PEOPLE AND EVENTS

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Rome - Pope Paul VI was enthusiastically cheered by parishioners at St. Pius V Church in Rome when he visited the parish for-Lenten services. (RNS)

Pope Paul VI has named Archbishop Joseph T. McGucken of San Francisco a member of the Vatican Congregation for the Discipline of the Sacraments . . . Lt. Col. William A. Anders, can of the Apollo 8 astronauts who circled the moon last December, has been presented Xavier University's St. Francis Xavier Medal. Past recipients include Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, Stan Musial, Dr. Thomas A. Dooley and the late President John F. Kennedy . . . Father Edwin W. Geers, a member of the Divine Word Missionaries, has been named assistant director of the National Council of Churches' committee on agricultural missions.

Bishop Alfred Watson has been named Bishop of Erie to replace Bishop John Whealon who recently became archbishop of Hartford . . . Yale University will name Dr. Colin Williams dean of its divinity school . . . Evangelist Billy Graham drew the largest crowd of his Australian and New Zealand crusades when 48,000 attended his Sunday service at Melbourne.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Without Christian schools, for all our boasted material progress, the world will sink again into another slough. of moral and intellectual nihilism." — Former Prime Minister Harold Macmillan in a London plea for church schools.

Brazil Leader Acts to Halt

Slave Labor

Belo Horizonte, Brazil — (NC) — Following disclosures by Catholic sources of a modern form of slavery in Brazil, (Courier-Journal, 2/28/69), the governor of Minas Gerais state has stalled, for the time being, the importation of migrant workers into his state from the impoverished Northeast region of the country.

Gov. Joaquim Pereira Goncalves has ordered all trucks carrying migrant workers from the Northeast halted at the border of the state. Ten such trucks have been detained here and at Montes Claros.

It was disclosed in February that truck owners and hiring agents have been recruiting men, women and even children in the blighted Northeast for farm work in the states of Minas Gerais, Matto Grosso and Goias under a system whereby the cost of transportation, food and maintenance of the workers for the trip to the new areas must be repaid while employed. in addition to an average \$25 "commission" paid by farm owners to the truckers or hiring agents.

The requirement for repayment to the farm owners for all these "expenses" places the migrant workers in a state of virtual bondage for at least four years.

State of Exception **Ended** in Spain

Madrid - (NC) - Termination of the "state of exception" (quasi-martial law) that has been in force in Spain since Jan. 24 was announced by the Spanish government effective

During a long meeting here of the cabinet of Spanish chief of state, Gen. Francisco Franco, the decision was made to revoke the government's special powers of arrest and censorship, which it had decreed were to last for three months.

NCC Plan to Visit Pope Stirs Talk of Merger

Atlanta — (RNS) — A delegation from the National Council of Churches will visit the Vatican March 26-28, it was disclosed at a press conference here in connection with the annual meeting of the Consultation on Church

'Bishop J. G. M. Willebrands, secretary of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, confirmed the visit and said he hoped it would open the doors to greater contacts with the Church of Rome."

He said the purpose of the visit was to "make direct, informative and informal contact with the Church of Rome and to have an exchange of views on problems common to both." The delegation will confer with

Pope Paul and with members of the Roman Curia. It was speculated that one of the

questions to be discussed would be possible membership of the Roman Catholic Church of the United States in a restructured National Council of

Making up the delegation are Presiding Bishop John E. Hines of the Episcopal Church; Dr. Robert Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America; United Methodist Bishop James K. Mathews of Boston, chairman of COCU; Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy, general secretary of the National Council; Dr. John W. Williams, vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance and pastor of a Kansas City, Mo., congregation of the National Baptist Convention of America, and Dr. Robert G. Dodds. director of ecumenical affairs for the National Council of Churches.

Catholic guests are Bishop Ernest C. Unterkoefler of Charleston, S.C., and Msgr. Bernard F. Law, executive director of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interre-

ligious Affairs, The group will convene in Rome on March 26 for consultations prior to the Vatican sessions. Talks with the Vatican's unity secretariat will begin on the morning of March 27, and around noon on that day the papal audience is planned.

Group Named

To Study Entry

Washington - (NC) - The U.S. Catholic Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical Affairs have named a study committee to discuss questions surrounding possible membership of the U.S. Catholic Church in the Protestant National Council of Churches.

Co-chairmen of the committee are Archbishop John J. Carberry of St. Louis, chairman of the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs (BCEIA), and Dr. John Coventry Smith of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Neither the NCC executive committee nor the BCEIA has the power to approve or reject membership. No decision - either to affiliate or not — has yet been reached.

Sources on the committee said the new group's appointment indicated "substantial progress in U.S. ecumenical affairs."

-- VATICAN PAY RAISES

Vatican City - (RNS) - The salaries of all Vatican workers including the papal guards were increased by 6 per cent on Jan. 1. Officials said that the salary increase corresponded to the increased cost of living in Vatican City and Rome.

Symposium On Abortion Scheduled

Chicago — (NC) — A three-day symposium on abortion and the value of human life will be held here April 10 to 12 under the sponsorship of the National Commission on Human Life, Reproduction and Rhythm.

This will be the fourth international symposium on these subjects sponsored by the commission, a committee of physicians concerned about current anti-life attitudes. The meeting will be open to all interested.

Keyn-ote speaker will be the Rev. Charles Carroll, Episcop il chaplain at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center. Father Carroll has been actively combatting revision of abortion laws in many states.

Mrs. Jill Knight, a member of the British House of Commons, will be a principal speaker. She will report on the aftermath of Britains' recent

ly enacted abortion legislation. Other subjects will deal with human sexuality, reproduction, rhythm

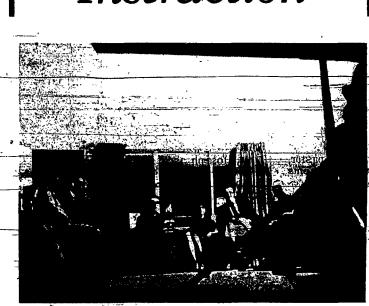
and new threats to life associated with modern social engineering and medical technology. Panelists will discuss the expected

results from the Ford Foundation's recent \$1 million grant to New York's Mount Sinai Hospital to perfect the rhythm system of limiting births and the Rockefeller Foundation's \$2 million grant to the University of North Carolina to develop new methods of conception control.

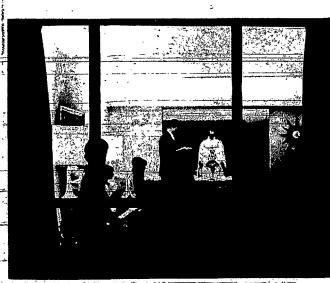
COURIER-JOURNAL

Vol. 80 No. 26 - March 28, 1969 Published Weekly by the Rochester Catholic Press Association, SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Single Copy 15c; 1 year Subscription in U.S., \$6.00; Canada and South America, \$8.50; other foreign countries, \$9.50, Main Office, 35 Scio Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14604, Second Class Postage Paid at Rochester, N.Y.

Home Mass Instruction









To increase neighborhood community spirit, Our Lady of Loretto Parish in St. Louis has been encouraging a program of evening Masses in the homes of parishioners. The evening begins, top, with a film strip presentation and discussion on the Mass. Then, Mass is celebrated. A special privilege of the home liturgy is the opportunity for communicants to receive the Eucharist under both species, bottom. (RNS)



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