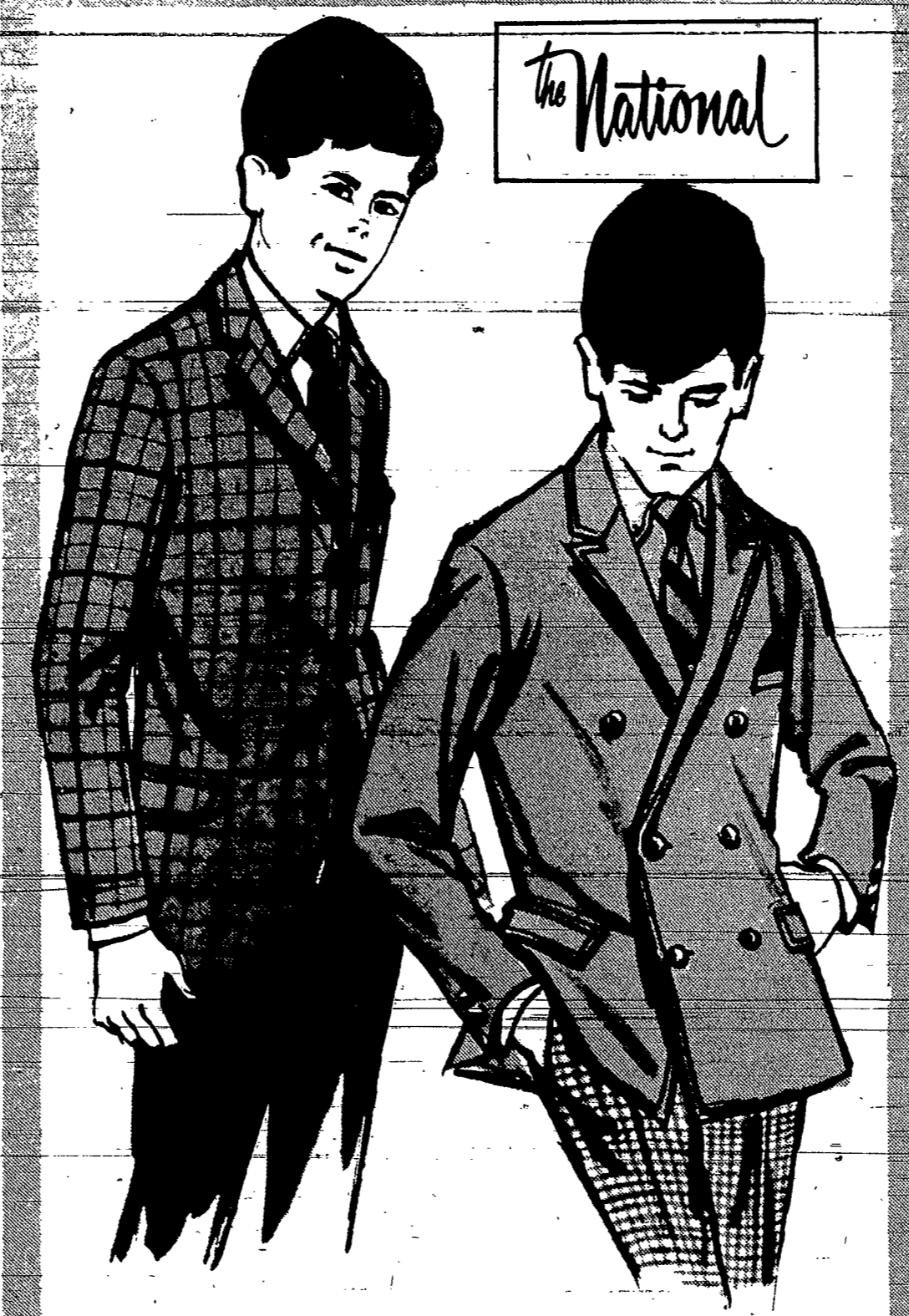
The executive sessions of the Conference will be reported to the press in daily briefings by Auxiliary Bishop James P. Shannon of St. Paul-Minneapolis.

East-West Religious Study Set

New York — (NC) — The John XXIII Center for Eastern-Christian Studies will hold its fifth annual seminar at Fordham University June 16-20.



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